

confidence in President de Gaulle's intention to carry this policy through to completion and also in his ability to do so. We believe, therefore, that his declaration of September 16 affords the basis for a real movement towards the final solution and settlement of the dispute which has plagued Algeria for so long.. Indeed, we can already see signs in some quarters that this movement has begun, and we therefore hope and trust that full advantage will be taken of this encouraging situation at the earliest possible opportunity. Thus the way is open for the achievement of the legitimate aspirations on the Algerian people--aspirations ... which have attracted much sympathy and support, particularly in this forum where we are dedicated to the preservation of fundamental human liberties.

For this reason, ... the Canadian Delegation is very concerned--as, I am sure, are all members of the UN--for fear that some action, no matter how well-intentioned, might be taken which would hamper the chances of the peaceful solution to which President de Gaulle's proposals have opened the way. I think it important to keep in mind that outside action whether by individual personalities or states or by the UN might not necessarily be helpful.

We recognize the sincere desire of many delegations participating in this debate to devise a formula which would give expression to the concern of the UN over the conflict in Algeria and which would serve to advance the achievement of its solution. Indeed, many of our friends are among those working towards the end. These include countries like Canada, which are often referred to as Middle powers, which have no vested interests in the problem of Algeria, and with whom the Canadian Delegation has been associated in the consideration of other items during this session. We appreciate the sincerity of their intention and we of course applaud their aim, but, viewing this problem as objectively as we can, we have serious doubts whether this is the way to approach the problem.

In the opinion of the Canadian Delegation, ... there is a very real possibility that specific action by the UN at this stage would not facilitate the achievement of a solution of the dispute in Algeria. The principles for a settlement in Algeria have been generally accepted as just and equitable, and the way is already being sought for negotiations which will lead to the application of these principles. It also seems to be generally accepted that nothing should be done which might cut across the current of these developments and hamper the realization of a solution. The statements which we have heard in the debate have unanimously echoed the concern of the international community that an end should come to this tragic struggle on a basis honourable to all concerned and giving Algeria the possibility of a hopeful and stable future.