

States' original seven astronauts who overcame a heart condition to shake hands with the Soviets in space on the 1975 *Apollo-Soyuz* link-up mission.

Ron Evans, U.S. Navy carrier pilot, astronaut and command module pilot of *Apollo 17*, the last manned mission to the moon, who also has walked in space.

General Boak, Second World War member of the Royal Air Force and now Secretary-General of the Royal Air Forces Association.

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The Vancouver Declaration

Paragraph 2 under the subheading "The Vancouver Declaration" of the lead article in *Canada Weekly* dated June 30 suggested that Canada had abstained from voting for the Declaration. Canada, in fact, voted against it.

Reprinted below is the unedited text, transcribed directly from a video tape of the Conference proceedings, of Justice Minister Ron Basford's explanation of Canada's position on this issue:

"It's obviously with a very deep regret and very deep sadness that my Government has had to, by reason of having the vote on the whole of the Declaration at once, indicate a no vote on the Declaration of Principles, and it's a matter of sadness to me, and I think to others, that we have at this Conference been unable to arrive at a real consensus on the Declaration. I pay tribute to those who worked so hard at endeavouring to achieve that consensus. Had there been votes on separate paragraphs of the Declaration, Canada would have voted against Paragraph 4 in Part II of the Declaration.

Canada Weekly is published by the Information Services Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2.

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Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.

Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.

The reason for Canada's doing that would have been that while the document as a whole is found acceptable, the words at the end of Paragraph 4 of Part II regrettably link the Declaration in a clear and unequivocal manner with General Assembly resolution 3379 adopted by the General Assembly on November 10 of last year. That resolution of the General Assembly pretended to determine that Zionism is a form of racism and racial discrimination.

"Mr. President, Canada condemns all forms of racism and racial discrimination absolutely and unequivocally and we're prepared in the Declaration to say so. But Canada will not and can not accept the view that Zionism is a form of racism or racial discrimination. Canada has consistently voted against any attempt to equate or link those concepts and that position has been stated by my Government firmly and

clearly on many occasions. Except for those offending words at the end of Paragraph 4 of Part II, we would have been prepared, Mr. President, to have joined in the consensus with other distinguished delegates.

"Mr. President, on the other hand, as I indicated, it is with real sadness and regret that I have had to indicate on behalf of my Government by reason of Paragraph 4, Part II, our negative vote on the Declaration. Let me on the other hand, Mr. President — let us not forget that this Declaration contains in many of its paragraphs excellent and inspiring articles that will help many member states to set and reach their goals for better human settlements and in fact, Mr. President, as I indicated, a large majority of those paragraphs are acceptable — I think would have been acceptable to all of us had they been voted on separately."

News briefs

- The gap in average annual incomes between males and females widened from 1970 to 1974, according to a recent survey by the National Revenue Department, which shows that the average income for men increased by 68.9 per cent, compared to 62.2 per cent for women during the same period. Average incomes for men were \$11,736 and \$6,734 for females.
- The economy continued to grow during May with the index of real domestic product — a measure of the goods and services produced for domestic use — rising by two-tenths of 1 per cent, reports Statistics Canada.
- Under new Government regulations governing the use of French in Quebec air space, pilots and air-traffic controllers using any language other than English can be fined or suspended except in several special circumstances. The special circumstances cover six designated Quebec airports, involve approaches, landings and take-offs under visual flight rules. Also under special circumstances, the necessity for controllers to announce in advance that they will use French in dealing with an aircraft under their control is removed.
- The Government has decided not to close several military bases across

the country, a spokesman says. The closures had been announced to save money but the Government now believes that little could be saved and unemployment in the areas would be aggravated.

- The Prime Minister sent congratulations to President Ford, July 21, on the successful landing of the *Viking 1* spacecraft. In a telegram to Mr. Ford, Mr. Trudeau said Canada offered congratulations on the "magnificent undertaking".
- West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt was met by Prime Minister and Mrs. Trudeau at Ottawa International Airport, July 21, as the Chancellor arrived for a brief, informal visit with Mr. Trudeau before leaving for Montreal for the Olympics.
- Levels of mercury in most Western Canadian rivers have dropped sharply in the last few years, according to a report by Environment Canada. The report, *Mercury Levels in the Rivers of Western Canada 1970-76*, indicates a 90 percent drop since 1973 in the number of locations where mercury is present in high enough concentration (more than 0.2 micrograms per litre of water) to cause problems. The report cites "improved housekeeping" by industry as one of the reasons for improvement.