



CANADA

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 67/27

CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

Speech by the Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, at the International Day Luncheon of the Directors of the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, August 26, 1967.

...We are all aware of the rapid growth of interest in and concern for foreign affairs which has been taking place in Canada. The Government welcomes this public interest and we think that it deserves a continuing exposition of Government policy. Today, I should like to speak to you about some of the major areas of Canadian foreign policy and the ways in which we have been striving to achieve our goals in these areas.

Most Canadians are fully cognizant of the complexities of foreign affairs. In this field of human relations, as in others, "the truth" - to quote Oscar Wilde - "is seldom pure and never simple". What governments have to do - and what we have been doing in Canada - is to take a hard look at all sides of the many problems - and then adopt policies which will

- conform to the country's basic principles
- reflect domestic realities
- have long-term validity, and
- take into account the position of other countries.

Among the objectives underlying Canadian foreign policy are world peace, the rule of law, the dignity of man, economic growth and the preservation of national unity. Canadians are generally agreed on this. Today I should like to discuss some policies we are pursuing in order to achieve these underlying objectives. The list is long - foreign aid, NATO, peace-keeping, arms control, China, Vietnam - but it reflects an important point about Canada's involvement in and attitude toward the world. Increasingly, we are becoming concerned about problems in all parts of the globe through the United Nations, through our participation in alliances, or through bilateral relations with many countries. We are concerned about the whole gamut of relations among countries, whether they be political, economic or cultural. And we are particularly concerned with the opportunities for a positive contribution to the solution of international problems in all these areas.