

made an important contribution to the eventual settlement of the question in 1971.

As early as 1955, the Canadian Government had explicitly recognized the desirability of having the People's Republic of China play a role in world affairs. On August 25 of that year, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. L. B. Pearson, said in Vancouver that:

"... it is becoming clearer that, if the United Nations is to play the part that it should in the solution of certain Far Eastern problems, the *de facto* government of China has to be present in its discussion of these problems. If it is not, then the political conferences and negotiations concerning them will often have to be held outside the United Nations - which is unfortunate."

Subsequently, while Canada continued to recognize, and have diplomatic relations with, the Nationalist regime, Canadian ministers and officials visited Peking and established important trade relations with the People's Republic of China.

In 1966, Canada initiated consultations with a number of governments on a suggestion that the political realities could be reflected by:

- (a) the participation of the "Republic of China" in the General Assembly as representing the territory over which it exercised effective jurisdiction;
- (b) the participation of the People's Republic of China as a member representing the territory over which it exercised effective jurisdiction; and
- (c) the participation of the People's Republic of China in the Security Council as a permanent member.

In relation to this interim seating proposal, Paul Martin, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, made it clear that it was in no way intended to imply the existence of two Chinas. It would simply recognize that there were two governments, each exercising control over Chinese territory, and each claiming to be the government entitled to the Chinese