

The argument for this is that it will force the Chinese-supported Viet Cong to leave South Vietnam alone and hence create a better atmosphere for a negotiation which could lead to foreign withdrawal and non-intervention.

Some degree of optimism is also required to reach this conclusion. Another, and less satisfactory, result might be a full-scale Far Eastern Chinese-American war.

So the situation is full of danger and Canada is directly interested in it. We have naturally expressed our concern to our neighbour. But at this time, and following the precepts I have mentioned, that concern is most likely to have maximum influence if it is expressed responsibly through diplomatic channels.

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