

CANADIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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PRESS RELEASE NO. 90

FOR RELEASE ON DELIVERY

December 13, 1966

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New York
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PEACEKEEPING

Text of Statement to be Delivered in the Special Political Committee by the Canadian Representative, Mr. Pierre-Elliott Trudeau, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, On Item 33 (Comprehensive Review of the Whole Question of Peacekeeping Operations in all Their Aspects: Report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations) on December 13, 1966

In taking the floor again at this stage the Canadian Delegation would particularly like, on behalf of the co-sponsors of the draft resolution in Document A/SPC/L.130/Rev.3, to express its satisfaction at the interest demonstrated in this Committee both in our own proposal and, more important for the future of the United Nations, in the subject of peacekeeping in general. A striking feature of our deliberations has been the extent of this interest and the evident desire on the part of many delegations to ensure that a step forward is taken at this General Assembly. Those of us who favour forward movement on this question do not always agree on the best way in which to make this possible. Nevertheless, undoubtedly our common concern is to strengthen the United Nations' ability to play its rightful role in the maintenance of international peace and security, for this after all is the main purpose for which the Organization was established.

Before we come to the vote the Canadian Delegation believes that we owe it to the Committee to make as clear as we possibly can what our position is on the issues before the Committee and consequently on the various resolutions and amendments. I shall take them up in the order in which they were submitted.

My Delegation fully understands and indeed shares the pre-occupation of Ireland and the other co-sponsors of the resolution in Document A/SPC/L.129/Rev.1 with the desirability of ensuring more reliable financing in the future. We do not, however, share their view that the answer at this time is to attempt to restore mandatory assessments for peacekeeping operations. Nor do we believe that a failure to do that must necessarily have a disadvantageous effect on the integrity of the regular budget. For our part we continue to feel that a more