

clear because it explains largely the attitude taken in the beginning of the war and the subsequent changes of policy on the part of the communists as the war progressed.

MR. SLAGHT: I wonder, before we pass on, if the committee would be interested in having the witness tell us this. He says the Communist party thought there should be a world alliance of peace-loving people and he mentioned that Russia, Britain, China and so on should form one alliance.

BY MR. SLAGHT:

Q. Are you not aware that Britain tried to form a peace alliance with Russia and that Russia refused then and made a pact with Germany? A. I shall deal with that question

BY MR. MARTIN:

Q. What you have in mind, I take it, is the statement made by Mr. Jordan of New Zealand in 1938 of the measure which should have been supported by all the so-called democratic powers? A. That is right. As I said, I think that period of history should be very clear because that will make the future policies and changes more logically understood. It was definitely our opinion during that period that the policies pursued concretely by the Chamberlain and Deladier governments were policies in the final analysis not in the interest of the democratic nations of the world and certainly not in the interest of Canada. It seemed to us that these policies would inevitably lead us into war; that what appears to be an intent to prevent war will on the contrary lead us into war and a war in which we will be at a terrible disadvantage.

I am not saying these things now as a post-mortem. I made a speech, I recall, at a gathering of communists dealing with foreign policy. As a matter of fact I attempted