



## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
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No. 54/23 CANADA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

By the Minister of National Health and Welfare,  
Mr. Paul Martin.

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Mr. Albert Einstein was once asked what he thought would be the most important weapon if there were a third world war. He is reported to have replied:

"I do not know. But I do know that the important weapons of World War IV would be bows and arrows."

This view of the future may be pessimistic, but it underlines the urgency of the task before us. The United Nations today is the one thing which stands between mankind and the frightful prospect of further world wars. If the United Nations--or some such world agency--cannot succeed, then peace, in the long term, is impossible.

When the United Nations observed its eighth anniversary, the Prime Minister of Canada said that this occasion had perhaps a greater significance than any earlier milestone the United Nations had passed on the pathway to peace. He pointed out that, with the signing of the armistice in Korea, the Organization had met and overcome the first great challenge to the principles on which it was founded; that it had justified, in part at least, the faith which had brought it into being; and that it had helped to secure the peace which it was formed to protect.

Much has happened in the eight years since San Francisco's Golden Gate seemed to open for all nations on the splendid vision of a world without war. Since then, the gates to the future have narrowed, the horizons have been darkened by world dissension, but despite the failures and disappointments, there have been many solid achievements in the short history of the United Nations Organization.

**CANADA'S APPROACH TO THE SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE:**

Canada was proud to share in the task of drafting the Charter of the United Nations. Our Delegation set out for the San Francisco Conference, which opened on April 25, 1945, in an atmosphere of hope and confidence. The