

*External Affairs*

speech in this house when this debate draws toward its end, where such speeches should be made, and to state categorically that we shall have no part in United States adventures on behalf of Chiang Kai-shek. In today's *Gazette*, Joseph Alsop, writing from Hong Kong, indicates that the United States cannot count on the support of the United Kingdom. He says that there is some doubt about the support of Canada. Perhaps I had better quote the paragraph:

But if a serious war starts over Quemoy and the Matsus, the United States cannot now count on the support of Britain, where the vital forward bases of the strategic air command are situated. There is even some doubt about the support of Canada, which is the vital key to what passes for the American air defence system. And for these reasons, no one can be quite sure that the Chinese and Soviets do not want a big war on this divisive issue.

It is about time that Canada took a very firm stand in relation to this whole adventure around Formosa. We are told that it is part of the United States defence system. Where does that defensive system extend? We have been told that it extends right from the Aleutians, right through Japan, right through Formosa, right through the Philippines, right down to New Zealand and Australia. As a matter of fact, apparently the only interest in the southeast Asian organization is that New Zealand and Australia are part of the defensive system of the continental United States. It is about time that we reappraised this whole thing and spoke out. There was no hesitation some years ago in this house on the part of members on the government side in criticizing British imperialism. Why not for a change be outspoken about United States policies that are equally imperialist in a sense, not in the same sense as the old imperialism used to be, but in the sense that there is an attempt to control a very large part of the world through bases and by display of arms. I say the minister should remove any doubt that may exist about Canada's attitude regarding this matter.

Last September I had the great privilege of being present at the Labour party's conference at Scarborough in England and of hearing the Right Hon. Clement Attlee and other members of the British Labour party who visited China make their report on the visit. May I say that before Mr. Attlee went, Canadian newspapers said that here was a man who would go to China unprejudiced in its favour and would bring back a realistic and objective report. I heard that report. The same evening I had the opportunity of spending some time with Mr. Attlee and with Mr. Morgan Phillips, the secretary of the Labour party, and others who accompanied Mr. Attlee on that trip. Several points

[Mr. Coldwell.]

emerged. First, the new government in China had abolished corruption in government and, in Mr. Attlee's opinion, to use his own words, this was "a very, very great achievement." He said that they got that tribute "not from Chinese sources but from people with a long knowledge of the east." He said, "European people of our own sort who have been more than 50 years there. They have for the first time got an honest government. I believe they are a government of idealists." That was his considered opinion, and he is a former prime minister of Great Britain, a man of whom the papers said that when he came back he would bring an objective report. I am quoting directly from him. He paid tribute to the manner in which they had cleaned up old sinks of iniquity. They had introduced a new alphabet, reducing the original 36,000 characters to fewer than 1,200. Seventy million children are in school and attempts are being made to remove illiteracy in the adult population. He emphasized the importance of a settlement with China because of the influence of Chinese nationals, not nationalists, most of whom are non-communists throughout the whole of south Asia, and who jointly resent the manner in which the Chinese masses are being retarded by the western powers.

He suggested what I suggested long ago, that Chiang Kai-shek and his bloodthirsty warlords—yes, bloodthirsty warlords they proved themselves to be when they went to Formosa—should be exiled from Formosa and such of his followers as wish should be allowed to return to the mainland, and then let Formosa be neutralized under the United Nations.

This afternoon the minister said that when we talk about these things we forget the Formosan people. I have not forgotten them this afternoon. I have told of their terror, and I say that the sooner that that dictatorial group is removed from Formosa and Formosa placed under United Nations trusteeship—yes, I would support guaranteeing to them neutrality by the United Nations, not by a single power—the sooner shall we begin to build for peace in Asia.

Canada should support the removal of Chinese nationalist representatives from the United Nations and from the security council and support the seating of the effective government of the Chinese people. Sir Winston Churchill and Sir Anthony Eden recognized that effective government years ago. They supported the Labour party's recognition on January 1, 1950. They have been in power most of the time since then, and they still recognize that government as the effective government of the Chinese mainland, the