

External Affairs

viewpoint is determined entirely by the viewpoint of the United States on this problem. In fact, I believe he used the words that Canada is merely a satellite of the United States in this regard. I believe that that statement can be challenged. It is true that Canada, as a neighbouring North American country, follows very closely the leadership of the United States in establishing our foreign policy. It is also equally true that the decision of Canada in reference to this problem, up to the moment, is the result of deliberation and consideration, which are the words used in the resolution, on the part of the government which formerly had the responsibility for conducting affairs in this nation, as well as on the part of the government which at the present moment has the responsibility of guiding the foreign policy of the nation.

I think that the late minister for external affairs put the matter very nicely when he spoke in this house just a few weeks ago and reviewed in a comprehensive way the pros and cons of this issue. Just a week ago, on March 13, I had the privilege of listening to one of the assistant secretaries of state for our neighbour to the south, Mr. Walter Robertson, deal with this very issue of the attitude of the United States toward the recognition of Red China.

Mr. Winch: I quoted him, too, to be fair.

Mr. Dinsdale: Yes, but you did not quote all aspects of that speech, to be equally fair.

In thanking the speaker on that occasion, the gentleman chosen for that task spoke in very sober tones and said that the effect of the speech by Mr. Robertson was like the impact of a cold shower because in recent days we had tended to lose some of the fundamental perspective on this problem. Mr. Robertson pointed out, for example, that the majority of the free nations of the world still have not recognized the People's Republic of China. Out of the total membership of the free nations only 22 have recognized the Peiping regime, whereas 44 have still failed to give this regime recognition.

Mr. Robertson also drew our attention to the basic difficulty of this very vexing problem, the fate of the Formosan government if the western nations, particularly the United States and Canada, should yield to the impulse to recognize Red China. We have not only one China to contend with in this issue, we have the established government on the island of Formosa. It was the opinion of Mr. Robertson that recognition would undermine the position of the Chiang administration and place the whole cause of freedom and democracy in the Asiatic countries in serious jeopardy.

Mr. Speaker: Order. I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but it is ten o'clock.

At ten o'clock the house adjourned, without question put, pursuant to standing order.