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Remembering Mitchell Sharp

Born May 11, 1911. Died March 19, 2004.

Civil servant, businessman, politician, internationalist, adviser, patron of the arts. Member of Parliament from 1963 to 1978. Minister of Trade and Commerce. Minister of Finance. Secretary of State for External Affairs. President of the Privy Council.

(Russell Mant)

I was able to deal with foreign affairs with greater understanding and better judgment as a result of visiting many countries and areas of the world and meeting their leaders. All these encounters were interesting, at least to me, and they provided insights into motivations that can only be obtained through personal encounters. The very fact that national political leaders meet more frequently does modify their approach and their behaviourit modified mine-particularly when they appear together on TV screens observed by an increasing proportion of the world's population. Slowly but surely, I believe, the human race is learning, through modern communications, that it has common goals and common problems that for their attainment or solution require cooperation and often joint action by national governments.

—Excerpted from *Which Reminds Me: A Memoir*, by Mitchell Sharp, University of Toronto Press, 1994.





 Elder statesman: Mitchell Sharp

Secretary of State for External Affairs Mitchell Sharp and Chinese Ambassador Huang Hua share a laugh in the minister's office in Ottawa in July 1971.