

forces and that it is proper that we should do our best to see that the Canadian who has been chosen by the United Nations to be the commander of that force is not let down, if we can prevent him from being let down by supplying him with what he thinks he requires and that he is not apt to get from other contributors to this United Nations force.

Mr. M. J. Coldwell (Leader of the C.C.F. Party)

Mr. Speaker, I think we are all aware that Parliament is meeting today under the shadow of a great international crisis, perhaps a greater crisis than the world has witnessed since September, 1939. The issues involved today are of such a nature that they might bring about even a third world war and therefore one is constrained to ask oneself, what does the country expect of this Parliament at the present time?

I think the people of this country expect that we should give unanimous and speedy approval to the further supplementary estimates that have been introduced this afternoon, and that this shall be done in order to meet the needs of our armed forces which are proceeding overseas and to meet the dreadful situation from which the refugees from Soviet terror in Hungary have fled.

I do not think I have ever felt more sorrowful than I felt as I watched the events following the adventure in the Suez area. There was not only the question of African and Asian opinion, there was the danger to the Commonwealth. I was relieved when I read a few days ago that Nehru had refused in the Indian Parliament to agree to a proposal that India should leave the Commonwealth. I think it would have been a tragedy if India left the Commonwealth, or if Pakistan or Ceylon withdrew.

This action has undermined the United Nations. As I have said on a number of occasions, it was with the deepest regret that I saw this action being undertaken in the manner in which it was. Certainly there was provocation, but that provocation should have been taken to the United Nations and pressed there. It is true also that the United States has some responsibility. I am not going into that at any length tonight because there is not sufficient time to do so. The changing and tortuous policies of the United States certainly contributed to what has happened in the Middle East.

It will be said that the genesis of the recent moves on the part of Britain and France was the attacks made by Israel on Egypt. As one who has been interested in following the chain of circumstances in Israel over the last several years I for one can understand the position in which that country found itself on October 29. As we know, this was the culmination of a long dispute. Israel had suffered considerable provocation, as we all know. None the less I am sorry that the action was taken because it did bring about a situation that today is causing grave concern all over the world.