

PRESS RELEASE



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**HONOURABLE PAUL MARTIN SENDS UNITED NATIONS'DAY MESSAGE
TO U.N. SECRETARY-GENERAL**

Following is the text of a message sent by the Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, to U Thant, Secretary-General of the United Nations, on the occasion of U.N. Day, October 24, 1967.

"On this anniversary of the United Nations, I wish to extend my warm good wishes and those of the Canadian Government and people to you and all the staff members of the United Nations system of organizations.

Anniversaries of every kind are traditionally a time for congratulation, but they should also be the occasion of thoughtful reflection. It would be illusory to imagine that the nations of the world, gathered under the United Nations do not confront problems as difficult as they have ever faced. But it would be equally untrue, and a disservice to the record of the past, to claim that nothing has been achieved. The United Nations is too easily blamed for the words and actions of its members.

It is through the United Nations that the goals before mankind have been imprinted on the conscience of the world. The United Nations, having revealed the immensity of the task, is then unjustly held responsible for failing to tackle it with unreserved vigour. But the fault lies not in the United Nations, which is but the creation of its members. To move forward in a comprehensive attack on the roots of conflict, while preventing or subduing its armed expression, the United Nations must receive not only on its anniversary, but every day of the year, fresh infusions of creative thought and action from its member states. Some encouragement may be gained from what has been accomplished so far; we must now transform that encouragement into action, and give our hopes for 'better standards of life in larger freedom' concrete form.

In this imperative endeavour, I wish to affirm on behalf of the Canadian Government and people our continuing support for the United Nations as it begins its twenty-third year. In doing so, I wish also to express once again Canada's appreciation of your distinguished contribution as Secretary-General and to renew our pledge to the principles and purposes of the Charter.