

We have found it particularly helpful, therefore, to review these questions with Japanese representatives. They too are convinced that the issues at stake in the Vietnam conflict can be resolved only by the course to negotiation. The Japanese Government considers that the central issue involved is the right of a country, in this case South Vietnam, to conduct its own affairs free from outside interference.

I am pleased that during the recent Ministerial meeting, the Japanese Delegation expressed satisfaction with Canada's efforts to promote settlement in Vietnam. They indicated that they were equally determined to find ways, appropriate to their own international role, to help resolve the conflict.

The Japanese Delegation thought, as we do, that China must be encouraged to follow a more constructive course. We agreed that contacts and exchanges with that nation could play an important role in leading to international cooperation on a wider scale.

Japan has manifested its interest in peaceful progress in a number of ways. The normalization of relations with the Republic of Korea achieved recently, in spite of long-standing and deeply rooted problems existing between the two nations, has been an important step forward towards stability in the Pacific. Japan has given encouragement to the Government of Indonesia in its new course of seeking peaceful relations with its neighbours and of resuming international cooperation through the United Nations. On the initiative of the Japanese Government, a multi-nation conference was held in Tokyo recently to consider ways of solving Indonesia's problems of external debt.

Japan has played a leading role in the formation of the Asian Development Bank, has held a conference earlier this year on Economic Development in South East Asia and will hold a conference in Tokyo later