

*U.S. Invasion of Cambodia*

world needs leadership. I am not suggesting for a moment that Canada can save the world or can end the war in Southeast Asia. But Canada could join with other nations who are not directly involved and who have no colonial interests to serve in giving moral leadership to the world. The world today is crying out for moral leadership, for nations that are prepared to support the rule of law, that are prepared to condemn aggression whether by the Communists, the United States or anybody else. We might not succeed, but surely we ought to try.

The right hon. gentleman for Prince Albert said that the United States is not in the dock. I say that before the bar of history every one of us who holds any public responsibility is in the dock unless we raise our voices and use our influence to try to find a way of establishing peace in the world.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** As I heard the Secretary of State for External Affairs it sounded to me like a counsel of despair—"There is nothing we can do. Just sit tight and hope that this problem will go away". We have been saying this since 1963, and during those seven years the situation in Southeast Asia has grown worse. The only genuine opposition, the only thing that has been effective has been the outcry of the ordinary people of the world. In the United States itself the people who demonstrated, the people who signed petitions, the people who held a moratorium day are the people who ended the bombing of North Viet Nam, not the politicians. I had hoped that this government would go over the heads of the politicians, the diplomats, the admirals and the generals and call on the common people of this country and other free countries to speak out and say, "In God's name, stop this insanity!"

● (4:50 p.m.)

Instead of that we have had this mealy-mouthed explanation that there is really nothing we can do except sit back and let events take their course. The Secretary of State for External Affairs said that we share the anguish of what is happening in Southeast Asia, but he also said he doubts whether that anguish would be ended by the withdrawal of the United States forces. Well, Mr. Speaker, it is certainly not being helped by including another nation in this holocaust. The fact is that this is a continuance and an

extension of the sad and depressing story of the Viet Nam war which started now some seven or eight years ago.

I have no hesitation in saying and make no apology for saying bluntly, as I have said in this House before, that in my opinion the United States had no business being in Viet Nam in the first place. I was glad to hear the right hon. member for Prince Albert say that he thought they had no business being there in the first place. I find it a little illogical, however, for one to say that they had no business to be there in the first place, but being there they have a right to stay there. I think he will have great difficulty reconciling those points of view.

**Mr. Osler:** What about the U.S.S.R.?

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** My friend can make a speech about the U.S.S.R. He probably knows more about it than I do.

**Mr. Osler:** I doubt it.

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** So far as I know, the U.S.S.R. has no troops in Viet Nam.

**An hon. Member:** They have them everywhere else.

**An hon. Member:** What about Canadian reforms at the United Nations?

**Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands):** My friend can make a speech later. I have only 20 minutes. We can be here until midnight, so my friend can make a speech any time he likes. I say that before we can understand what is happening in Southeast Asia today we must remember how this appalling situation came about. When the French were defeated at Diem Bien Phu the Geneva Conference was held in 1954 at which the French were given two years to withdraw. A temporary line of demarcation was drawn between the north and the south. At the end of two years there was to be a vote in which the Vietnamese people were to decide for themselves whether they would be one nation or two and what form of government they would have. The United States was not a signatory to that agreement. It is true that General Smith submitted a letter signed by President Eisenhower saying that the United States agreed with the general principle, but they did not sign the agreement. During the two-year period provided for the French withdrawal the United States set up a puppet