



CANADA

# CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION • DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS • OTTAWA, CANADA

November 1, 1961

Vol. 16 No. 44

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## UN SIXTEENTH ANNIVERSARY

The following message was issued by Prime Minister Diefenbaker on the occasion of United Nations Day:

"People in all parts of the world are dedicating October 24 to an examination of the aims and achievements of the United Nations. This year, United Nations Day takes on special significance, coming as it does so soon after the tragic death of the Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjold. Mr. Hammarskjold symbolized the high ideals and principles which inspired the creation of the United Nations. He was a devoted servant of the United Nations, and history will place a high value on his contribution to the development of the Organization.

### HAZARDS OF GREAT-POWER TENSION

"The greatest danger the world faces today is that the long-standing differences between the great powers, which have been the main source of tension in the world, may deteriorate into open conflict. Recently the Soviet Union has created a crisis in Berlin, which not only threatens the freedom of two and one-half million people, but has seriously increased international tensions. In circumstances such as those, progress on other vital questions, such as disarmament, is made difficult. Indeed, measures have been taken by both sides to increase their military strength; and the resumed testing of nuclear weapons in the atmosphere by the U.S.S.R. after a voluntary moratorium of three years, has increased the hazards of radioactive fallout and the dangers of the arms race.

"The United Nations has passed through many crises during its 16 years of development. It is

evidence of the Organization's capacity and strength that these crises have been overcome and major conflicts averted. This has been possible only because the United Nations has not remained a mere debating society, as some would like it to be, but has developed as an effective instrument for dealing with situations of potential danger to international peace and security. This has been effectively demonstrated during the difficult combined operation of peacekeeping and reconstruction in the strife-torn Congo.

### UN CONGO OPERATION

"The United Nations involvement in the Congo has been a climax in its development of peacekeeping machinery but it is only one of many important activities which have engaged the organization in recent years. For the new nations, the urgent need is to attain rapid economic and social development. The important programmes of assistance which the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies have initiated and pursued are proof of a determination to respond to that need. It is essential for its survival that the United Nations must meet the demands made of it.

"Much is at stake in this significant stage of world history. The organization finds itself challenged on many fronts. In the past it has shown a capacity to respond effectively. It is essential that it should continue to do so in all fields of its endeavour, for, just as there will be no end to the challenges in future, there should be no end to the response.

"In helping to create the United Nations 16 years ago, Canada joined with 50 other nations in a solemn

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