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DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADA

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1964.

No. 10

Following is the text of a letter from the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Lester B. Pearson, in reply to the letter of December 31, 1963, addressed to him by Mr. N.S. Khrushchev, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., concerning territorial and frontier disputes and the means of settling them. The text of Mr. Pearson's letter was delivered in Moscow this morning by the Canadian Ambassador, Mr. Robert Ford, to the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Ottawa, February 4, 1964.

Dear Chairman Khrushchev,

Thank you for your letter of December 31, 1963 concerning territorial and frontier disputes and the means of settling them. I have given it careful study and would like to make some observations on your analysis of the problem and on your proposals.

First of all, I welcome this indication of your concern over the necessity of finding peaceful solutions to international disputes. Canada has consistently worked for general acceptance of discussion, negotiation, mediation or arbitration as the means of attaining that objective. We are therefore always ready to examine new ways of reasserting and strengthening the principle already enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations of the renunciation of force or threat of force in international disputes and relations between states.