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THE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: THE CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION

A Speech by Mr. Donald S. Macdonald, Parliamentary Secretary to the Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, delivered in place of Mr. Martin to the City View Kiwanis Club, Ottawa, on May 3, 1967.

...This year, as we celebrate the centennial of Confederation, we have a special reason to reflect on what Canada has accomplished in the last 100 years, and on what Canada means to us today.

But we cannot afford to be concerned only with the past, or with what is happening inside our borders. We must also take a hard look at Canada's place in the international community.

Last week-end, we were honoured by the visit of Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, the first of many distinguished visitors we shall be welcoming to Ottawa and to Canada this year. It is, I think, a tribute to the important place Canada occupies in the community of nations that so many outstanding world leaders have accepted our invitation to visit Canada during 1967, to see Expo and to join us in celebrating our centennial.

As Secretary of State for External Affairs, I am responsible for advising the Government on Canada's relations with other countries of the world. This includes our participation in the increasingly complex and significant work of the United Nations, and its associated international agencies.

Canada was, of course, a founding member of the United Nations in 1945. We are convinced that the United Nations, representing the ideal of collective international action, is an essential tool in building a peaceful and more secure world, free from the threat of violence and war. Canada has, therefore, been a firm supporter of the United Nations from the beginning.

One of the most serious and searching challenges facing the international community today is widespread hunger and poverty, particularly in the continents of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. This problem concerns not only the less-developed countries; it concerns the entire world. The United Nations, embracing nearly all the countries of the world and founded on the