

particularly important for a middle power to make such an effort if it wishes to understand and to exert its own influence upon current events....

**INTERNATIONAL ROLE**

We must make use of our position of military security, economic strength and wide contacts to play a creative role in world affairs, not only in our immediate interests but in the long-term interests of the world community. I believe that the number of fields in which we take a constructive role provides ample evidence not only of an independence of thought or publicly declared policy, in controversial matters, but of *action* in taking initiatives or accepting responsibilities which are not always well known. I am thinking of our role in all the major peace-keeping operations of the United Nations, in disarmament discussions, in international development aid and relief and in cultural and educational relations. Canada is accepted and welcomed by nations in many different parts of the world as a participant in important ventures. Those who ask whether we have an independent identity before the world must consider all this evidence of decision, action and participation in international affairs.

...There will never be complete agreement in the country as to the exact course of action which we should follow in any major problem of international affairs. I would hope, however, that we would agree on certain fundamental requirements in the national interest. One is that there can be only one official voice speaking for Canada on foreign policy in matters of national interest when the decisions have been made. The other - and I realize that this is a matter of judgment or degree - is that we might well agree, in view of the weight of evidence available, that Canada does have its own independent policies and its own role in world affairs and that we should concentrate rather on debating the most effective means in any given case to serve the national interest.

I have attempted...to set before you the dimensions of independence in foreign policy - the proof of it in specific international problems, the conditions on which it rests in our existence as a nation. It will be apparent that in the contemporary world independence is as many-sided as freedom itself. There is the freedom to agree as well as to disagree; the freedom to consult and not only to go it alone; the freedom to show self-restraint as well as to assert ourselves ostentatiously; the freedom to make our voice heard but also the freedom to remain silent; the freedom to assess the consequences of our acts and utterances and not to behave as though we could be entirely unmindful of the reactions of others; the freedom to recognize the facts of our geography and not to imagine that we are a detached island in space.

The objective of an independent country in the dangerous world in which we live should surely be to make the greatest possible contribution to peace and security and not merely to flaunt a hollow independence for its own sake. In the modern world, independence exists not so much to be displayed as to be used - and to be used responsibly and effectively....

**JAMAICA CONFERENCE**

A group of six senior officials from Canada attended a meeting recently in Kingston, Jamaica, in preparation for the proposed conference of Canada and Commonwealth Caribbean countries. Also in attendance were representatives from Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, British Guiana, British Honduras, Grenada, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Dominica, St. Kitts, Antigua, and Montserrat. The topics discussed were date, location and agenda for a full conference, at top government level, which will possibly be held later this year.

The Canadian delegation to the Kingston meeting was headed by Mr. A.E. Ritchie, Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

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**EMBASSY IN TUNIS**

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, announced recently that Canada plans to open an Embassy in Tunis, the capital of Tunisia, later this year. This will serve to strengthen the friendly relations that have existed between Canada and Tunisia since the latter achieved independence in 1956.

Diplomatic relations between Canada and Tunisia were first established in 1957 with the dual accreditation to Ottawa of the Tunisian Ambassador to Washington. By a similar arrangement, the Canadian Ambassador to Switzerland was appointed concurrently Ambassador to Tunis in 1961.

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**CANADA COUNCIL GRANTS**

A recent grant from the Government has enabled the Canada Council to announce some expansion of its programmes in four areas: research, aid to university libraries, publications, and meetings and exchanges of scholars.

**RESEARCH**

Grants in aid of individual or group research will be available to staff members of university departments or research institutes, provided that such projects are endorsed by the institutions concerned and form part of their research programmes. Consideration will be given to assistance extending beyond one year but not, as yet, beyond three.

Subject to certain conditions and limitations, the grants will cover the salaries of research and clerical assistants, as well as costs of equipment, materials, supplies, travel and incidentals.

**LIBRARY COLLECTIONS**

The Council will provide assistance to university libraries for the purchase of collections essential to the pursuit of higher scholarship in the humanities and social sciences, without restriction as to fields but exclusive of current publications. Applications must come from universities maintaining active pro-