

activities, and arranging public programs in major cities across the country. (In Ottawa, on October 24, there was a UN flag-raising ceremony on Parliament Hill attended by the Secretary of State for External Affairs.)

In New York, a special commemorative session of the United Nations General Assembly was held from October 14 to 24. In attendance were a number of heads of state or government and foreign ministers. These included the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of Britain, and the Foreign Ministers of the Soviet Union and France. Canada was represented by the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, who made the opening statement in the commemorative session on October 14. On that day, Mr. Sharp also deposited with the United Nations the Canadian instruments of ratification of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and accession to the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. UN Day itself was marked by addresses by the Secretary-General, U Thant, the President of the General Assembly, Edvard Hambro, and representatives of the major regional groupings. Canada's Ambassador to the United Nations, Mr. Beaulne, spoke on behalf of the Western European and Others group.

Three Solemn Declarations

A major aim of the commemorative session had been to obtain agreement on solemn declarations, to reflect the appreciation of member states of the progress made by the organization in various fields of activity, and to indicate the major remaining problems in each field and the prospects for their solution. On October 24 the commemorative session adopted the following declarations:

- (1) Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in Accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;
- (2) An International Development Strategy for the Second United Nations Development Decade;
- (3) Declaration on the Occasion of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the United Nations. (The Canadian delegation played a leading role in achieving a consensus on this declaration.)

Earlier, the General Assembly had also adopted a "special program of action for the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples", but this had not received the approval of all of the members. It had, therefore, to be voted on and Canada and a number of other countries abstained in the voting.

Principles of International Law

The Declaration on Principles of International Law Concerning Friendly Relations and International Co-operation enunciated the following principles:

- (1) The principle that states shall refrain in their international relations