

In April, the Chinese Embassy in Stockholm conveyed to the Canadian Ambassador, Mr. A.J. Andrew, Chinese acceptance of the Canadian Government's proposal. The Chinese proposed that the talks be held in Stockholm.

The Canadian Government agreed to this suggestion, and the first substantive meeting took place in the latter part of May. A number of further meetings were held, and discussions were continuing at the end of 1969. The Canadian side was led first by Mr. Andrew, and then, on his return to Canada, by the new Canadian Ambassador to Sweden, Miss B.M. Meagher. As Mr. Sharp had indicated when he announced that the Chinese Government had agreed to hold talks, the details of the Stockholm discussions remained confidential.

In the House of Commons on July 21, the Minister made the following reply to a question concerning the Stockholm talks and the question of the so-called "two Chinas":

"We are not promoting either a 'two-China' policy or a 'one-China, one-Taiwan' policy. Our policy is to recognize one government of China. We have not asked and do not ask the Government of the People's Republic of China to endorse the position of the Government of Canada on our territorial limits as a condition to agreement to establish diplomatic relations. To do so might cast doubts on the extent of our sovereignty. We do not think it would be appropriate, nor would it be in accordance with international usage, that Canada should be asked to endorse the position of the Government of the People's Republic of China on the extent of its territorial sovereignty. To challenge that position would, of course, also be inappropriate."

In various public statements, the Government had made it clear that Canada's position on Chinese representation in the United Nations in 1969 would be consistent with developments in its bilateral relations at the time the vote was taken on this question in the UN General Assembly. The voting took place on November 11 and, in view of the fact that the Stockholm discussions had not yet reached any conclusion, the Canadian delegation was instructed to vote as it had done in 1968. Canada therefore abstained on the so-called "Albanian" resolution (A/L 569), which called both for the seating of representatives of the People's Republic of China in all UN organs and for the expulsion of those representing the Republic of China (Taiwan). Canada voted in favor of the procedural resolution (A/L 567), which asserted that Chinese representation was an important question under the UN Charter, requiring a majority of two-thirds.

Resolution A/L 567 was approved by 71 (Canada) in favor to 48 against, with four abstentions. Resolution A/L 569 was defeated with 48 votes in favor, 56 against and 21 (Canada) abstentions. This represented a slight gain in support for the "Albanian" resolution, which in 1968 had been defeated by a margin of 14 votes.

Japan

The continuing importance of Canada's relations with Japan, now the third-ranking industrial power in the world, was emphasized by the visit to Japan in April 1969 of five Canadian Cabinet Ministers, in a delegation