



OTTAWA, Ontario

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October 21, 1981

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

On behalf of the Government and people of Canada, it is my pleasure to convey to you, and through you to the staff members of the United Nations and its affiliated organizations, our warmest wishes on the occasion of the thirty-sixth anniversary on October 24 of the founding of the United Nations.

United Nations Day this year takes on an additional dimension with the recent award of the Nobel Peace Prize to the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, for the second time in a generation. This honour, which Canadians applaud, exemplifies the continuing role of the United Nations in promoting peace and alleviating human distress through practical international co-operation beyond what any one country could achieve.

Here in Canada, where U.N. Day follows soon after our national day of thanksgiving, we are thankful that the world has been spared any major new conflict this year. Among many other observances of U.N. Day across the country, Governor General Edward Schreyer is to present the Pearson Peace Medal to Lieutenant-General E.L.M. Burns on behalf of the U.N. Association in Canada. General Burns, a past president of the Association and Canada's principal Disarmament negotiator in the 1960's, is perhaps best remembered as the first commander of the U.N. Emergency Force from 1956 to 1959. This award to Canada's most renowned peacekeeper is indeed a fitting way to mark the 25th anniversary of the first U.N. peacekeeping force.

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His Excellency Dr. Kurt Waldheim
Secretary-General of the United Nations
United Nations
New York