



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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A STEADY HAND ON THE UN TILLER

Statement by Mr. Howard Green, Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, in the General Debate at the Seventeenth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, September 25, 1962.

Mr. President,

It gives me great pleasure to join with others in offering you congratulations on your election to the Presidency of the General Assembly. Your outstanding qualifications and wide experience in diplomacy, international law and in United Nations affairs will, I know, prove to be of great value at this important session.

Your appointment is a well-deserved tribute to you and also to your country - Pakistan. Last week, the people of Canada were delighted to receive the President of Pakistan as a distinguished and highly respected visitor. His visit served to re-emphasize the excellent relations which Pakistan and Canada have always enjoyed.

I also wish to extend a very warm welcome to the four new members who were admitted to the United Nations last week. In Rwanda and Burundi the United Nations played an important role in bringing about the transition from trusteeship to independence. Canada had the honour of serving on one of the United Nations Commissions during the preparatory period. Aided by a common bond of language, we now look forward to developing with these two countries the same close relationship which links Canada with the other French-speaking countries of Africa.

The achievement of independence by Jamaica and by Trinidad and Tobago is an event of special significance and of interest for Canada not only because of our Commonwealth association but also because of the historic ties which have existed for centuries between Canadians and the people of the West Indies. I am confident that these good neighbours of ours -- the first new members, incidently, from the Western Hemisphere -- have a valuable contribution to make to the United Nations.