



STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

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CANADIAN EFFORTS IN THE WORLD OF TODAY

Excerpts from a Statement by Mr. Howard Green, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, in the House of Commons on April 26, 1961.

... These are very stirring days in the field of external affairs. As all Members will realize, the dull moments are few and far between. Sometimes the news is bad and at other times it is good. Today I am sure we are all very pleased that the troubles through which our old friend and ally, the Republic of France, has been going during the last week-end, are over. News of the collapse last night of the insurgents in Algeria was received by the Canadian Government with the greatest relief.

According to the latest reports the situation is returning to normal and the French Government is now resuming full civilian and military control in Algiers.

President de Gaulle, the French Government, and indeed the entire French people deserve high praise for their firmness and courage in the face of a challenge which could have had incalculable consequences, not only for the future of Algeria but for France itself, and which would have posed very serious problems for the North Atlantic alliance. France has emerged from this test stronger than before, and I hope it will now be possible to proceed to a peaceful solution of the Algerian issue.

In this debate on external affairs it is my hope that as many Hon. Members as possible will participate. There are a great number of Members of this House who have had considerable experience in the field of foreign affairs. I need only refer to the large number who, down through the years, have rendered excellent service for Canada at the United Nations, either as delegates or as parliamentary observers. Another large group have gone abroad to attend meetings of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. Still others have made a practice of attending the meetings of the NATO Parliamentary Organization. Another group have taken part in the meetings of the Interparliamentary Group, which consists of 24 members of the Canadian Senate and House of Commons and a similar