

CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(SIXTEENTH SESSION)

TEXT OF ADDRESS: ADMISSION OF SIERRA LEONE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

PRESS RELEASE NO. 2

750 3rd Avenue
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ADDRESS BY SENATOR THE HON. ALFRED J. BROOKS, P.C.,
Q.C., M.P., VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE CANADIAN DELEGATION
TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, NEW
YORK CITY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1961.

Mr. President:

The birth of a new nation and its admission to membership in this world organization is always a significant event. It is particularly gratifying to the Canadian Delegation to be able to participate today in welcoming the representatives of Sierra Leone, with whom Canada already shares so happy an association within the Commonwealth. It is especially fitting that the Prime Minister of Sierra Leone, Sir Milton Margai, whose personal abilities and leadership have won him wide recognition in Africa and elsewhere, is able to be with us for this occasion.

Canada has followed with close interest and deep satisfaction the orderly progress of Sierra Leone along the path toward independence. We have been particularly impressed by the statesman-like manner in which its leaders, despite the stresses and problems inevitably associated with this transitional period, have assumed the new and challenging responsibilities of statehood. The record of Sierra Leone's progress to independence reflects also the harmony and co-operation which has existed between that country and the United Kingdom. The government and people of Sierra Leone, and all who have been concerned with this achievement, deserve our most sincere congratulations.

As a new member of this organization from the rapidly developing continent of Africa, Sierra Leone will have a

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particularly significant role to play in our deliberations here.

We welcome its participation with confidence that its representatives will make a substantial and constructive contribution to the counsels of the United Nations.

Canada is proud to be associated with Sierra Leone in this forum, as we have been already within the Commonwealth, and we warmly welcome the completion today of its accession to full international stature in the community of nations. We therefore consider it an honour to join in co-sponsoring Sierra Leone's admission as the hundredth member of the United Nations.

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