

*Foreign Policy*

comma, is taken word for word from the admirable speech made on May 13 by the President of the Privy Council requesting the stopping of the bombing by the United States.

I think my time is about up and I want to conclude by repeating the general suggestions I made at the outset.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** May I ask my hon. friend a question?

**Mr. Lewis:** Provided it is not taken as my last word, yes.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Would my hon. friend consider adding to his amendment a reference to the stopping of infiltration from the north to the south? Would he agree to that?

**Mr. Lewis:** Is the minister suggesting that if we agree to that he would support it?

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** I just want to know whether my hon. friend would agree to it.

**Mr. Lewis:** Even though I have not been in this house as long as my hon. friend—

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** My question is a very serious one.

**Mr. Lewis:** I want to give a serious answer. Even though I have not been in this house anywhere near as long as the Secretary of State for External Affairs, he cannot catch me in that way. Let me say without hesitation that any possible settlement in Viet Nam will require that Hanoi stop infiltrating the south. The New Democratic party clearly condemns Hanoi for its refusal at various points to take steps that might assist negotiations for peace, as we do Washington.

Let me paraphrase what the Secretary General of the United Nations, Senator Clark and many others have said, and this is why our amendment is worded as it is. The cessation of the bombing of North Viet Nam is an indispensable condition to the commencement of negotiations toward peace. Senator Clark also said that the United States, being the powerful country in the situation, can afford to take the risk involved in this regard without hurting its eventual position in south-east Asia. That is the basic difference between the United States and Hanoi. That is the only reason why our subamendment refers to American bombing and not to the other part to which the Secretary of State for External Affairs referred.

I said, Mr. Speaker, that I wanted to conclude, and it will not take me half a minute, with the general idea that I suggested when I began my remarks, namely, that the world situation is so dangerous and so serious that the time for quiet diplomacy has gone. The time has come for forthright precise statements by the government of a country like Canada. The time has come for a country like Canada, because it is not involved in these various conflicts throughout the world, because it does have the respect and confidence of many of the new nations of the world, to give a positive and concrete lead, to criticize where criticism is necessary, whether it is Washington or Hanoi or indeed the Secretary General of the United Nations himself.

• (5:40 p.m.)

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** Mr. Speaker, my hon. friend has been very kind. May I ask him another question? Would he explain why the government of Britain, which shares my hon. friend's political philosophy, follows precisely the course followed by the government of Canada?

**Mr. Lewis:** May I say first that even though many members of that government are, as one would expect, personal friends of members of my party, we disagree with Mr. Wilson's policy in regard to Viet Nam. We disagree very strongly with it, and some of us have had occasion to say to him privately and to others of his government that we disagree with that policy. I do not know what the reason is for the policy of the government of Great Britain. I know that Great Britain is in unfortunate financial and economic situations which require help and sympathy from President Johnson.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh.

**Mr. Lewis:** I know that Great Britain has other commitments elsewhere. Some of these things may have something to do with it. But I cannot tell you precisely what the reasons are for the British government's position.

**Mr. Martin (Essex East):** I can tell my hon. friend that those are not the reasons.

**Mr. Lewis:** I can tell you quite clearly, Mr. Speaker, that we do not agree with the government of Britain even though we admire and agree with the Labour party of Britain in many other respects. That is part of the democratic process, is it not? We do not have to agree with them on every issue, any more