

A confrontation on this issue could only have the gravest consequences for the United Nations, whatever the result of an attempt to apply Article 19. I believe it is essential, therefore, to explore all possibilities of compromise. This calls for willingness to make concessions on the part of all concerned. Time for negotiations has already been gained by the adoption of a consensus procedure in the Assembly, and we are counting on more broadly-based discussions of this problem in the Working Group of Twenty-One, of which Canada is a member.

The Canadian objective in the coming discussions could be described as compromise rather than surrender. It is my hope that a solution can be worked out that does not prejudice the applicability of Article 19, the general idea of the collective responsibility of members for United Nations undertakings or the residual powers of the General Assembly. As I mentioned in my statement to the General Assembly on December 8, the Canadian view is that the principle of shared responsibility should form the basis of any accord we reach, and that responsibility for meeting peace-keeping costs ought to be shared by all members rather than left to a few.

QUESTION (8):

What is Canada's position in the "Kennedy round" of negotiations at Geneva?

ANSWER:

The Canadian Government has, from the beginning, strongly supported these negotiations under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which promise to be the most far-reaching ever undertaken among the trading countries of the world. Early in 1964, the Government established the Canadian Tariffs and Trade Committee, consisting of senior officials under the chairmanship of Mr. N.A. Robertson, former Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, charged with obtaining the views of Canadian industry and all other interested parties in preparation for the negotiations. During the summer, the Committee received briefs from a great many groups in all parts of the country, many of whom also made oral submissions in Ottawa, which assisted the Committee in making its recommendations to the Government.

Canada has taken an active part in the preparations for the "Kennedy round" which have been under way in Geneva and elsewhere over the past 18 months. Actual negotiations began on November 16 with the tabling in Geneva of lists of goods to be excepted from the general 50 percent tariff cut, or, in the case of countries such as Canada, of "offer lists" of potential tariff reductions. Canada has a strong team of officials in Geneva led by Mr. Robertson as chief negotiator, and including representatives of the various government departments concerned. It is, of course, far too early to attempt to predict the outcome of the negotiations, since by their very nature they are bound to be long and arduous. We welcome the opportunity, however, to sit down at the negotiating table with our principal trading partners: the United States, Britain, the European Economic Community, Japan and others, in an endeavour to reduce trade restrictions and secure improved access to foreign markets. The Government is convinced that only through expanded exports can we secure the growth in Canadian