

reports which have been appearing in the Manchester Guardian recently by their correspondent, a wise and unprejudiced observer, as to the improvement that has taken place in the government of Formosa in recent years. We do not in this Government have to subscribe to the policies of Chiang Kai-shek--we also have a fairly open mind about the future of Formosa and indeed we have been criticized because we have not been more specific in our policy in this regard. But I certainly do not subscribe to any policy which would ask us to share in the ejection of Chiang-Kai-shek and half a million Chinese Nationalist soldiers from Formosa.

The second suggestion the leader of the C.C.F. made was that we should neutralize Formosa and place it under a trusteeship. I think there is a good deal to be said for that suggestion. That may prove to be the wisest solution to this extremely difficult problem. I think however, it is premature to be dogmatic on the point to make up our minds finally on anything like that at the present time. A great deal of discussion is now going on in diplomatic channels as to how this problem of Formosa can be solved in a way which will meet the wishes of the Formosan people and will take that island out of conflict. The solution may turn out to be the neutralization of Formosa and a trusteeship under the United Nations. That may turn out to be the wisest solution. But I would point out that that particular solution, namely to put Formosa under United Nations trusteeship, is about the only single thing on which the Chinese communists and the Chinese National Government agree. They are both violently opposed to it.

So far as Canadian responsibility is concerned over Formosa--I think this had better be repeated, and I will try to make it clear--we have no other commitment in regard to Formosa, than that which arises from our membership in the United Nations. That was the position a year ago and that is the position today. We feel that the status of Formosa has not yet been finally determined. but we also feel that the communist government in Peking should not use force to bring about that determination. This afternoon my friend the hon. member for Winnipeg South Centre--or rather the hon. member for Winnipeg North (Mr. Stewart) had something to say about a press report of a statement made or alleged to have been made in Australia by my friend the Minister of Trade and Commerce (Mr. Howe). I have seen the report to which he has referred and we expect to have a more complete report shortly, but even on the basis of the press report, my colleague the Minister of Trade and Commerce, in answer to a query at a press conference, merely stated that Canada was prepared to go full out for Formosa. To me that does not sound like an alarming statement and it certainly does not indicate any change whatsoever in Canadian policy in this matter. When he talks about going full out for Formosa, no doubt my colleague had in mind going full out to keep Formosa out of this Far Eastern conflict. In that sense I am sure he will have the support of all members in this House.

Then the third point made by the leader of the C.C.F. was that we should seat communist China at the present time in the United Nations, and he contrasted our policy or the Canadian Government's policy in this