

a conflict on the Asian mainland. The clear determination of the South Vietnamese, the United States and others to prevent a forcible takeover by North Vietnam, must at some stage be taken into account in Hanoi and Peking. We can hope, therefore, that a realistic appraisal of the efficacy of "national liberation wars" eventually will lead to their abandonment.

Some would argue that if development towards a genuine balance of power was one of the hopeful aspects of the current situation in Asia, Canada might best serve the cause of peace by sending troops to participate in the Vietnam conflict. They would wish to see us take a position comparable to that of some nations in the area or of the great powers. They would be willing to abandon hope that the International Control Commission or any of its members could help towards a negotiated settlement of the Vietnam conflict.

I think that the reasoning which lies behind such proposals is quite unsound. It is essential that a balance of power be achieved by the nations of the area and by nations already deeply involved in the security and well-being of that part of the world. It is also essential that a balance which is quite possibly in the making within the next year or two should not be prejudiced by a wider and wider involvement of nations likely to make the central problems of Far Eastern affairs even more difficult to solve.

It is because we see some prospects of an eventual settlement which recognizes the realities - military, political, economic - in the Far East that we consider it particularly important to maintain all the efforts which I have already described to facilitate a negotiated settlement of the Vietnam conflict.

We have also urged the international community to accept its responsibility to see that situations such as the one which has arisen in Vietnam are brought under control. As the Prime Minister said in March 1965:

"If a single power has to undertake this task, there arises the danger of widening the struggle into general war. So the nations of the world must be ready to produce an alternative."

#### Canada's Involvement in Other Asian Developments

It is evident that military action alone does not provide an adequate answer to the concept of "people's war", and that the long-term stability and security of China's neighbours will depend on their ability to find solutions to the multitude of political, social and economic problems confronting them. In this field, too, there is reason for optimism, and I should like to turn at this point to other trends in Asian affairs and to Canada's interest and involvement in them.

When Indonesia first instituted its "confrontation" of Malaysia, Canada deemed it advisable to come to the aid of its Commonwealth partner with offers of military equipment and training facilities designed to help Malaysia preserve its territorial integrity. We now welcome the end of this wasteful and destructive confrontation which will enable both Indonesia and Malaysia to exert their influence on behalf of peaceful progress in Asia. Further to the north, the signing of the Normalization of Relations Agreement by Japan and Korea has removed another source of friction.