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CANADA CALLS FOR THE SEATING OF THE CHINESE REPUBLIC AT THE UN

"The Canadian position is clear, the government that has responsibility for the overwhelming majority of the Chinese people must now take its proper place here - the Government of the People's Republic of China," declared Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, in an address to the United Nations General Assembly on September 29.

Besides the question of the China seat, Mr. Sharp expressed Canada's views on armed conflict, the physical environment, arms control and disarmament and world trade. Passages from his address follow:

...This twenty-sixth General Assembly opens a new quarter century in the life of our organization, and I suggest, Mr. President, that it may mark a turning-point in our history and the opportunity for a new beginning, if this Assembly moves promptly and effectively to seat the People's Republic of China in the China seat. China is a charter member of this organization and a permanent member of the Security Council. The only question before us is who should occupy the existing China seat. The Canadian

position is clear, the government that has responsibility for the overwhelming majority of the Chinese people must now take its proper place here - the Government of the People's Republic of China.

The seating of the Peking Government in this Assembly and at the Security Council will bring the effective government of a quarter of mankind into our councils.

Canada endorses the principle of universality of membership and looks forward to a time when the divided states too can be properly represented here. But principles must always be conditioned by facts, and before this ideal can be reached there are serious practical problems to be solved. There would be no particular advantage for the United Nations nor for the divided states themselves were they to do no more than import their special problems and conflicts into the wider forum of this organization.

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ARMED CONFLICT

As we look around the world today we see armed conflict or the seeds of armed conflict in many parts of the world. Those cases where international disputes involve member nations, for example the Middle East, fall clearly within the responsibility of the United Nations. Where conflicts are contained within a single state, established practice at least suggests that they do not. This leaves with us a question that I shall pose and discuss, but to which Canada has no definitive answer to offer - at what point does an internal conflict affect so many nations to such an extent that it can no longer properly be accepted as a domestic matter?

I sense a growing world concern that tragedies are unfolding and that nothing is being done about them by the world community as represented in the United Nations. The capacity of this organization to resolve conflicts, whether domestic or international,

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