

Supply—External Affairs

confidence and good will that we have in Nigeria and among many of those on the Biafran side of the border in order to see whether some compromise, some arrangement or negotiation can be worked out. As Dr. Johnson told the external affairs committee the other day, having talked to leaders on both sides, these two peoples are fighting a war that neither wants and which they hope can be solved between themselves. Yet the war continues from week to week and from month to month.

There is one other area in Africa to which I should like to draw the attention of the committee, an area where likewise there have been wholesale murders during the last few years and nothing much has been said about them in the press. In fact, I do not think any mention of this situation has been made in this chamber. I speak of the Sudan. Southern Sudan, better known as Upper Sudan because it is nearer the head waters of the Nile, is inhabited by negroid people who through the centuries and particularly in recent years have not had the opportunities of those who live in Lower Sudan. They have suffered discrimination and persecution by the Arabs who, basically, control the government in Lower Sudan.

While we cannot estimate the numbers of people who have lost their lives in this country during the last two or three years, the number must run into the tens of thousands. I know that country well. I also knew many of the people who have lost their lives. I know the circumstances in which they lived and am aware of some of the terrible situations that have been permitted to develop as one group of people has tried to force its wishes upon another group less equipped and able to defend themselves. I say that the United Nations, the "have" nations of the world, cannot be excused, before the judgment seat of the Almighty, their disinterest and apparent complete lack of concern about what has taken place and is continuing to take place in the Sudan.

There is one other question with respect to Africa on which I want to touch. While the particular area concerned is not at the present time involved in what might be described as warfare, as a result of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Russian policy of domination of the Mediterranean sufficient arms and military equipment, sophisticated to the nth degree and all basic tools of war, have been moved into Algeria to equip every

nation on the continent of Africa with a reasonable size defence force. So sophisticated is some of the equipment which has been shipped there in recent months that it is impossible to believe Algerians are capable of operating it. This means that Russian technicians are in the country, even as they are in Egypt. We may even assume that the losses of military supplies and equipment incurred by Egypt in the five-day war with Israel a year ago have already been replaced.

● (4:40 p.m.)

What will happen if this kind of thing continues? How can we expect to maintain world peace if the tools of war are being assembled as they are in Algeria at the present time? There can be no doubt that the Russians are doing this intending to use the brute force of military strength to accomplish their aims in Africa and in the Mediterranean area. One can also assume, I believe, that their intentions go much farther, because the kind of concentration of military force I have described cannot be justified on any other hypothesis.

Yet we do nothing about all this. We talk about Viet Nam and decry United States policy. We blame the United States for everything that has gone wrong in the world today. The truth of the matter is that but for the United States and its actions some of us here would not have the privilege of standing up today to speak in perfect freedom as we are accustomed to do in Canada. As we look at the world today and search our consciences in the quest for peace we ought rather to be concerned about the policies of certain nations which would pose as our friends but which at the same time are seeking to destroy the way of life all of us hold dear and which Canada, as the hope, I believe, of every free nation in the world, must always strive to preserve.

Mr. Matheson: Mr. Chairman, I should like to express a few of my own views on this important area of our responsibility and in doing so I should like to say that anything I say is certainly only an expression of my personal views; I hope they are shared by the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the administration, but I do not know. I certainly intend to express only what are my own views.

Perhaps I am being a little nostalgic when I remind members of the house of the year 1941. I remember the feeling of so many