

"I think a major challenge is presented to the nations of the Western world today. Canada, the United States and other nations will have to take another look at our policy regarding Communist China. We will have to review our thinking. We will have to consider the problem, and it is a tremendous one, in the perspective of changing events, and particularly in view of this agreement; because, unless it includes Communist China -- and I do not want to mention France in the same paragraph -- and we are able to secure the adherence of Communist China, the threat of nuclear war will hang over us to a degree that we can only anticipate with foreboding, horror and overwhelming fear..."

Recent developments have revived interest in what could be described as a one-China, one-Formosa solution. To achieve such a solution would require above all the co-operation of the parties immediately concerned; but a practical and equitable solution along these lines has not so far proved acceptable either to Peking or to Taipei.

Future Possibilities

During the recent NATO meeting questions were asked in this House concerning my references in my statement before the Council in The Hague to the realities we might face at the nineteenth session of the United Nations General Assembly which might require some modification of the policy I have just described. The Prime Minister...has already referred to one such reality, the possibility of a vote favourable to the seating of mainland China irrespective of Canada's stand on that issue.

Another possibility is that Communist China might come so close to being seated by vote at this Assembly as to foreshadow a decisive trend in that direction at the following Assembly.

In that event, as I told the NATO Council, the chances of a solution which would make provision in the United Nations for the future of Formosa and its inhabitants on a basis of self-determination might disappear if we do not move from the present static position. We must remember that, if Communist China were seated, it would occupy not only the General Assembly seat now held by Nationalist China but the Security Council seat as well, a privilege which carries with it the right of veto over the admission of new members. A third issue we might face, if Communist China were seated and Formosa automatically excluded, would be whether to recognize the Peking Government or do as we did some years ago in the case of Outer Mongolia, sit beside them in the United Nations without according recognition to the regime.

These examples will make it clear...that the extent, if any, of modifications in our position which we might wish to consider will not become apparent until we see what developments occur at the next United Nations General Assembly, but surely there can be no excuse for our failing to consider this matter in good time when important changes in the tactical position at the United Nations have taken place.