

UN ANNIVERSARY DAY

MR. ST. LAURENT'S TRIBUTE TO UN: The Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, on October 23, sent the following telegram to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Trygve Lie, to mark the occasion of United Nations Day, October 24:

"The fifth anniversary of the coming into being of the United Nations marks the end of another year of progress for the United Nations. The goals of universal peace and prosperity still lie ahead but it is the firm conviction of the Government and people of Canada that these goals can be approached by steadily enlarging the area of international co-operation and goodwill. Support for the ideals, purposes and activities of the United Nations remains a foundation of Canadian policy.

"I should like to take this opportunity on behalf of the people of Canada of paying tribute to the great contribution that you have made towards the fulfilment of the promise of the United Nations Charter. May I also send my own personal greeting to you and to the members of the United Nations staff."

ANNIVERSARY DAY STATEMENT

On October 24, United Nations Day, Mr. St. Laurent issued the following statement in Ottawa.

"Today, peoples of all nations are commemorating the fifth anniversary of the coming into being of the United Nations, an experiment in international co-operation unique in the history of the world. This anniversary is of special significance, since it comes during a critical period of test for the United Nations. In Korea, during the past few months, the principle of collective security under the United Nations Charter has been successfully maintained by the use of forces from member countries acting in accordance with the Charter. Meeting this callous and deliberate aggression has given heart to threatened people in other areas. A constructive settlement in Korea, the basis of which has already been laid in the United Nations, will mark a most encouraging step in the search for security and peace.

"In other fields the area of international co-operation grows steadily larger. The United Nations and its Specialized Agencies are expanding their efforts to raise living standards, improve world health, and open new avenues of trade. Many great tasks lie ahead, of course. Poverty, sickness and ignorance still prevail in many areas, offending the collective conscience of the world and breeding the mistrust and unrest which so often lead to

war. It has been a disappointment that certain countries have refused to associate themselves with this work of constructing a better world. Canada, however, has supported, and will continue to support these United Nations activities."

On October 24 the United Nations flag flew for the first time from Parliament Hill in Ottawa.

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CANADA TO ARM NETHERLANDS DIVISION: The Cabinet, on October 25, approved immediate shipment to The Netherlands of the armament equipment for an infantry division. The amount involved represents a portion of the \$300,000,-000 appropriated by Parliament for aid to Canada's European partners in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Most of the shipment being transferred to The Netherlands has been in storage at No. 25 Ordnance Depot at Longue Pointe, Quebec. The equipment is in first-class order and most of it is crated or packed and ready to go. In some cases modifications to bring equipment up to latest design are being made in Canada before shipment.

The Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, said the transfer was decided on by Cabinet following advice received from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Mr. Claxton first announced the offer in Parliament last September.

AMBASSADOR'S APPRECIATION

"An important consideration was that following the war Canada sold The Netherlands the equipment for two divisions to offset the occupational expenses due the Dutch Government," said Mr. Claxton. "The Dutch forces are consequently familiar with this type of equipment and maintenance; supply and spare parts problems are simplified. I have already heard from The Netherlands Ambassador here how appreciative they are. This forms another bond between our two friendly countries."

Mr. Claxton said that arrangements were being worked out with the United States Government for purchase of equivalent equipment of U.S. design. Where it was economical to do so, this might be made in Canada, but the quantities we needed would generally not be sufficient to justify the delay of tooling up in Canada and the higher unit costs of manufacture of smaller quantities.

As soon as these arrangements have been satisfactorily completed and the shipment is under way, Canada would make a similar offer regarding the equipment of another division, Mr. Claxton added.

It is expected that the shipment will be made in two vessels, the first to leave Montreal by mid-November and the other from Montreal or Halifax at a later date.