

TEXT OF THE LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, FLORA MACDONALD, TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, KURT WALDHEIM, OCTOBER 24, 1979

---

On behalf of the Government and people of Canada, it is my pleasure to convey to you, and to the staff members of the United Nations and its affiliated organizations, our warmest wishes on the occasion of the thirty-fourth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

I know that during this particular week, for the first time designated as one devoted to fostering disarmament, the Government and people of Canada will pay special attention to the efforts of the United Nations in its pursuit of the general goal of disarmament. The United Nations Special Session on Disarmament in 1978 provided new impetus in this field and we are encouraged by the renewed interest on the part of other member states in arms control and disarmament. I wish to reaffirm our dedication to these goals and that we will continue to participate actively in the negotiation of multilateral disarmament agreements within the framework of the United Nations.

Of particular interest to Canada was the emphasis placed by UNSSOD and UNGA 33 on the importance of more research and education in disarmament. Canada has been very active in this field in the past year through the activity of the newly-created office of the Adviser on Disarmament and Arms Control Affairs. We hope that greater emphasis on the information aspect of disarmament and arms control will heighten public awareness of the issues in Canada and foster increased public participation in the disarmament process.