

resign his post. Now, we know that he agreed to remain in his position after the member states of the United Nations offered their co-operation in establishing a peace plan for Vietnam. Do you not think that U Thant is now in a difficult position, since his plan has not been accepted?

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): It is quite obvious that this is a very difficult question. He has left no stone unturned to encourage negotiations. He has made three separate proposals over the last two years, in his attempts to resolve the problem but it should be recognized that the Secretary-General has extremely heavy responsibilities. His responsibility is to try to restore peace. Canada, because of its membership in the Commission, has responsibilities too, as do other countries. We are trying to carry out our responsibilities, and this is why yesterday I made so bold as to suggest the progressive reapplication of the principles found in the Geneva Agreement.

Mr. ASSELIN (*Charlevoix*): Had the suggestions which you made yesterday been submitted unofficially to the Secretary-General of the United Nations?

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): No. At the present time the Secretary-General is in Asia. However, I can assure you, on the basis of discussions I have had with him on several occasions lately, that he is well aware of the provisions of the Agreement.

Mr. ASSELIN (*Charlevoix*): May I return to a matter which is of deep concern to the public in general and which was raised here by members of the Committee. The public is questioning the good faith of the Canadian Government when it states that it hopes for peace in Vietnam, a cease-fire, and yet, at the same time, sells arms to the United States, arms which are apparently being used in the Vietnam war. Of course, it may be that the Canadian Government has entered into agreements of this kind with the United States and must live up to these agreements, but could the Canadian government not ask the United States to refrain from using arms supplied by Canada in the Vietnam war?

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): This is what would happen. This means that if we were to ask this of the United States Government officially, there would be no agreement between the two countries. This agreement was made long before the Vietnam conflict. It began with the negotiations between Mr. King, then Prime Minister of Canada, and President Roosevelt at Ogdensburg, before the end of the Second World War. But one thing which is of great concern to us is the economy and our obligations as a member of NATO. We should not forget that we buy arms from the United States in order to fulfill our NATO obligations, and that we get them at a very good price. But we do not licence the export of arms directly to any conflict area.

Mr. ASSELIN (*Charlevoix*): Since Vietnam is a very special case, as far as we are concerned, and because, according to your own statements, you are attempting to bring about a cease-fire and the restoration of peace there, would this not constitute a special case which might justify your requesting the United States not to use weapons we are selling to them in the Vietnam war?

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): I cannot add anything to what I have said.