

The Canadian Government has witnessed with mounting concern the terrorist acts in the last few years, acts which have shocked and dismayed people all over the world.

In the Government's view, no oppression is so severe that it excuses the cold blooded murder of innocent persons in the name of freedom or vengeance. The common human goals of freedom, liberty, self-fulfilment, can best be reached through positive, humanitarian means.

Acts of terrorism are of international concern and must be faced by the international community acting in concert. It has been suggested by the United Nations Secretary-General that an item on this question be added to the Agenda of the 27th session of the United Nations General Assembly. We welcome this initiative and any discussions which would help to reduce violence prevalent in the world today. Canada will work for a successful outcome of the deliberations likely to result from the Secretary-General's initiative. Nevertheless no one should minimize the difficulties nor expect that positive results will be achieved immediately.

The Government realizes that in dealing with this difficult area there will be conflicting views but international action involving intensified contact and communication with all would undoubtedly be the most effective way of dealing with terrorism since it is in the interest of all to reverse the present dangerous and tragic trend. This can only be accomplished if the question is considered in an atmosphere free of vituperative exchanges on specific issues.