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MR. PEARSON AT THE UNITED NATIONS

Addressing the eighteenth session of the United Nations General Assembly in the general debate on September 19, Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson pointed out that, among the important changes that had taken place in the world organization since he had last appeared there in an official capacity, "not the least... is the admission of many newly-independent states", the presence of which was "a reminder... that there can be no enduring peace and security in the world until all men are free, with the right to determine their own form of political life and the duty to display the responsibility that alone gives meaning to freedom".

PLANNING FOR UN ARMED FORCES

Mr. Pearson noted that the crisis in the Congo had graphically illustrated the "growing pains" of the new states. "The Congo mission," he said, "has raised in an acute form the main problems of peace keeping of the United Nations - problems of political control, executive direction, financial means and administrative co-ordination." Observing that the peace-keeping function of the United Nations had "moved beyond the stage of first experiment" and "become a practical necessity in the conduct of international affairs", the Prime Minister called attention to the suggestion by the Secretary-General that member states make provision in their national military plans for special units to be kept available for service with the UN. Mr. Pearson's observations on this proposal were as follows:

"I believe we should now support this appeal by putting into effect these arrangements, which are increasingly becoming necessary, including a compact planning team of military experts, which would provide the advice and assistance which the Secretary-General should have for organizing emergency peace-keeping operations.

"National governments can also improve their own arrangements for assisting such operations. My own country now maintains forces, trained and equipped for the purpose, which can be placed at the disposal of the United Nations on short notice for service anywhere in the world. In case we are required to do more, in the future, we have recently given the Secretariat detailed information on what we can most readily provide to meet further requests for assistance.

"In this co-operative peace-keeping activity, we have been associated with many states and in many places far removed from Canada - in Kashmir, in Palestine, in Gaza and Sinai, in Lebanon, in the Congo, in West New Guinea and Yemen. Each situation has posed its own problems and suggested its own solutions.

"But always, running through it all, our own experience has taught us one thing - the importance of advance planning and organization, both within our national establishment, and within the international organization.

"We would be happy to share our experience with others who have participated with us in the past

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