

cast on Resolution 3.427, suspending financial assistance to Israel by UNESCO for archaeological projects.

The Canadian Government position, both in private and in public, is that the status of Jerusalem and of the Holy Places must, in practical terms, be considered and resolved only as part of a general settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute. The Government has not, therefore, condoned any steps to alter unilaterally the status of Jerusalem and has confirmed this position by maintaining its embassy in Tel Aviv, as do most other Western countries. The Government has also laid down strict guidelines for travel by Canadian Government officials, including diplomats, in the territories occupied by Israel in 1967.

This position is consistent with Canada's general policy on the Arab-Israeli conflict, i.e. balance and objectivity, support for Resolutions 242 and 338 and the right of all states in the area, including Israel, to live in peace with secure and recognized boundaries. In addition, there exists the political dimension of the Palestinian problem, including the right of the Palestinians to be represented in any negotiations affecting their future.

The stipulation that the Jerusalem issue can be resolved "only as part of an overall settlement" is an important one. Only negotiations, where all concerned parties are represented, and all points of contention subject to discussion, provide sufficient room for manoeuvre and hope for a just and lasting peace.

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### *Pacific neighbourhood*

## The developing dialogue between Canada and ASEAN

By A. Douglas Small

"Southeast Asia has always been regarded as one of the most volatile regions in the world. For centuries, the region has been subjected to strife and conflict, often not of its own making, but the result of the designs and interplay of external forces. The Indochina war was the latest of the series of traumatic events in the region's history and, even though the war there has been concluded, many observers regard its aftermath as the setting of the stage for further threats to stability in Southeast Asia...".

These were the opening words of a noteworthy speech on ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and Southeast Asia that Datuk Hussein Onn, Prime Minister of Malaysia, gave on October 4 of this year to the Asia Society in New York.

There can be no doubt that the ending of the Indochina war in April 1975, the reduction of the United States presence in Southeast Asia, and the resulting transformation of the politico-military situation in the region posed one of the most serious challenges to ASEAN since its founding in 1967. One need not subscribe to the "domino theory" – and certainly Hussein Onn does not – to see the implications for ASEAN of the emergence of Vietnam as a unified power, flushed with military success and offering to the peoples of Southeast Asia the Communist model as the system of political and social organization that will best meet their needs and aspirations.

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