

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Would the conference deal with this kind of situation: Supposing, as a result of a cease-fire, the Pathet Lao and the other communist forces took the position that they are in control of a particular area of Laos, and that they do not propose to retreat from that and that they propose to perpetuate the division of the country, such as we have in Korea, and such as exists in Viet-Nam; would the conference seek to dispute that association by the communist powers?

Mr. GREEN: If I understand it, the purpose is to establish a neutral government for the whole of Laos; there is no suggestion that it would divide the country.

I do not know what will develop as the conference proceeds. Canada is only a member because she is on the international supervisory commission, and our interest in that conference will be very much the same as the interest of India.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Except that India was a member of the original conference.

Mr. ROBERTSON: No, I do not think so.

Mr. GREEN: I do not think so.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Krishna Menon was certainly there.

Has the minister had an opportunity of following through on the question that was asked in the house this morning about the view of the King of Laos as to the undesirability of the conference taking place?

Mr. GREEN: We have no further word.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): What is the position with regard to the international supervisory commission now in Cambodia? It has no work to do, and if we thought it desirable to adjourn the work of the commission in Laos, sine die, are we continuing on in Cambodia?

Mr. GREEN: The Cambodian government did not want the commission to be de-activated whereas the opposite was the case in Laos. Mind you, it is just a skeleton. We have only one officer there.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Has there been any suggestion by President Diem or by anyone in North Viet-Nam, as to the condition in Viet-Nam? Has there been no suggestion of disbandment of that body?

Mr. GREEN: No, that has not been suggested. That commission has quite a few difficult problems.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): What will happen if, at the 14 power conference, Chou En-lai should raise the question of the nature of the elections in Viet-Nam, and so on, and try to cause further complications in that disturbed country?

Mr. GREEN: My understanding is that the conference is only to deal with Laos, and not Viet-Nam.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Yes, I know that, but there is a great fear, certainly, that the conference will be used for much wider purposes.

Mr. GREEN: Oh yes.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Now, in another area: I thought the minister was going to a NATO meeting, but that is a meeting only of foreign ministers.

Mr. GREEN: Yes.

Mr. MARTIN (*Essex East*): Do you wish to say anything about that meeting?

Mr. GREEN: Yes. The main significance of the NATO meeting is primarily because there is a new administration representing the United States, and also that there has been a good deal of consideration given in the permanent coun-