

Supply—External Affairs

I do not know what purpose is behind this. If we want to win Indonesia to our way of life and get the Indonesians divorced from advocating aggression, then perhaps this is the reason the minister has undertaken to give this aid. But perhaps there would be other and better means of achieving that objective. The question with regard to aid to Indonesia has not been raised on this occasion just out of the blue. The hon. member for Oxford has repeatedly drawn the situation in Indonesia to the attention of the minister and has questioned this type of aid. Unfortunately the minister, following the practice which I feel sure he is going to correct now after our discussions with him last night, brushed aside those questions and treated them very lightly. We are looking for a change of attitude now.

Let us be very definite about this. What is our stand going to be under this Colombo plan? We do not resist any suggestion of giving help where help is desperately needed. Why do we help the enemy of a member of the commonwealth? Perhaps in the future we are going to be called upon to give not only military equipment; we might be asked to provide service people to assist this member of the commonwealth and they would be in grave danger. Somewhere the line has to be drawn. I think the minister could be quite helpful this morning if he would give us the picture with regard to this troubled area in the world.

The population of Indonesia, if the reports I read are correct, is very large, about 40 million. The population of Malaysia is small. You have a giant of a country threatening a small country. We are told that Indonesia is building up great armaments and has a maritime force now which it did not have before. This may well threaten New Zealand and Australia. We had a story in one of the newspapers the other day that Indonesia might be approaching the stage where it could develop nuclear weapons.

Now, when we have a troubled area like this, why we just coast along and say that we must assist Indonesia? Suppose we do not assist Indonesia; suppose we look at the question a little more closely. Are there ways and means by which we could persuade other people in the world to put pressure on Indonesia to desist from her activities against Malaysia? Let the minister go a bit further now and tell us what action he proposes at the United Nations with regard to Indonesia. What discussions were held at meetings with the commonwealth foreign affairs ministers with

[Mr. Churchill.]

regard to Indonesia? He has not disclosed any of these facts in the house. It is not in the speech of May 22, 1964, that famous document to which we were referred last night. Let him bring us up to date with regard to Indonesia and justify, if he can, this vote for which he is asking at the moment.

The Chairman: Shall the vote carry?

Mr. Churchill: No. Are we going to have a reply from the minister to some of these questions? We have quite a bit of leisure today. The minister arranged this last night. If he wants to sit here this afternoon from 2.30 until six o'clock, we are agreeable. We might even sit later as we did last night for 45 minutes while he obstructed the process of passing his estimates. Let him now, having himself elected to have his estimates discussed today when they could have passed last night, answer some of these questions and clear up the situation.

Mr. Martin (Essex East): Mr. Chairman, my hon. friend is in rare form this morning. I appreciate this friendly attitude; it really helps the dispatch of public business. My hon. friend has forgotten what was said last night with regard to the wheat flour in question. I would refer him to what was said as recorded on page 10302 of *Hansard*:

We were among the first to participate in the Colombo plan. Our proposed total assistance to Indonesia is in the amount of little more than \$400,000, of which roughly \$350,000 represents wheat flour, in connection with which there has not yet been made a decision to make a shipment of that commodity.

That is the situation. As I said before, no shipments have been made from the 1964-65 commitment. The decisions with respect to the program for the next year have not been taken. Our judgment will, of course, be influenced by developments in the coming months. We discussed this matter with the Tunku when he was here. There has been no decision taken with regard to the shipment of wheat flour at the moment.

In any event my hon. friend, who of course will know how these matters are dealt with by way of counterpart funds and the like, knows that if a shipment were made the local currency equivalent to the Canadian cost of the flour could be used only for jointly agreed economic development projects that are arrived at by arrangement between the two countries.

Mr. Diefenbaker: How is that controlled?