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# STATEMENT DISCOURS

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UNITED NATIONS' DAY MESSAGE  
BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CANADA,  
THE HONOURABLE DON JAMIESON,  
TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF  
THE UNITED NATIONS, MR. KURT  
WALDHEIM, OCTOBER 24, 1978

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The Secretary of State for External Affairs



Secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires extérieures

Canada

OTTAWA K1A 0G2

October 24, 1978

My dear Secretary-General,

On behalf of the Government and people of Canada, it is my pleasure to convey to you, and to the staff members of the United Nations and its affiliated organizations, our warmest wishes on the occasion of the thirty-third anniversary of the founding of the United Nations.

The Special Session of the General Assembly on Disarmament proclaimed the week of October 24th as one "devoted to fostering the objectives of disarmament". You, yourself, have reminded us that "no other forum can fulfill the requirement of universal involvement that the present situation demands".

The Government and people of Canada have found a basis for renewed faith in and optimism about the workings of the United Nations this past year as a result of the outcome of the attention devoted to disarmament. We view with satisfaction the fact that world leaders and other representatives used this occasion to transcend their own particular interests in order to join together to pursue effective measures of disarmament through negotiation and agreement. With other member states, Canada will participate with new hope in the negotiation of multilateral disarmament agreements, based on the programme of action approved by the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament.

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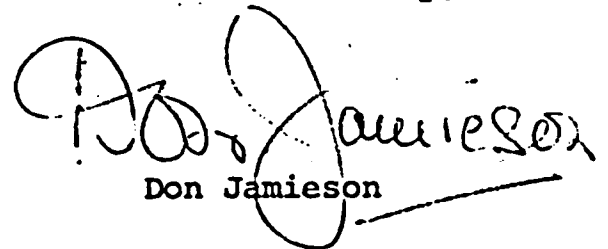
His Excellency,  
Mr. Kurt Waldheim,  
Secretary-General,  
United Nations,  
New York

We are about to conclude our fourth term on the Security Council. We have sought, during our tenure on the Council, to help the United Nations to deal with conflicts in many parts of the world and we look forward, in particular, to positive results that may be achieved in Namibia. I was very pleased to have had the opportunity to meet with you on October 20, on behalf of my Western colleagues, in order to bring you up to date on the results of our talks in Pretoria on the question of Namibia.

Canada also shares the concern described in your report that the UN must make an effort "to find new procedures to match the speed, diversity and sheer complexity of modern life". It is important that the operations of the UN be understood and respected in member states. Our current procedures do not always help to encourage such understanding. In addition, Canada will continue to give close attention to the efforts in the United Nations to improve the rights of ordinary people throughout the world, and to narrow the gap between the standards of living enjoyed by those who live in developed and developing countries.

I pledge our co-operation to work with you, Mr. Secretary-General, in the furtherance of the aims of the Charter.

Yours sincerely,

  
Don Jamieson