



CANADA

CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION • DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS • OTTAWA, CANADA

Vol. 19 No. 13

March 25, 1964

CONTENTS

Growing Pains of the World Organization	1
Future of Veterans' Hospitals	3
Commercial Failures in 1963	3
RCAF Bilingual Course	3
Eskimo Loan Fund	4

"Caribou" Transports for RCAF	4
Aviation Trophy Awarded	5
Improved Overseas Mail	5
Judges for Sculpture Exhibition	5
New Diplomatic Appointments	5

GROWING PAINS OF THE WORLD ORGANIZATION

The following is the text of an address by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, to a joint meeting of the Canadian Institute of International Affairs and the United Nations Association at London, Ontario, on March 12:

...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 dissention 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.

CRISIS 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 starting United Nations peace-keeping machinery. There has been an unfortunate passing of time during which the actual situation in Cyprus has deteriorated. There is a potential danger of civil war and international conflict. The need for immediate action is clear.

The dilemma which the United Nations faces in Cyprus is a microcosm of the many difficulties which have been hampering the organization for some time — the great powers are divided on how the situation should be dealt with, whether inside the United Nations framework or outside it. The parties directly concerned are widely divided on the kind of solution needed and quite obviously require outside and impartial assistance. In a sense, the situation on the island is a matter of domestic jurisdiction, normally precluding United Nations intervention, even though the international risks are great. Many members of the United Nations are either uninterested or hesitant about becoming involved. Already heavily engaged in the Middle East, the Congo and elsewhere, and beset by a financial crisis of serious proportions,

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