

For the first time we have had observers from the Senate. I must say that I have found them also to be extremely helpful. When there is a snap decision to be made in a complicated situation, it helps a great deal for a Foreign Affairs Minister to be able to talk to an old friend from the Senate who has been in the House of Commons for many years, even though in another party, and to get his view as to what Canada should do. I have appreciated more than I can say the advice and the assistance that I have received during this last session from those Senators who have been in attendance.

At the United Nations we are in contact with 98 other delegations. It is a wonderful place to make friends and to sell Canada. I use the word "sell" in the constructive sense. I think this is one of the main jobs of the Canadian delegation. That job has been done very well during this last session.

We were greatly helped by the results of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' Conference. It was amazing to see the reaction among the representatives from Africa and Asia after that Conference. They, of course, had been following very closely what went on in London. They were extremely pleased with the stand taken by the Canadian Prime Minister, and our work with those delegations was made a great deal easier and a great deal more successful by reason of Canada's position on the question of apartheid which was so important at the Prime Ministers' Conference.

The Congo

One of our main problems at the United Nations has been that of the Congo. We are one of the three European and North American countries with any considerable number of troops in the Congo. Because of those troops Canada has been a member of the 18-nation Congo Advisory Committee. There are differences of opinion on that Committee. The African nations do not always agree and neither do the nations of Asia. Our main purpose has been to keep this pot from boiling over, to try to reduce the friction in the Congo Committee and to help the Secretary-General take action which would be effective.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, from the beginning of the session last September he has been under terrific attacks, and very unfair attacks they have been. Sometimes I wonder why any human being would feel obliged to take all the abuse that has been handed out to Mr. Hammarskjold in these last six or seven months. However, he is a great world statesman who is there doing a job for humanity. I suppose the realization of this fact has been what has enabled him to withstand these attacks and to carry on in such a calm and efficient manner. Canada has felt that there should be no qualifications to our support for the Secretary-General while he was under attacks of this kind.