

Supply—External Affairs

Mr. Churchill: Could the minister direct me to a source which I might consult to find out what aid, specifically, Australia and New Zealand are giving?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I would refer the hon. gentleman to the Australian and New Zealand high commissioners here in Ottawa.

Mr. Nesbitt: The minister has told us that one of the reasons his government is giving consideration to supplying this assistance to Indonesia is that a number of other countries, particularly Australia and New Zealand, France, Japan, and so on are also providing aid to that country. If this consideration is relevant in arriving at a decision, as I am sure it would be, then surely the minister has at his disposal information as to the amount of aid which is being given by all those countries—

Mr. Martin (Essex East): No, I do not.

Mr. Nesbitt: —as well as the nature of that aid. Is it technical training, military assistance, food? What is it exactly? I cannot understand anyone making a decision on an important matter such as this without knowing the type of aid and the amount which is coming from each place. I cannot understand the minister, of all people, doing such a thing. Can he give us no indication of the amounts of aid, expressed in dollars, which each of the countries mentioned is giving to Indonesia in the coming year?

Mr. Martin (Essex East): I can tell the hon. member, for instance, that New Zealand is giving a total of \$98,000, mainly for technical assistance to Indonesia. Australia is giving \$648,000, and this is in the capital field. For instance, Australia is providing Indonesia with road building equipment in the amount of \$189,000. It is also providing intercommunication equipment for civil aircraft in the amount of \$648,000.

Mr. Nesbitt: That is most interesting. The minister has just told us that New Zealand is giving \$98,000 for the training of students. That is the kind of suggestion which I and others have been making here, that our assistance to Indonesia should be of a long range nature concerned with training students or preparing teachers for Indonesia. That is what New Zealand is doing.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Would the hon. member object if Canada gave equipment for civil air services? Would he object if we supplied help in making roads? Would he consider this more strategic than giving food?

[Mr. Martin (Essex East).]

Mr. Nesbitt: The minister will have better information at his disposal than I have in this regard, but it would seem to me there is probably little distinction in Indonesia between what is civil aviation and what is military aviation. Unless I had some information to the contrary I would certainly think this would very likely be the type of aid which would prove most helpful to the aggressive activities of the Indonesian government. Road building equipment would be more open to question, but on reflection it would seem to me that since parts of Malaysia adjoin Indonesia in jungle areas where road building equipment would be very helpful in building invasion routes, such equipment would come into the same category. I certainly would not agree with the minister on that. I would agree, rather, with what the New Zealand government has been doing. I wonder how up to date the hon. gentleman's figures of Australian aid are—

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Figures for 1964-65.

Mr. Nesbitt: I was wondering when the minister received this information.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): September 9.

Mr. Nesbitt: That was before the government of Australia decided on a course of conscription because of the obvious threat to Australia from Indonesia. I suggest to the minister that some of this aid may well be under review at the present time by the Australian government. This is something which neither the minister nor I can really know at this point.

I would again request the minister to give careful consideration to this program and to examine the necessity for helping Dr. Sukarno conserve his foreign exchange for the purpose of buying war materials. Instead, I suggest that a long range program of assistance be adopted and that a student training program be undertaken with these funds. Certainly, as I have said before, we have nothing against the people of Indonesia. I shall be glad to see them develop themselves and get out of their present difficulties.

Item agreed to.

International joint commission—

40. Salaries and expenses of the commission and Canada's share of the expenses of studies, surveys and investigations of the commission, \$151,500.

Mr. Barnett: On this vote, which has to do with the international joint commission, I should like to ask the minister whether he