

*U.S. Invasion of Cambodia*

have been told by politicians, and particularly by the Pentagon, that a few hundred thousands more troops and an increase in military activity will bring the war to an end. Surely we have not forgotten that for a long time General MacArthur pleaded with President Truman, saying that the North Koreans were using Chinese territory as a sanctuary for their planes and asking for permission to invade right up to the Yalu River. He did so, and the roof fell in.

This invasion of Cambodia is not going to be a mere side issue. It means being sucked further and further into the jungle, it means involving more and more American troops, it means involving the west in a war which they cannot win on the battlefield because all the history of Southeast Asia indicates that a nation that is prepared to take to the jungle and fight a guerilla war can go on for years.

The action of the U.S. yesterday has shocked the world and saddened the friends of the U.S. both at home and abroad. I still hope that we can persuade the Canadian government to take a more forthright position with reference to this matter. We are not asking the Canadian government to be anti-American. What we are saying is that as the closest friend and neighbour of the U.S. we have the responsibility to tell the U.S. when we think they are wrong, when we think their actions are endangering the peace of the world, when we think that an act of aggression such as was committed yesterday will only strengthen the Communist position rather than weaken it. It is no accident that Peking today is very happy, because this gives them the kind of confrontation which they like without it costing them a single soldier.

My plea is that this government make a clearcut declaration that it wants to see an end to the war in Southeast Asia and that it deplores the invasion of Cambodia. The French government has already said this. There is no reason why the Canadian government should not say that. There is no reason why the Canadian government should not make contact with other governments in the western world, other democratic countries, to make representation to the U.S.

**Mr. Osler:** Would the hon. member allow a question?

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** I have already exceeded my time. When I am finished, if the Speaker will allow it, I will gladly answer the question.

There is no reason why Canada, in concert with other friendly, democratic nations, should not bring this matter to the United Nations. If the UN is able to reconvene the Geneva Conference, fine. If the UN is prepared to set up an international commission in an endeavour to bring the parties together, that is all to the good. But our plea is twofold: let the government make a clearcut statement that will challenge the conscience of the people of the world and will call upon the people of the U.S. to give leadership in bringing this barbarous war to a close. Second, we ask the Canadian government to become actively engaged in the task of mobilizing the various countries of the world to seek ways and means of ending this war before it escalates to the point where it threatens, as it may well do, the survival of the human race.

**Mr. Osler:** Would the hon. member allow a question now, with the indulgence of the House?

**The Acting Speaker (Mr. Béchard):** The hon. member's time having expired, the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre (Mr. Osler) will need unanimous consent to ask the question. Is this agreed?

**Some hon. Members:** Agreed.

**Mr. Osler:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members of the House. It is a very simple question, but I think the plea could be more easily endorsed unanimously if the hon. member would invite the government of Canada to do what it could to join with all other like-minded governments to tell all the great powers how stupid they are being in relying on the use of force in this day and age.

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** I would endorse that statement completely. I have made it clear again and again that I am just as opposed to the aggression of the Soviet Union in Czechoslovakia and Hungary as I am to what is happening in Viet Nam or what happened in the Dominican Republic.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Lorne Nystrom (Yorkton-Melville):** Mr. Speaker, today the House is involved in a debate that is very important to everyone, not only in this country but potentially important to everyone around the world. If you follow the history of the Vietnamese war as it has affected the United States, you will see that it