

We were also involved in this area because with several other countries we are participating in an aerial survey of the Mekong River. This is the key river through that part of Asia just as the St. Lawrence is the key river in this part of Canada. We have people out there now taking part in this survey which will be very beneficial to all of the nations in that particular area.

Then in Malaya, where an outstanding job is being done in carrying on the government of this new member of the Commonwealth of Nations, we have close contacts and there is the best of goodwill between our two countries.

In Indonesia a similar situation obtains. We have many Indonesian students studying in Canada. We have a mission in Djakarta, and the relationship is excellent.

With regard to Australia and New Zealand, here we have, of course, two of our oldest and best friends, the ties are so strong, and they go back over so many years. We work closely together in the United Nations, and under all conditions the relationships between Australia, New Zealand and Canada are excellent. I hope it will not be very long before we can announce the conclusion of trade negotiations with Australia, and from time to time the various problems which arise between these fellow members of the Commonwealth and ourselves will be ironed out.

This is a picture of our friends across the Pacific, and I know that everyone will be wondering just what our attitude is about the recognition of Red China. Most of the countries to which I have referred look on this question in exactly or practically the same light as Canada; for example, Japan, and I believe Malaya, Australia and New Zealand. The Canadian Government does not believe that Red China should be recognized under present conditions. I have made that clear in answer to questions in different parts of the country, and there is no need to repeat here our reasons at length.

Fundamentally, our reasons are that we believe it would be letting down our friends in that part of the world, particularly in Southeast Asia, were Canada to take the step of recognizing Red China at the present time. Also, she is in default under various resolutions passed by the United Nations. Certainly, her actions in Tibet and in India during the last few months have not made it easier for any of the countries which have not already done so to recognize her.

There is another very good reason which I think should be emphasized in this House. One of the main difficulties in any approach to the problem is the fact that given the attitude of Peking, recognition on the part of Canada, unless accompanied by explicit acceptance of Peking's claims to the exclusive right to represent China in the United Nations and to occupy Taiwan--Formosa--would, in all probability, serve to bring about only a