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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MARCH 29, 1967Canadian Reply to U Thant's Message on Vietnam

The Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, released today the text of his reply to U Thant's proposals on Vietnam which the Secretary-General made available on March 14 to the Canadian Government, among others, and which he made public yesterday. The following Canadian reply was handed to U Thant by Canada's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador George Ignatieff, on March 22:

"I want to let you know how much I appreciate your keeping the Canadian Government informed of your current efforts in connection with the Vietnam problem. As you know, we have welcomed the persistent interest you have taken in this question, and the efforts you have been making to see whether some opening might be found which could show the way towards a peaceful settlement. I need hardly assure you that we have given the closest attention to the text of the proposals you have presented to North Vietnam and the United States, and it is our hope that the response of both sides to your action may be positive, in whole or even in part. As far as Canada is concerned, I should like to confirm that if it were to appear that a useful role could be played by the International Commission in achieving the objectives we all have in mind, we would be fully prepared to use whatever influence we command by virtue of our membership in that Organization. In the meantime I look forward to maintaining the closest possible contact with you as these matters evolve.

Paul Martin,"