

Earlier this year, I wrote that stronger Canadian government involvement in U.N. issues could be a catalyst for the security and development the world longs for in the dangerous decade of the 1980's. Since then, I have spent the fall at the U.N., representing Canada at the First Committee which is responsible for Disarmament and related matters. This experience has made me realize how true are the words of the Throne Speech on the opening of Parliament November 5:

"Patience and perseverance we will need, for in this endeavor even the smallest progress is worthy of the greatest effort."

In its melange of hopes and frustrations, the United Nations reflects the anxieties of the modern world. These anxieties are heightened by the unchecked nuclear arms race. People everywhere want the promise of life to prevail over the suffocating threat of death. More and more, people want a "fast" solution. But it is my view that the solution will be slow.

Canadians should understand that a realistic role for Canada to play involves a long series of steps, not reliance on a "quick fix" to make the world a safer place. A commitment to the long haul, in which sometimes it is necessary to take one step back in order to take two steps forward, is the surest route for Canada to make a lasting contribution to peace with security and freedom and justice.

Determination is not the least of the qualities Canada needs in the search for peace and disarmament. We must constantly use our influence to reverse the nuclear