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## Acknowledgements

This book is a departure from a pattern set in 1965 and followed in 1975. In 1965 the Government of Canada published a volume entitled *Canada and the United Nations*, which was a factual book of reference that set out to cover those United Nations activities that were then of major concern to Canada. The second volume, in 1975, added some commentary. As the introduction to the second volume stated, "It is written from a more critical point of view; failures as well as successes are recorded, and disquietude is expressed as well as satisfaction."

When a third volume was being planned, to survey the four decades since the founding of the United Nations, the Department of External Affairs took a different—and, one might add, more adventurous—approach. Numerous reference books already exist about the United Nations, and Canada's role and connections have not altered dramatically enough from one decade to the next to warrant a whole new book. What have not been recorded (these lively minds in External Affairs argued) are the many-sided activities of Canadians, famous or not so famous, under the umbrella or in the chambers of the United Nations. So was born the idea of an anthology, to which the actors themselves would contribute—mainly through tape-recorded conversations. It was hoped that, together, the contributions would form a more vivid picture of the United Nations for Canadians because they would carry personal (and, quite often, critical) comments.

It was a privilege to be the person holding the tape-recorder and editing the transcripts. It was left to me to choose the contributors, and obviously there are gaps. I apologize to those with claims to be included, while thanking most sincerely all those who recorded their memories and then re-read the text for any necessary corrections. Special thanks are due to Jack Charnow of UNICEF, who made available for this book the transcript of an interview he had with Adelaide Sinclair on the day before she died, and to J. King Gordon who not only contributed his own memories of the Congo operation but also filled an important gap with some recollections of Lt.-Gen. "Tommy" Burns. I am also grateful to Capt. Craig Cotter, who as Adjutant of the 2nd Royal Canadian Horse Artillery provided three excellent illustrations of the problems of peacekeeping in Cyprus, and to the United Nations photographic library.

Among many in External Affairs who were helpful I would mention Julie Loranger, Eric Mikkelsen, Prisca Nicolas, A.W.J. Robertson and Hazel Strouts. A special word of thanks is due to Secretary of State for External Affairs, Joe Clark, who gave a useful push when the bureaucratic wagon (through no fault of anyone mentioned above) had slowed its pace.