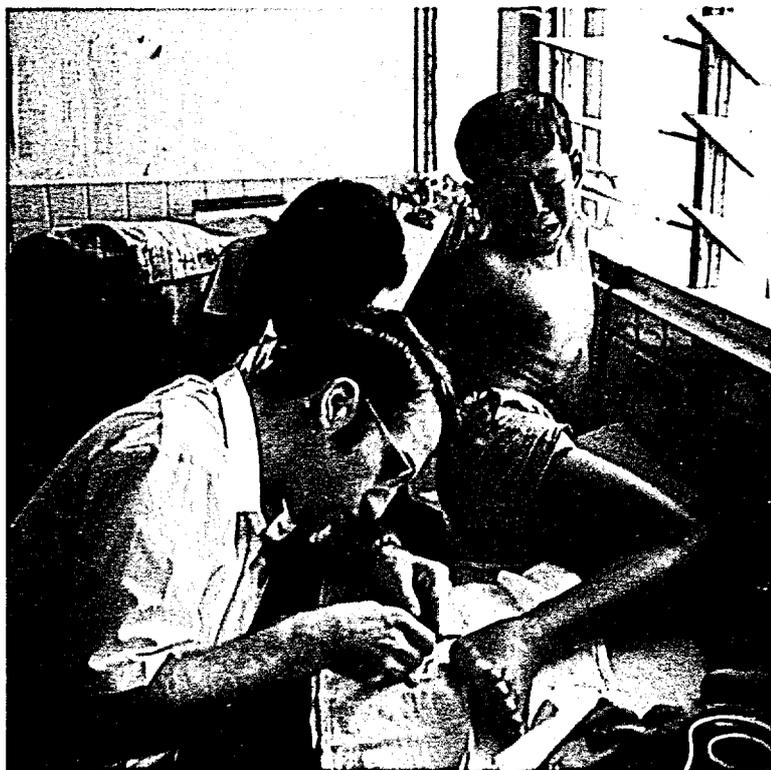


# INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



Canadian doctor treats child in Malaysia

As a leading middle power, Canada is engaged in the continuing search for peace and international well-being, in the struggle for better social and economic conditions among the less fortunate peoples through technical and financial assistance, and in the pursuit of wider and freer international commerce.

The bases of Canadian foreign policy are its membership in the Commonwealth, the United Nations and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and its relations with the United States.

Responsibility for the conduct of Canada's international relations rests primarily with the Secretary of State for External Affairs and his ministry, the Department of External Affairs.

Canada's first diplomatic mission, the Canadian Legation (now Embassy) at Washington, was opened in 1927. Today Canadian interests are represented abroad by 50 embassies, 16 high commissioners' offices, 9 consulates, 14 consulates general, 1 military mission, 9 permanent delegations to international organizations and 1 international commission for control and supervision. As the national capital, Ottawa plays host to 60 embassies and 14 offices of high commissioners, many of which have consular or trade offices in other parts of the country.

Canada is a senior partner and a major participant in Commonwealth affairs. The present-day Commonwealth has evolved from the small group of British Dominions which joined with Britain to form such an association in 1931 to an imposing family of 32 sovereign states, covering more than a fifth of the earth's land surface and representing over 860 million people of many colours, creeds and languages.

Within this global family, Canada is involved in active consultation and co-operation in such projects as the Colombo Plan, the Canada-West Indies Aid Program and the Special Commonwealth-Africa Aid Program. Scholarships, student and teacher exchanges and military training are arranged under Commonwealth auspices.