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FOR RELEASE MONDAY, JUNE 14, 1965
AT 08.00 HOURS E.D.S.T.

VISIT TO CANADA OF PRIME MINISTER SHASTRI

JOINT COMMUNIQUE



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The Prime Minister of India, Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, paid an official visit to Canada June 10-14 at the invitation of the Canadian Government. During his stay in Canada the Prime Minister visited Ottawa and Niagara Falls and will spend June 14 in Montreal.

While in Ottawa, the Prime Minister of India visited the House of Commons and officially opened the Commonwealth Room in the Parliament Building. He laid a wreath at the War Memorial.

In Montreal, the Prime Minister of India will address a special convocation at McGill University at which an honorary degree will be conferred upon him. He will also call on the Mayor of Montreal at the City Hall.

The Prime Minister of India had discussions with Prime Minister Pearson, and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Hon. Paul Martin; with the Minister of Finance, the hon. Walter Gordon; with the Minister of Trade and Commerce, the Hon. Mitchell Sharp; and with the Minister of Industry and Defence Production, the Hon. Charles M. Drury. The High Commissioner for Canada to India, the Hon. Roland Michener, and Canadian officials attended the discussions. The Prime Minister of India was assisted by the Indian High Commissioner to Canada, Mr. B. K. Acharya, Mr. L. K. Jha, Secretary to the

Prime Minister, and Mr. R. Prasad, Joint Secretary to the Prime Minister.

In the course of their talks, the two Prime Ministers dealt with the wide range of relationships between India and Canada, with questions expected to arise at the forthcoming meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government, and with the main international problems of the day. The talks disclosed understanding and respect for each other's point of view and a wide area of agreement on many world issues.

The two Prime Ministers expressed satisfaction with the friendship and cooperation which have at all times marked relations between India and Canada. They looked forward with confidence to the continuation of this warm relationship in the future.

Cooperation between the two countries extends to many fields, particularly the economic field. The Prime Minister of India expressed appreciation for the assistance extended by Canada to India under the Colombo Plan and for the cooperation between the two countries in promoting the economic development of India. The Prime Minister of Canada reiterated Canada's deep and continuing interest in the economic development of India and in the success of India's Five-year Plans.

Both Prime Ministers agreed on the urgent need to raise the standards of living of the peoples of developing countries. They recognized the responsibility of both the developed and developing countries to cooperate in this task and welcomed the establishment of the United Nations Conference on

Trade and Development as an organization which could make a vital contribution toward the elimination of disparities in economic conditions through more rapid economic growth.

The two Prime Ministers re-affirmed their support for the United Nations and their desire to see the world organization develop into an effective instrument for the maintenance of international peace and security and for the promotion of understanding and co-operation among nations. The Prime Ministers noted that the present year marked the 20th anniversary of the United Nations and was being celebrated as International Co-operation Year. They hoped that it would usher in an era of increased United Nations activity and better international co-operation in the cause of world peace and prosperity.

They noted with concern and regret the difficulties that stood in the way of the functioning of the 19th Session of the General Assembly. They expressed their sincere hope that these difficulties would be overcome as a result of the discussions now going on in the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and that the world body would emerge the stronger after the crisis.

It was also noted that both governments shared the desire to strengthen practical arrangements for United Nations peacekeeping. Both have been major participants in United Nations peacekeeping operations and continue to provide contingents of their armed forces for service in the United Nations Emergency Force in Gaza as they had done throughout the United Nations peacekeeping operations in the Congo. An Indian delegation

participated in the discussions between military experts on the technical military aspects of United Nations peacekeeping which took place in Ottawa last November. The Prime Ministers agreed that, whatever the constitutional and other difficulties which stood in the way of collective responsibility for United Nations peacekeeping, it was imperative that a solution be found which would enable the United Nations to continue to fulfil this essential role in future.

The two Prime Ministers re-affirmed their support for the attainment of general and complete disarmament under effective international control. They discussed the great danger of proliferation of nuclear weapons and agreed that the 18-Nation Disarmament Committee should devote itself, as a matter of priority, to finding a solution to this problem. They called upon all states to abide by the spirit and provisions of the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapons Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water. They emphasized the importance of taking early steps for the conclusion of a comprehensive Test Ban Treaty so as to cover underground tests as well.

The Prime Ministers expressed their deep regret and concern over the series of nuclear tests to which the People's Republic of China has devoted itself in defiance of a world opinion which strongly opposes the continuance of tests in any environment. These tests represent a setback to current efforts to achieve non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Prime Minister of Canada expressed particular satisfaction at India's

decision not to use nuclear energy for other than peaceful purposes, despite India's technical capability to produce nuclear weapons.

They further expressed their satisfaction at their mutual association in the International Control Commissions in Indochina during the last eleven years. They recognized the difficulties in the functioning of the Commissions in the present circumstances.

While recognizing that it had not always been possible for Canadian and Indian views to coincide on every aspect of the consideration of the difficult problems arising before the Commissions, both Prime Ministers agreed that their mutual association in the Commissions had been useful, and re-affirmed their desire that their representatives in the Commissions should make every effort with a view to encouraging implementation of the Agreements, which it is the task of the Commission to supervise.

The Prime Ministers examined the situation in Vietnam and considered the measures open to them to try to bring peace to that country. They reviewed their efforts to try to interest the powers directly involved in a cease fire, in unconditional negotiations, and in greater international participation in and responsibility for bringing about and guaranteeing a cease fire and any agreement which might accompany or succeed it. They expressed their regret that lack of respect for the Cease Fire Agreement, as reported by the Commission in 1962, had led to the present higher level of hostilities. They were convinced that a purely military solution was neither practicable nor desirable.

They hoped that it might still be possible for the combatants to curtail hostilities or to initiate periods of cease fire which might become permanent; they also expressed the hope that earlier proposals for negotiations without pre-conditions would still yield results. They agreed to work for a solution to the Vietnam problem which will enable the people of Vietnam to enjoy freedom and independence. Any settlement should be suitably guaranteed by the international community.

Both Prime Ministers expressed concern at the increasing tendency to use force for the settlement of disputes, and the Prime Minister of Canada reiterated Canada's sympathy and support for India in her border conflict with China. He expressed the hope that the problem will be resolved peacefully and that China would agree to talks with India on the basis of the proposals of the six non-aligned countries formulated in Colombo in December 1962 which India had accepted.

The Prime Minister of India expressed his pleasure at visiting Canada and establishing contacts with Canadian leaders and people. He expressed deep appreciation of the warm hospitality extended to him and members of his party. He extended an invitation to the Prime Minister of Canada to visit India. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.