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THE UN AFTER FOURTEEN YEARS

On United Nations Day, October 24, the Prime Minister, Mr. Diefenbaker, issued the following statement:

"Fourteen years ago today, the Charter of the United Nations entered into force and a new world organization was born. I am sure that I express the feelings of all Canadians in reaffirming on this occasion Canada's whole-hearted support for the United Nations, which has acquired in its short existence such stature, prestige and influence in world affairs.

"In 1945, fifty-one governments signed the Charter. Eighty-two countries are attending the current session of the General Assembly in New York. This is striking evidence of the emergence of new nations on the world scene and of the growing faith which the newly-developing nations are ready to place in the world organization. Canadians take it as a sign of encouraging progress that nations achieving independence should, as so many have done, seek admission to the United Nations as one of their first acts of foreign policy.

"Doubtters and cynics complain at the futility of United Nations debates. It is true that too often the organization has been used for unworthy purposes, for the prosecution of cold-war propaganda and for the advancement of extreme nationalism. Although the justification for such criticism has not disappeared, the fact is that the United Nations is no better than its members make it. On this United Nations Day it is well to remind our-

selves that the vitality of the organization depends on the sense of responsibility shown by its members and the continuing moral support of their peoples.

"The achievements of the United Nations have not always been clearly defined or spectacular. That is not to be expected, for nations which live side by side in close alliance frequently find that common traditions and common objectives are not in themselves enough to guarantee solution of common problems. It is to the United Nations and its Agencies that we look for the means of harmonizing the difficult interplay of interests among nations of varying creeds, values and objectives, in order to achieve peaceful settlements of their outstanding differences.

"During the past year Canada has continued to work towards the attainment of the goals of the United Nations. Canada's acceptance of international responsibility has been demonstrated by the discharge of a second term of service on the Security Council, a term which comes to an end on December 31 of this year.

"Canadians continue to provide an important contribution of manpower and services to the United Nations Expeditionary Force, which is helping to preserve stability along the frontier between Israel and the United Arab Republic.

"An outstanding example of the assumption by Canada of a position or responsibility in world affairs is apparent in the announcement by the Honourable Howard Green, the Secretary

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