



CANADA

## STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 64/5 Role of the UN in Maintaining Peace and Security

Address by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, to a Joint Meeting of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs and the United Nations Association of Canada at London, Ontario, on March 12, 1964.

...Next year, the United Nations will celebrate its twentieth anniversary. 1965 has been designated as a Year of International Co-operation. It is intended to emphasize the widespread endeavours of the United Nations to meet international demands of our time. It will mark, I hope, a new determination on the part of all members to make the organization as effective as possible in all its spheres of activity.

This is very desirable, for the United Nations is here to stay. Even if the present organization should be torn apart by dissension and difficulty, the nations of the world would quickly realize the need to recreate a new system of international co-operation. Dean Rusk sharply and soberly underlined this need in his thoughtful lecture of January 10 in the Dag Hammarskjold Memorial series. I agree with much of what he had to say at that time.

Even in the light of substantial development, the United Nations can still be regarded as being in its formative stage. It has had to respond to a variety of situations, vaguely foreseen at San Francisco but by no means envisaged in their actual significance and scope — the freezing effect of the cold war, the sudden and dramatic emergence of new states in Asia and Africa, the vast strides in science and technology.

How will the organization respond to the ever-increasing demands made in circumstances so vastly different from those in 1945? It is very easy to be pessimistic about the future, to be irritated and frustrated, as some world leaders have been, by the shortcomings and limitations of the United Nations by the shifting opinion which frequently seemed more concerned about regional influence and national prestige than about the urgent requirements of the organization in a period of rapid change.

### Delay in Cyprus

Today the tragedy of Cyprus is foremost in our thinking about the United Nations. It represents a new demand, a new trial, another steep hill. There have been expressions of annoyance and criticism about the delays in