

on the basis of our experience as a member of the International Commission, to put before the Canadian Parliament and people the facts of the situation as we see them. We have made it clear that we regard a negotiated solution of the conflict in Vietnam as both practicable and desirable. We see this as the only way of achieving a peaceful settlement in the area and we are doing what we can to that end.

With regard to the conflict between India and Pakistan and the Unilateral Declaration of Independence by the Smith Government in Rhodesia, we took immediate action through the United Nations in one case and in company with other Commonwealth nations as well as United Nations members in the other to limit risks and work for long term stability in the areas concerned.

I do not want, however, to present 1965 only in terms of these issues of peace or war. Those listening to this message will know some of the many ways in which Canada has been able to extend friendships and develop new relations abroad. In general relations with Commonwealth associates and with NATO allies, in bilateral relations with nations traditionally very close to us such as Britain, France and the United States and in agencies of all types associated with the United Nations we can point to notable accomplishments.

Perhaps it may serve to balance the necessarily heavy emphasis in this message on matters of immediate political concern if I mentioned one or two other developments of great long-term significance. In 1965 a Commonwealth Secretariat was set up for the first time with a Canadian, Mr. Arnold Smith, as Secretary-General. The First Commonwealth Arts Festival took place in