



## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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### AN ASSESSMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The opening address by Mr. Sidney E. Smith, Secretary of State for External Affairs, to the University Model United Nations Assembly, University of Montreal, on February 4, 1959.

C'est avec grande joie que je me trouve parmi vous aujourd'hui. Il me fait d'autant plus plaisir de vous adresser la parole que cette occasion coïncide avec ma première visite au nouveau Centre social de l'Université de Montréal. Nous savons tous le rôle éminent que jouent les institutions montréalaises de haut savoir dans la vie et dans la pensée de la nation canadienne tout entière. Il n'y a pas de meilleur exemple de cet apport que la présente réunion. Je tiens à profiter de cette occasion pour féliciter les organisateurs et en particulier remercier l'Université de Montréal qui a bien voulu nous accueillir.

#### Canadian Support for the U.N.

In his message of welcome and good wishes to the organizers and participants of the University Model United Nations, the Prime Minister, John Diefenbaker, said that the United Nations constituted an indispensable instrument of international diplomacy and that support of this organization is a basic element in Canada's foreign policy. You in this Model United Nations are therefore performing a notable international and national service in fostering knowledge of and respect for the world organization, and you are to be congratulated on the imaginative way you have set about your task.

Perhaps it would offer an appropriate background to your deliberations of the next few days if I were to explain in greater detail why it is that Canada looks upon support for the United Nations as a cornerstone of foreign policy -- why it is that we have attached so much importance to fostering and strengthening the United Nations ever since its inception in 1945. It may fairly be asked why we, in common with the vast