

FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A PRESS CONFERENCE GIVEN IN OTTAWA ON MAY 29, 1968 BY THE
HONOURABLE MITCHEL SHARP - SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

5 B ADD.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sharp will make a short introductory statement. He will answer questions after.

MR. SHARP: Thank you, Mr. Hull. As you know, the Prime Minister issued a policy statement this morning on Canada and the world and he asked me if I would come here today to answer any questions you might have on this paper and on the statements contained in it, in my capacity as the Secretary of State for External Affairs. As you probably know, in these matters the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs have some joint responsibilities. So both of us often have to speak on these subjects.

THE PRESS: Mr. Sharp, the paper proposes a comprehensive review and it also makes a number of policy statements which seems to me narrow the scope of the review from the start. You have got a number of assumptions which direct the shape of the review.

MR. SHARP: The main assumption that underlines the statement, and that underlines the nature of the review, is the statement of page 2 of the text that a re-assessment has become necessary not because of the inadequacies of the past but because of the changing nature of Canada and of the world around us. And most of the comments in this paper that give the reasons for the review are related to the changing nature of the world situations to which we must respond. There are no -- as far as I know -- decisions reached or any conclusions. We are not prejudging the review. However, if we did not have reasons for making one, of course it would not be announced.

THE PRESS: You say you are going to recognize Red China when it is possible.

MR. SHARP: That is right. That, of course, has been government policy for some time. This is an indication that we intend to pursue this matter very seriously.

THE PRESS: On this -- precisely -- the Prime Minister in his book said that anyone who suggests the two China policy would show a profound ignorance of the Chinese mentality. I would like to ask you whether you know of any country which already