PRESS RELEASE



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SOVIET CRITICISM OF CANADA

The following statement was made by the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, on September 4, 1968:

"Propaganda attacks by the Soviet press and television on Canada and on the Canadian Permanent Representative at the United Nations are a clear demonstration of the sensitivity of the USSR to world reaction against their invasion and military occupation of Czechoslovakia. Such abuse is especially characteristic of the Soviet propaganda machine when the Soviet case is weak.

The fact that Canada has been singled out for abuse indicates that Canadian initiatives in the United Nations Security Council served a useful purpose in helping to bring the pressure of world opinion to bear against the Soviet use of force in Czechoslovakia. The Soviet attack on Mr. Ignatieff personally is one more demonstration of the weakness of the Soviet case, as the USSR is well aware that he was acting at all times on the instructions of his Government".