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verbatim, in the words and idiom of these individuals, each contribution having been tape recorded, transcribed, edited, and then reviewed by them. The book is full of candid comments that assess shortcomings as well as recount tales of achievement.

The book's sections span the full 40 years and more of the United Nations. Starting with Escott Reid, who looks back at the tensions already apparent (and the mistakes Canada made) at the San Francisco Conference, the book carries through to Gunner Donald Stenger, who in 1986 prevented an ugly shoot-out between Greek Cypriot and Turkish troops across the Green Line in Nicosia.

But this book cannot be comprehensive in recording all who played a significant role. It does not, for example, include any of the memories of Maxwell Cohen, who has filled several roles, from assistant to John Humphrey in the early years of the Human Rights division to *ad hoc* judge in the International Court of Justice Chamber, which in 1985 ruled on the Gulf of Maine case.

Again, space constraints allow room to tell only certain anecdotes. I chose, for instance, to give King Gordon's account of the Congo operations and of how soldiers and civilian specialists from many countries saved that country from deep chaos after Belgium's abrupt departure. I might just as well have quoted him describing the large reconstruction effort under UN auspices in the mid-1950s that helped South Korea to its feet after a devastating war. But I have tried, in short introductions, to give a broader sketch of each person's work, while the anecdotes serve to highlight—and make more human—the work of agencies and other parts of the UN system.

These anecdotes and commentaries form, perhaps, a patchwork quilt—although I prefer to compare them to the Pointillist painters like Seurat and Pissarro who used bits of broken colour to achieve a picture of some luminosity. What struck me, during a year of seeking out Canadians of all ages for interviews, is the number of individuals that made up this canvas of Canada's involvement with the United Nations.

The trail led to several dynamic people of whom I had never heard before. There may be no single dominant Canadian figure, as Garcia Robles has been in Mexico or Hammarskjöld was in Sweden. But Lester Pearson must head the list, both for his own work for peace and for his inspiration of others. The list is a long one, of fine people who combine principle with passion for their area of work. Read, for instance, Adelaide Sinclair's account of how UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, provided hurricane aid to Cuba over strong U.S. resistance; or Bill Epstein's story of how he tackled the task of writing the first draft of the Treaty of Tlatelolco in an overnight (and somewhat bibulous) session with a Mexican legal adviser; or Kalmen Kaplansky's description of the arguments between workers' representatives, employers, and government officials as they negotiated important International Labour Organization conventions in conference.

Not surprisingly, perhaps, trees—or the threat of their disappearance—seem to galvanize Canadians into energetic action at all levels. While that self-termed "rowdy rebel" Chuck Lankester was marshalling the highest