

not easy at the present time to establish diplomatic relations with Peking, when every Chinese action is a negation of those principles and customs which over the years have allowed continued meaningful contact between governments.

Last year in the United Nations General Assembly, I outlined what the Government considered to be a reasonable basis for seating Communist China, but there was insufficient support for this idea to warrant submission of a resolution which could be brought to a vote. Although there is obvious difficulty in resuming any initiative at this moment in the light of the present situation on the mainland and in Hong Kong, there has been no change in our views as to the need for a reasonable and just solution of this problem. The proposals made by Canada at the last Assembly for representation of both Peking and Taiwan in the General Assembly and for the participation of Peking in the Security Council as a permanent member remain valid as the most practicable solution to the problem.

Concerning the war in Vietnam, Canadians have -- and have had from the beginning -- one basic aim -- to see the end of hostilities. As a result, the Canadian Government has worked unceasingly to find ways in which this aim might be realized. It must be realized, not only because of the tragic cost to the Vietnamese people but also because of the danger which continued fighting holds for world peace.

A basic guide-line in our approach has been that, to be helpful, any suggestion or initiative must have some prospect of acceptance by the parties themselves. It has been with this point in mind that we have explored the possibilities with both sides and tried to put forward some points that could provide the basis for the creation of an atmosphere in which a dialogue might be undertaken. Particularly, we have sought a means of easing hostilities, including both the end of the bombing and the end of infiltration into the South, as a prelude to wider agreement. In addition, Canada has tried to keep open the possibility of the International Control Commission playing a role in paving the way for a peaceful settlement or in helping to implement the settlement. We have also indicated that we should be prepared to give sympathetic consideration to proposals for an international presence in Vietnam as part of the settlement process.

So far, neither Canada nor any other country or person of goodwill has hit upon a formula which both sides could accept. But the tragic consequences of the war demand that we persist in doing what we can to find a solution. I can assure you -- we shall persist.

I should now like to summarize my remarks on Canada's contributions to peace and development, but you will understand that I have been dealing with some but not all the important areas of Canadian foreign policy:

First - In our growing economy, the Government is expanding its foreign-aid programme, which should approximate 1 per cent of gross national product annually within the next five years. Our dedication to foreign aid must not, however, detract from other imperatives of Canadian policy.

Second - We are seeking détente between East and West and the maintenance of peace through the United Nations. As we draw closer to these objectives, we