

*Supply—External Affairs*

The nuclear bomb has made war a monstrous absurdity. Yet some leaders of the west are talking and acting as if the Berlin crisis may have to be settled in the last resort by war. If the Berlin crisis is settled by war, it will certainly be settled for all time, for there will not be a Berliner left alive over whom another crisis could develop. Nor, for that matter, will there be very many Canadians still living to pass on to the blighted generations to come the story of man's supreme folly.

Over 16 years have passed since we helped to end one of the most vicious tyrannies the world has ever known. Let us never forget that Nazi Germany started the second world war and brought total defeat upon itself. We have friends in Germany today, good friends, men who fought the Nazi tyranny with the means at their disposal quite as wholeheartedly as we did under the circumstances that existed at that time. Yet the fact remains and must remain that in our opinion we have no cause in logic, friendship or honour, to go to war now in a futile and suicidal attempt to end the unhappy division of Germany and Berlin.

We have small reason to respect East Germany's communist regime, that shard satellite, more remarkable by its refugees, to whom the minister made reference, than anything else. Yet this regime exists and the more NATO seeks to perpetuate the unnatural state of affairs created in Germany by the second world war the less chance is there of the East German state evolving to a more democratic form of government.

Mr. Khrushchev has stated that unless the western powers agree to an over-all German peace treaty the U.S.S.R. will sign a separate peace treaty with the East German state by the end of this year. At that time Russian supervision over western access to West Berlin will pass to the East German government. Mr. Khrushchev goes on to stress in his statement that the communists have no intention of interfering with western rights in West Berlin or access thereto. Yet over this a tremendous crisis has sprung up. The Americans order a partial mobilization and vote \$3 billion for what is still called defence even when there is no real defence in the thermonuclear age. Dr. Adenauer talks as if his nation had been on the side of freedom for generations. Just this week, September 5, General de Gaulle speaks of war over Berlin as if victory there could be bought as easily as at Bizerte.

In the opinion of this group Canada should immediately take the lead in pressing the western powers to conclude a peace treaty with both Germanys. Such a treaty must include ironclad safeguards for the freedom

of West Berliners. Such a treaty would necessarily accept the present division of Germany and Berlin and would imply recognition of the East German state.

In this connection we do not underestimate the difficulties. We urge the government to give consideration to promoting the idea of bringing Berlin under the jurisdiction and control of the United Nations as one method of neutralizing this danger spot in western Europe. It is and will continue to be an area of danger.

If the situation continues to exist and the western nations are to face from time to time the danger of war arising from the situation, suggestions have been made that we should even offer to rebuild West Berlin in another portion of the German state. The millions that would cost would be trifling compared with the cost of war and the dangers that would continue to exist unless the United Nations can overcome the situation or make satisfactory treaty arrangements with both German states.

At the same time we urge the government to continue to work for disengagement in western Europe. This is the danger spot. Without doubt this is where the power is concentrated between east and west. We urge the government to give consideration to these proposals.

I wish now to say a word about NATO. With evident relish the hon. member for Essex East (Mr. Martin) was kind enough to place on the record in part the policy of the New Democratic party. We thank him for his interest and recognition of the fact that the policies and resolutions adopted by the New Democratic party are of concern to the party of which he is so distinguished a member.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Of interest, not of concern.

**Mr. Herridge:** Yes, of interest. I wish to be exact in this respect. I shall read into the record the policy adopted in this respect by the New Democratic party convention. It was arrived at in a democratic manner. There were expressions of opinion and this was the final result:

NATO has played its part in the maintenance of west European security. However, it has concentrated on a military role and has failed to adapt its policies to the growing importance of the economic and social front in the present world struggle. The New party believes that we should seek a reappraisal and change of NATO's policies and objectives.

The New party believes that the extension of nuclear weapons to any further states and alliances threatens disaster to the world.

I think perhaps hon. members of the official opposition would agree with that portion of the resolution. I continue: