

tary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, stated in his speech to the Assembly on September 23:

Wherever armed conflict breaks out, it involves commitments of power and prestige, and the longer it continues the more difficult it becomes to reverse the course of events, the more difficult it becomes to bring into play the machinery of peaceful negotiation and settlement. In the face of such a conflict, can the international community really stand by and allow matters to develop to the point where all avenues of peaceful recourse are irrevocably closed?

I considered last year and I consider now that this organ, this particular institution in the United Nations, as opposed to the Security Council, has the obligation to contribute to peace in Vietnam. I think it is inconceivable that we should proceed with our meeting as if this threat to the safety of mankind did not exist. Even if, in the present circumstances, the Security Council cannot deal effectively with this matter and some other framework may be appropriate, I continue to believe that it is the duty of this body to express its deepest concern over the war in Vietnam. We must urge the path of negotiation on all involved. We must persist in this effort until negotiations are begun.

During the brief Security Council discussion of the Vietnam conflict, some members objected to the involvement of the Security Council because all parties to the dispute could not appear before the United Nations on the same footing. A country with a major interest in the conflict in Vietnam and a major party to the Geneva accords of 1954 is, of course, Communist China, and the issue of Chinese representation¹ in the United Nations was well to the fore during 1966. In November, before the General Assembly, Mr. Martin outlined the position of Canada. He proposed, as an interim solution to the Chinese representation issue, that both the Republic of China and Communist China sit in the General Assembly as members representing the territories over which they exercise jurisdiction, and that Communist China should be seated in the Security Council as a permanent member. After extensive consultations, however, it became evident that, if Canada were to introduce a resolution along these lines, it would not obtain majority support. Thus, in voting on the resolutions that were presented to the Assembly on this issue, Canada abstained on what is known familiarly as the "Albanian Resolution", which calls for the seating of Communist China and expulsion of the Republic of China. This resolution did not obtain the required two-thirds majority and was defeated. A second proposal, by Italy, Chile and others, suggesting that a study be made of the question of Chinese representation, was also defeated.

During 1966, African issues, particularly Rhodesia, South West Africa and *apartheid* in South Africa, occupied much of the time of the Security

¹ See Page 9.