

MR. SHARP: Well, there are many countries that we recognize in which we do have ambassadors and representation.

THE PRESS: If I could be allowed a last question. To summarize, I think that the government is ready to sacrifice, if need be, Taiwan relations if it gets recognition and acceptance of Canadian representation in Peking.

MR. SHARP: I have not made that statement.

THE PRESS: No, I am asking whether you know -- that is an eventuality on account of what happened elsewhere in the world.

MR. SHARP: Well, that may be your view. I am not expressing that view. I hope that we can bring about a situation in which the existence of a separate government in Taiwan is recognized and that we can, at the same time, recognize that the People's Republic Government in Peking is effectively in control of the mainland area.

THE PRESS: But given a choice would you recognize Red China first?

MR. SHARP: I said we are going to negotiate to try to effect this change. That is all I have to say at the present time.

THE PRESS: Mr. Sharp, in the statement it lists the things that have influenced our past policy as being principally the Commonwealth, the United Nations, NATO and international aid. In the balance of the statement it seems to me that the United Nations and international aid are not going to be a serious part of the reassessment we are going to continue or expand. That leaves the Commonwealth and NATO presumably as the principal subjects for reconsideration. I was going to ask if you can conceive that in this review we would withdraw from both the Commonwealth and NATO and strike off in some other direction? The Commonwealth seems scarcely to be mentioned at all. Are you writing it down as a factor in Canadian involvement?

MR. SHARP: No, we are not. The role of the Commonwealth in the world, of course, has been changing very greatly in recent years. We still value our association with the Commonwealth countries and we have no intention of changing that. Indeed, we would expect that it will be considered by the Government, if we are elected after June 25, as being an instrument for promoting peaceful relations in the world,