

*Commonwealth Conference*

The rather tepid condemnation of Portugal does not go nearly as far as we had hoped. I trust that in the not too distant future the members of the commonwealth, especially those who are members of NATO, will exercise their influence to see that arms from the commonwealth and from the NATO countries are not supplied to Portugal, because there can be no way of assuring ourselves that these weapons are not being used in the cruelly repressive measures which are being carried on in Angola.

I was delighted to see the ringing declaration of support for the United Nations which came from the commonwealth conference. I was pleased to see that they advocated dealing with the Cyprus situation within the framework of the United Nations. This is a great improvement over the suggestion that was being made some months ago that this problem should be dealt with either by the commonwealth itself or by the NATO organization. It seems to me that if these matters are to be dealt with, if there are to be international peace keeping operations, then they must be carried on within the framework of the United Nations. I am sure all of us are glad that the prime ministers' conference underlined that necessity.

I too, Mr. Speaker, hope we will get some clarification from the Prime Minister of the statement in the communiqué that the members of the commonwealth are giving their sympathy and support to Malaysia in its desire to preserve its sovereign independence and integrity. I would like to know whether this support is to be military, and what is entailed in this support. For here again it seems to me while we are all anxious to protect Malaysia, or any part of the commonwealth or any other nation in the world, against aggression, such action must be taken within the framework of the United Nations if it is to be effective and if it is to strengthen the United Nations rather than weaken it.

The conference looked at the question of southeast Asia. The communiqué says they discussed the great significance of China for south and southeast Asia, and also discussed the question of relations with China and her membership in the United Nations. I was sorry that in making his statement today the Prime Minister found it necessary to qualify this idea of commonwealth support for the seating of China in the United Nations. The Prime Minister was quite right, as was the conference, in saying that we should work toward having mainland China seated in the

[Mr. Douglas.]

United Nations, recognizing that it is not possible to have a quarter of the earth's population outside the world community, and that we cannot permanently ostracize a nation of this size.

Today the Prime Minister made reference to the difficulties of nationalist China, but to me this is not the main problem this country has to face. We are quite right in saying that the nationalist government of China, which is now virtually the government of Formosa, must also recognize as the *de jure* and *de facto* government of Taiwan. But if mainland China is prepared to enter the United Nations as the government, both *de jure* and *de facto*, of mainland China, and is prepared to accept and abide by the charter of the United Nations, then we ought to be pressing for her admission to the United Nations and we ought to begin with the diplomatic recognition of communist China.

It seems to me that constantly referring to the difficulties rather than enunciating a principle is weakening our stand. If the Canadian government were prepared to say publicly that we feel mainland China should (1), be recognized and (2), should be seated in the United Nations representing the people of mainland China and mainland China only—and if she is prepared to come into the United Nations on that basis and abide by the decisions of the United Nations—we are prepared to support her admission on that basis, it seems to me this would be a much more constructive approach than merely raising all the objections.

I am sure all hon. members of the house will approve the steps which are planned to provide assistance to the developing countries of the commonwealth, assistance in the fields of education, medical training and the training of administrative staff, which is one of the great needs for many of these emerging countries. We will approve steps to provide technical assistance in helping them train the kind of personnel they need for the technological development which must take place in these countries if they are to raise their living standards.

The great need of many of these emerging countries is increased trade and greater access to the markets of other commonwealth countries, particularly for primary products. Their great need is for capital, both social capital and economic and resource capital, capital from other governments and private capital as well, to help them develop their resources and establish new industries. It seems to me this is a field in which Canada