

VIETNAM TRUCE SUPERVISION OFFER

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, issued the following statement on November 2:

Recent statements by the United States and North Vietnam have indicated the possible conclusion of a peace settlement in Vietnam in the very near future. The Prime Minister, in his statement of October 26, welcomed this development and expressed the hope of all Canadians that this conflict can be brought to an end as soon as possible.

It has been stated publicly that part of the peace settlement envisaged by the parties concerned includes the formation of new international machinery to supervise the implementation, by the parties, of some of the terms of the proposed peace settlement, and there have been speculative press reports regarding Canada's possible participation in this new machinery.

Over the past few years the Government's policy in regard to Canada's participation in any new peace supervisory arrangements in Indochina has been stated clearly on many occasions, both in public and in private. Accordingly the Government would consider favourably any request by all the parties for Canadian participation in such arrangements if, in the light of Canada's experience in this area, the proposed operation held the promise of success and it seemed likely that Canada could play a useful and effective role in it.

The parties concerned appear to have concluded that when a cease-fire goes into effect in Vietnam

there should be some form of international presence immediately on the ground to participate in such supervisory functions as may be required. To meet this situation, therefore, the Government of Canada is prepared to place at the disposal of the new international supervisory body for the initial period the Canadian delegation to the existing International Commission for Supervision and Control (ICSC) in Vietnam established by the 1954 Geneva Conference. The Canadian delegation already has offices in both Saigon and Hanoi, and would therefore be in a position to participate in the initial supervisory activities of the proposed new organization until the international conference provided for in the peace settlement. Developments at the conference would enable Canada as well as the parties concerned to determine what, if any, future role was appropriate for Canada in Vietnam in the light of the arrangements that emerged from the conference concerning the membership, the terms of reference and the operation of an international supervisory body.

If invited to the international conference, which is scheduled to convene 30 days after the signing of a cease-fire, Canada would, of course, be prepared to attend.

The Government hopes that, insofar as Canada's participation is a factor, this course of action will enable the initial cease-fire arrangements to proceed without delay, subject of course to an agreement being reached among the parties concerned.

UNDP CONTRIBUTION INCREASE

In a statement to the 1972 pledging conference of the United Nations Development Program on November 1, the Canadian representative, Dr. Saul Rae, stated Canada's intention to increase its contribution by \$1.8 million, subject to Parliamentary approval, bringing Canada's pledge for 1973 to \$19.8 million (U.S.). Canada will also, he said, contribute in 1974 an amount at least equal to the total already indicated for 1973 taking into consideration the Program's growth, and subject to the appropriation of funds by the Canadian Parliament. The latter commitment is being implemented on an interim basis pending the reaction of other donor countries.

During the next calendar year, a minimum supplemental contribution of \$500,000 will also be made by Canada, to aid in accelerating the development of the least-developed countries.

FAMILY PLANNING PLEDGE

Canada pledged, on November 2, \$2 million to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). The sum is part of Canada's multilateral development assistance program for 1972-73. Can-

adian aid authorities consider family planning an important part of development programs to improve living standards in many developing countries. The UNFPA is financed by voluntary contributions from a number of UN members and undertakes family-planning projects and related research.

AIRPORTS BUSY IN 1971

Toronto International Airport led Canada's airport activity last year with 6,423,500 passengers, which compares with 6,210,000 in 1970.

Montreal was second with 5,213,500 (4,909,300) and Vancouver was third with 2,656,200 (2,524,700) passengers.

Calgary International Airport, which was in fifth place in 1970, was fourth in 1971 with 1,466,000 (1,393,500). Winnipeg, which was fourth in 1970, was fifth last year with 1,387,800 (1,410,800) passengers.

One other airport with more than 1 million passengers was Ottawa International with 1,093,900 in 1971 (1,040,800). (The figures in parentheses refer to 1970.)