

*Supply—External Affairs*

and there has been strenuous propaganda to persuade the world that blame lies on the United States. In South Vietnam there are, perhaps, a million refugees from North Vietnam. The refugee tide, that is, has run in the same direction as in Korea—

I might add also in the same general direction, east to west in Berlin, and from mainland China to Hong Kong.

● (5:10 p.m.)

It is not unreasonable to suppose that there, as in Korea, the refugees know more about Asian communism, its aims and methods, than many well-intentioned people whose opinions are so deeply influenced by their detestation of war as to blind them to its causes.

I think we have people in this house who wish to be blinded. Jakov Lind made a very interesting suggestion when he said:

Why not try a shrewd solution to combat Communists in Asia? Help them to get to power; sooner or later they will all turn revisionist.

Recent developments in Europe would tend to make this sly suggestion almost reasonable. I think we should respect the writings in the books and articles by Mao Tse-Tung and Ho Chi Minh. There are two books of Ho to be found in our parliamentary library. His diary from prison is a very interesting document as are his published speeches which cover the period up to 1966: One can easily find a statement of purpose in the studies of Mao, some of which have even alarmed and frightened the Russians because they do not express their feelings about the desired course of human progress.

It seems to me that we lack in responsibility when we criticize those who have enabled us all to come safely through a very difficult period. One of the reasons advanced by Elliott Janeway for this assault on the dollar was the overextension of America both in terms of military and economic aid to other countries. I think it ill behooves Canadians at this time to make smart cracks at our American friends. I want to say how immensely grateful I am that we have at the present time, presiding over the affairs of our great neighbour, a man who always has stood for truth, vigorously, and fearlessly, whether popular or otherwise. The big Texan stands out as a very big man in a troubled world.

**Mr. Nugent:** Mr. Chairman, it has been a while since I said anything about foreign affairs but I must say I am prompted to do so at this time after listening to the spiel I have just heard from the hon. member for Leeds,

[Mr. Matheson.]

who can speak more pompously, utter more words and mean less than any other member in the house. He is in my opinion very able in saying those things which do not help us a bit when discussing international affairs.

I can never understand why people who profess to be anxious to defeat communism get up in this house and use the fact that communism is bad as a defence for some of the very stupid actions that we in the western world have taken. I do not think anybody in this house has to be persuaded that communism has its faults. I do not think anyone in this house, no matter how they approach the problem, is not anxious to make sure that our democratic system is extended to all new emerging countries and to make sure that it is improved to the advantage of the people of other countries in the world. I do not think there is any real point in the sort of diatribe engaged in by the hon. member who tried to convince us how bad communism is and therefore how right we are. This is nonsense.

Communism has its faults and we have ours. We are not going to correct our faults by pointing up the faults of the communists and then saying that because they are so bad we must not be so bad. Frankly, the United States position in respect of Viet Nam is dreadful. I first said in this house on September 8, 1961, and I have not changed my view since then, that the best friends the communists have in the world are those who make speeches like that of the hon. member for Leeds. I refer to those who rant and rave about the faults of communism instead of suggesting how to correct our own mistakes and how we can best help those people about whom we profess to be concerned. We should adopt a policy that is pro-democracy rather than one that is anti-communism. Those who believe in a policy of anti-communism seem to think that this is the only thing wrong in the world and that anything goes as long as we are fighting communism. Quite frankly, I thought there were other enemies in the world during the last war—the Nazis.

A number of other systems which are not communism or democracy exist in the world today including dictatorships and some that are anti-democratic. Are we to believe from this hot-headed attack against communism that these systems are more acceptable and that all we have to do is drive out communism in order that one of these other systems may take over, thereby improving the lot of these people? This is the suggestion made by