



CANADA

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 64/29 Speech by the Honourable Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, at the Dinner for Delegates to the Meeting of Military Experts to Consider the Technical Aspects of UN Peace-Keeping Operations, Ottawa, November 5, 1964.

** Paragraph delivered in French

Distinguished Delegates and Guests:

May I say, first of all, that it has been a pleasure and a privilege for Canada to act as host country for your meeting this week.

** We are very conscious of the honour paid to us by the presence here in Ottawa of so many persons with long and distinguished careers in the military and diplomatic services of your home countries. This is tangible evidence of the importance which our 23 governments attach to the peace-keeping concept and of our common desire to work towards the full realization of the peace-keeping potential of the United Nations.

We are also honoured by the presence of a representative of the Secretary-General. It has been a pleasure for us to have Major General Rikhye at this meeting in the capacity of an observer.

In some respects this meeting is a landmark on the road we have travelled towards a co-operative approach to the problems of international peace and security within the focus of the United Nations.

A few years ago a meeting of this kind would not have been possible. It is of some significance that today the employment of military forces for peaceful purposes under the auspices of the United Nations is recognized as filling a practical need in the conduct of international affairs, and those of us who look upon these peace-keeping operations as something involving our responsibility as members of the world community are bound to take them into account in our national planning.

This development is truly revolutionary in its character. It has evolved over the years in such a pragmatic and gradual fashion that we have still to appreciate its full implications for thought and action on the international plane.