

acceptance of Israel's permanent existence as their neighbour. During this Assembly, we should bring our weight to bear to bring about an early resumption of negotiations and not attempt to substitute empty debates or one-sided resolutions for the complicated, slow, but essential process of working out a settlement by the parties themselves.

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### Disarmament

...No problem is of greater concern to this Assembly than disarmament, but equally no subject has more frustrated our efforts and disappointed our peoples. Next year's special session can provide us with an opportunity to move towards real disarmament. Canada co-sponsored the resolution calling for the session and we will put forward specific proposals to make it a success.

But we cannot wait for the special session. The need is immediate....

If anything is more frightening than the prospect of rapidly-escalating local hostilities it is the nightmare of un-restrained nuclear proliferation with all of its attendant horrors. I find it difficult to understand how anyone among the world's leaders could consider that an expansion in the number of nuclear-weapon states would contribute to greater world stability. Canada, despite its known competence in the field, rejected the nuclear-weapons option long ago. Now we are making every effort to ensure that others do likewise. We will only co-operate, in terms of nuclear supplies and technology, with those countries who have signed the non-proliferation treaty or are otherwise committed to full scope safeguards. We are encouraged by the fact that some other nuclear suppliers, including Australia and Sweden, have adopted a similar policy. We hope there will be more.

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### Peacekeeping

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Canada has consistently responded to UN requests to provide personnel as available for peacekeeping, because we believe this to be a significant way to contribute to world peace. But in Canada there is growing concern about peacekeeping for two reasons. Firstly, many of the disputes which led to the need for peacekeeping forces appear no nearer to solution than they were one, two or even three decades ago. We recognize that these basic and intractable problems cannot be settled overnight. What we wish, but do not always see, is evidence that the parties are intent on negotiating an end to their disputes.

Secondly, although the two most recent forces, the UN Emergency Force and the UN Disengagement Observer Force, are being properly paid for through collective assessment, we have failed to reach general agreement on how future peacekeeping operations should be financed, and the UN Force in Cyprus is over \$50 million in debt. If operations are not properly funded, many members of the UN will not be able to afford to

provide forces — a situation which will not be healthy either for this organization or the concept of peacekeeping.

In considering future participation, Canada will weigh these two considerations: whether peacekeeping forces will contribute to a settlement rather than provide temporary relief or even contribute to a perpetuation of the problem, and whether arrangements to pay for them represent the common will of members to assume the financial burden and permit troop contributors to be selected from a broad cross-section of countries.

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Mr. President, I have spoken critically of some aspects of our past performance and present practices. I have done so not out of any desire to weaken this organization but because Canada is convinced that, without a marked change of attitude on the part of members and without the reforms that are so clearly necessary, the erosion of the effectiveness and prestige of the United Nations will continue.

We must dedicate ourselves to work for this organization as if our lives depended on it. In truth, Mr. President, they probably do.

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### News briefs

Prime Minister Trudeau told some 270 parliamentarians from 30 Commonwealth countries recently that the world was ready for major economic and social advances which would require the involvement of ordinary people, and he warned them against taking too much power into their own hands. There were representatives in Ottawa from every member country except six, which are run by dictators or military regimes or which have suspended parliamentary government — Uganda, Swaziland, Nigeria, Ghana, the Seychelles and Bangladesh. The association, composed of Members of Parliament plus some Cabinet ministers and senators, toured the country for nine days and later conducted a five-day discussion on subjects ranging from the Commonwealth and world security to racial problems in Rhodesia.

No traces of radioactive debris from a Chinese nuclear test September 17 have been recorded in Canada, according to a Health Department spokesman. A test blast last year spread low-level radiation

to the United States. Radioactivity did not reach a level considered hazardous to humans.

Thomas Enders, the U.S. Ambassador to Canada, told the Conference Board in Canada recently that the two countries should establish closer, more informal ties to capitalize on each other's potential. More informal talks, unstructured and broadly-based, would provide the opportunity to discuss such vital matters as housing, labour-management relations, unemployment and productivity that affect each other's economy, he said.

New Brunswick has signed a sales agreement with a group of Japanese banks for its first yen-denominated provincial bond issue. Valued at about 12-billion yen, or \$48 million, the 12-year issue offers a 7 percent annual interest rate and will cost \$99.75 to yield 7.039 percent at maturity.

Former Prime Minister Diefenbaker celebrated his eighty-second birthday September 18 following a Parliament Hill party two days earlier. Diefenbaker is to start a nation-wide speaking campaign on national unity.