

Current Canadian Position

Speaking before the UN General Assembly on 25 September 1984, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Joe Clark, noted that "We support the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in their efforts to bring peace to the unfortunate country of Kampuchea, which continues to be occupied unlawfully."¹ The Government's position was reiterated in the same forum later that year by Canada's Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations. He stated that Canada applauded ASEAN efforts to resolve the conflict but noted that these and other parties' efforts had been unsuccessful in getting "a regionally powerful and recalcitrant nation to change its course." He also noted that Canada was opposed to the "attempted resuscitation" of the Khmer Rouge regime.²

The Government expressed its opposition to the Vietnamese offensives against the CGDK in 1984:

Canada condemns these Vietnamese attacks which are in violation of the principles of international conduct and resolutions of the United Nations that have repeatedly called for the immediate withdrawal of all Vietnamese troops from Cambodia....

The Government of Canada, therefore, calls on the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to cease at once all hostile activities in Cambodia, to refrain from initiating attacks on any other camps of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and to respond constructively to proposals for the settlement of the conflict in Cambodia.³

When the Vietnamese offensives spilled over into Thai territory in 1985, Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs stated that:

¹ DEA, Statements and Speeches, no.84/6, 25 September 1984.

² Canadian Delegation to the UN, Press Release No. 19, 30 October 1984.

³ DEA, Communique, 84/189, 28 December 1984.