

*U.S. Invasion of Cambodia*

State for External Affairs was most hesitant and timid. Full discussion of this subject is needed so that we may know whether the Canadian government intends to take any initiative whatsoever or whether it intends to stand idly by and watch a very serious and barbarous war in Viet Nam become a major war in Asia which may well have disastrous consequences for the human race.

[*Translation*]

**Mr. Réal Caouette (Témiscamingue):** Mr. Speaker, allow me in the first place to thank all my colleagues for the token of regard they gave me this morning, because 78 per cent of the people of Quebec have proved that they are definitely against separatism. In my opinion, all the right-thinking Canadians are as pleased as we are.

Mr. Speaker, in connection with the statement of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, I think that we all regret foreign interventions in Cambodia whether they are from the Viet Cong, the North Vietnamese or the Americans. I believe that Cambodia is entitled to its sovereignty and to the respect of all nations.

However, some of the attitudes we witness in the House are unfortunate. I have just heard the NDP leader (Mr. Douglas) taking the Americans to task for their intervention in Cambodia. But he did not censure—we are all convinced of this—the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamese for their intervention. Why? He has just explained that they did not supply weapons to North Viet Nam, that the NDP did not mobilize troops or force anyone to come to the assistance of that country. He did not say however whether the Chinese Communists or others have given help and advice to these people to enable them to settle in Cambodia or to try to take it one way or another.

In any case, blaming one side and ignoring the other will not solve the problem. A general debate on this question in the House of Commons will not solve the problem either. Even if soldiers armed with pea shooters were sent to Cambodia, they would be unable to drive out the Americans or the North Vietnamese, even if they were under the command of the hon. leader of the New Democratic Party.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear.

**Mr. Caouette:** In my opinion, it is the duty of all Canadians to suggest that meetings, discussions and debates be held between par-

[Mr. Douglas (Nanaimo-Cowichan-The Islands).]

ties concerned so that understanding prevails. However, the Canadian government or the Canadian people have no business in interfering in that matter. Even if we discussed it for three months, the situation would not be solved. Canadians must appeal to the good judgment of parties concerned because finally, North and South Vietnamese, Americans and Chinese are human beings. It is a matter of appealing to their reason, not to their lower instincts which lead them to kill one another. On the contrary, we must teach them the great rule of brotherly love. Thus will Canada be able to contribute to the settlement of the conflict which has already lasted for too long in Viet Nam and Cambodia.

[*English*]

**MOTION TO ADJOURN UNDER S.O. 26****EXTERNAL AFFAIRS****CAMBODIA—INVASION BY UNITED STATES AND SOUTH VIET NAM ARMED FORCES**

**Mr. David Lewis (York South):** Mr. Speaker, I ask leave, seconded by the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Knowles), to move the adjournment of the House under Standing Order 26 for the purpose of discussing a specific and important matter requiring urgent consideration, as evidenced by the brief statement made by the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. Sharp) a few minutes ago, namely, the announcement last night of the widening of the war in southeast Asia, which increases the dangers to world peace, and the urgent need for the government and Parliament to debate the seriousness of the situation, and to seek ways and means of avoiding further escalation of the war and of promoting effective international action to bring peace to the area.

• (11:30 a.m.)

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for York South has given the Chair the required notice under the terms of Standing Order 26. I have had time to give a bit of thought to the submission contained in the proposed motion of the hon. member for York South. Unquestionably this is a matter of great importance and concern to all hon. members.

Whether there should be an adjournment of the proceedings of the House today under the terms of the Standing Order is the decision the Chair must make at this time. It is not an easy decision to make. It may well be that such an important debate could be held