

trying to do? Well, first of all, we are trying to help Asian countries, and particularly our Commonwealth partners there, to relieve some of the terrible poverty which has bedevilled their lives for so long. Then we are trying to help them to remain free people, to develop along democratic lines and to remain with us in the free world, but terrible poverty, disease, lack of proper housing and general low standards of life make large numbers of their people ready to follow any banner which offers higher standards, whether the people who wave that banner can really do anything for them or not.

We want to enable their present free governments really to be in opposition to remedy the ills from which they now suffer and to give them confidence in their government and thus offer them an attractive alternative to following China behind the Iron Curtain and into the slavery of the Communist state. If we look back at Europe, we shall find there that after the chaos of World War II, totalitarian force, following the old Russian Imperial pattern, took over and dominated country after country until now the world faces a land block of totalitarian satellites which has swollen the power of the Russian land mass by the addition of: Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Albania and East Germany.

I am convinced that it was only the Marshall Plan, and Marshall Plan aid, which rocked Communism back on its heels in 1948, and saved most of Europe from following these countries behind the Iron Curtain. Now substantially, we are working out a similar plan for Asia.

Our Colombo Plan is only one part. And I have already told you how it is working, what it is doing, and the part we Canadians are playing in it, but all the time we must remember that our success in Europe has only made the totalitarian forces more determined than ever to win Asia, and therefore we face an urgent problem. We have to make up our minds that it is extremely unlikely that the Communists anywhere will help us to bring about the free world we want but which they do not want at all.

It should be obvious now to anyone who will look facts in the face that they are not working for a peaceful world except under their complete domination. They are attacking us in Korea, causing us considerable trouble in Malaya, in Viet Nam and in Burma: they are working hard to disrupt orderly government in all the countries of Southeast Asia. The vast manpower of Chins is being used against us and we are beginning to see what a serious threat to the free world was brought about by our loss of that country.

I do not believe that men, whether European or Asian, lightly throw overboard everything they have known, to embrace a new creed and a new way of life, so long as there is real hope that their existing manner of living can be made tolerable, and I think the recent elections held in India which, by the way, were magnificently organized and run, prove that point.

In areas where peasants owned even a very small amount of land or where there was some hope that they might soon do so, they did not vote Communist; where they did vote Communist was in areas where they are hungry and it seemed to them that they had no hope at all.