



CANADA

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## WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE

*The following is a statement by the Canadian Representative, Lieutenant General E.L.M. Burns, in the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, on November 23, 1965, explaining the Canadian vote on the resolution proposing the convening of a World Disarmament Conference:*

...Canada voted in favour of the resolution and, in so doing, gave its support to the principle of convening a conference in which the nations of the world, both those inside the United Nations and those not represented here, would have an opportunity to exchange views and express their opinions on the all-important question of disarmament. We made our decision to support this idea even though we believed, as I indicated to the Committee in my statement of October 19, that there were a number of practical problems which would subsequently have to be resolved. The eventual decision by Canada - and I suppose that of any other states - as to participation in the conference, will depend on a number of factors, including the resolution of these practical problems, but, in the meantime, we have been encouraged by the widespread recognition on the part of the sponsors of the resolution and others, that the concern which we had expressed is legitimate and is designed not to obstruct the holding of a World Disarmament Conference but to ensure that it will be properly organized, so that useful results can be achieved. In this connection, I should like to refer to the statement made yesterday by the distinguished representative of Algeria when he was formally introducing the final text of the draft resolution. He said at that time, and I quote...“...important questions

have quite properly been raised: questions as to dates, participation, duration, financing, etc. No one can minimize their importance”.

The distinguished representative of Byelorussia attempted, in his intervention on November 19, to suggest that the Western countries did not want a conference at all and were doing all in their power to delay its convening by laying down unacceptable conditions in advance. Today, without exception, the Western nations have voted in favour of the principle of convening a World Disarmament Conference. No conditions have been laid down, but suggestions have been made as to what matters of organization the preparatory committee should deal with. I am sure that the representative of Byelorussia appreciates, as everyone else must, that if the World Disarmament Conference is to be successful, it must be properly organized. This requirement for careful preparation for a large conference is not our idea, of course, but has been widely recognized for some time. A concrete example of this was the UNCTAD meeting that took place in Geneva in the spring and early summer of 1964. Before this very successful conference could be held, a preparatory group was required to meet off and on for more than a year to ensure a properly organized and productive meeting.

### PREPARATORY COMMISSION

In view of the many complicated questions which will have to be resolved, the Canadian Delegation supports the proposals of a Preparatory Commission to go into all the aspects of the problem. This idea has been supported by a great many representatives,

including our distinguished rapporteur, Mr. El Kony, in his very instructive statement to the Committee on November 19. When this Preparatory Commission is being established, we think that there are three considerations that should be borne in mind. The first of these is the necessity to keep the group relatively small, if it is to work effectively. A membership of 25 has been mentioned informally on occasion, and it would be our view that, if the Commission is to carry out satisfactorily the work entrusted to it, this number could scarcely be exceeded. The second consideration is that membership of the Commission should be broadly representative of those countries whose attendance at the proposed conference is essential, because of their significant military power or other reasons. Finally, we think that to the largest extent, possible membership of the preparatory group should be made up of those countries whose practical experience in complexities of disarmament negotiations will enable them to help in finding satisfactory answers to questions to be resolved.

#### SUPPLEMENT TO EXISTING NEGOTIATIONS

...In conclusion, there is one point I should like to make, and that is to express our support of the widely-held view that, while soundings and prepara-

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#### UNRWA AND PALESTINIAN REFUGEES

*The following statement was made recently in the Special Political Committee of the United Nations General Assembly by the Canadian Representative, Mr. Paul Beaulieu:*

The Canadian Delegation has studied with all due care the reports of the UNRWA Commissioner General describing the Agency's activities over the past two years....

One point that seems to elicit a unanimity of views within the Committee is the humanitarian aspect of UNRWA's activities. It is not surprising that differences of opinion exist as to the most satisfactory methods of alleviating the fate of the refugees. Nevertheless, my Delegation believes that these differences should not obscure the duty which devolves on the international community — namely, to facilitate the task of the Agency set up by the United Nations to assist these refugees. It is in this perspective that the following remarks should be interpreted.

#### CANADA'S CONTRIBUTION

Since 1950, Canada, through its Government and private organizations, has not failed to support the Agency unsparingly, both by governmental contributions in commodities and funds and by voluntary contributions from philanthropic groups. We hope these various kinds of assistance have contributed in some measure — and this is our essential aim — to the needs of the refugees in the fields of food, health and education. Regarding the professional training of young refugees, the Canadian Government is happy to have been able to participate during the

tions for a World Disarmament Conference are under way, these activities should be conducted so as not to interfere with the disarmament deliberations which may be taking place elsewhere in bodies such as the United Nations General Assembly or the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Commission. As I think we all appreciate, the World Disarmament Conference, to be truly useful, must supplement rather than supersede existing arrangements for considering disarmament problems. In particular, it could not carry on detailed consideration of specific questions, which is possible in a more restricted body such as the Eighteen-Nation Disarmament Commission. No one disarmament forum can be expected to have a monopoly of wisdom in this most important field, and we must do everything we can to assure that, in establishing a new forum, we are not in any way reducing the effectiveness of those that already exist. Because we feel so strongly about this question, it has been a matter of considerable satisfaction to the Canadian Delegation to find that most other delegations agree. In particular, I might refer again to Mr. El Kony's statement of November 19 when he said: "There is nothing contradictory between the negotiating table in Geneva and a world forum for disarmament which latter could serve as a real stimulation to the technicians in Geneva".

World Refugee Year in the establishment of the training centre at Sibirin which, like other centres run by the Agency, provides instruction and training to at least a part of the present generation of Palestinian refugees without which they could not assist their community. Canada is happy to join its efforts to those of other governments who have provided equipment for these schools, assisted in their construction, or made scholarships available for their graduates....

#### FINANCIAL SITUATION

Regarding the financial state of the organization, Mr. Michelmore has stressed the seriousness of the situation and pointed out the grave consequences for UNRWA's humanitarian work with the refugees and the unfavourable repercussions affecting the peace and stability of the Middle East, should this situation not be improved. The Commissioner General has indicated a certain number of measures that have been taken to effect budgetary savings. However, it has become quite clear that these steps alone are inadequate. Up to now the financial burden has been shared by a certain number of countries which, over the years, have regularly contributed to the Agency's budget. We feel obliged to acknowledge here the exceptionally generous nature of the contributions provided to the Agency by the United States and Britain. In addition to these contributions and to those of other donors, the highly important contributions of various kinds provided by the host countries should be mentioned. We should also note the participation of international organizations, namely UNESCO and WHO. No less important co-operation is afforded by several private organizations.

## CANADA AND THE KEEPING OF PEACE

*The following is a partial text of a statement to the Special Political Committee of the United Nations General Assembly by the Canadian Representative, Mr. Paul Beaulieu, November 19:*

I do not need to emphasize the importance which my Delegation attaches to peace keeping. Canada has been called upon to participate in United Nations peace-keeping operations since the early years of the United Nations. More than 2,000 Canadian servicemen are now engaged in this task. Canada has taken special measures to prepare for its participation in peace keeping, including the organization and training of units of its armed forces. It is true that the Canadian national interest, in the narrow sense of the term, may not be directly implicated in all the disputes which have resulted in these peace-keeping commitments; but, in the broader sense of national interest, we believe that the interests of Canada are best served by our participation in collective arrangements to maintain or restore peace and security. Furthermore, our involvement in peace keeping has given us strong reasons for wishing to improve the methods which govern peace keeping and thus to take an active interest in the item before us.

Let me review briefly our position on the authorization, control, and financing of peace-keeping operations. We agree that the Security Council must continue to exercise its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. But we cannot accept that, in the absence of agreement between the members of the Council, the United Nations is prevented from recommending measures to maintain or restore peace. In these circumstances, we believe, the membership as a whole must have an opportunity to recommend what is to be done. Some have expressed or implied the belief that the Assembly might be tempted to make recommendations which are inapplicable and irresponsible. But the history of the United Nations demonstrates, on the contrary, that the Assembly can act and has acted with both moderation and despatch in this field.

### CONTROL EFFICIENCY

In regard to the control and direction of peace keeping, we should urge that considerations of efficiency be allowed to prevail. The system whereby the Secretary-General retains administrative supervision of peace keeping, even though the Security Council may exercise overall political control, has worked well since the establishment of UNEF in 1956. Nevertheless, we should be prepared to examine carefully, and on their merits, any detailed proposals that might be made which would enable the Council, either through the Military Staff Committee or in some other way, to exercise this function of administrative supervision of peace keeping, always provided such proposals were likely to result in the efficient running of the operation and not its virtual paralysis. We should also be extremely concerned if any change in the present arrangements were to make difficult the kind of advance planning for peace keeping which

Canada and a number of other countries have found it appropriate to do. On the contrary, we should hope that the United Nations would find ways of facilitating such planning, in particular by the strengthening of staff arrangements at headquarters. Planning by governments on their own can have only limited results as long as appropriate central co-ordination is inadequate.

### FINANCIAL SHARING ESSENTIAL

As a major participant in peace keeping, Canada feels strongly that the sharing of the financial burden amongst member states is an essential principle of equity and fair play. The apportionment of peace-keeping expenses by the General Assembly amongst all the members of the United Nations, taking into account the guide-lines already agreed on by the fourth special session of the General Assembly, should be the preferred method of financing peace-keeping operations, particularly so for those operations authorized by the Security Council. If it is right and proper for the Security Council to have the primary responsibility for decisions to establish peace-keeping operations, it is equally to be expected that the members of the Council, especially the permanent members, should pay an appropriate share of the cost. Alternative methods of financing would, of course, remain open for recommendation by the Council, including payment of the costs by the parties directly concerned and voluntary contributions from all members. But voluntary contributions are not a satisfactory method of financing, as the Secretary-General has often pointed out and as the example of UNFICYP has demonstrated, unless, at the same time, such contributions are accepted as a general obligation on the membership, each of whom thereby acknowledges some part in the common task of keeping the peace. All of us can find reasons for justifying our lack of direct interest in any particular dispute. But none of us, certainly not the smaller states, can guarantee that we, too, may not wish to appeal to the United Nations for assistance some day. The most immediate opportunity we have to discharge our responsibilities is by making a voluntary contribution to restore the United Nations to solvency. Canada has already suggested that a pledging conference be held for this purpose, but whether or not such a conference takes place my Delegation would urge those who have not yet done so to make an appropriate contribution. If we cannot liquidate the debts we have accumulated in the past, there is little hope that we can reach agreement on an adequate system for financing the obligations of the future.

Canada is also concerned, as a major contributor to peace-keeping operations and in view of the possibility that peace keeping will be financed on the basis of voluntary contributions, about arrangements whereby such contributors as are not permanent members of the Security Council can exercise an appropriate voice of initiation, financing and supervising of peace-keeping operations. We have noted with interest some of the proposals which have been

made in the past and are summarized in part in Paragraph 36 of the report of the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly to the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations dated May 31, 1965. We believe it is important that these kinds of idea be followed up and that some solution be found to a problem which we anticipate will become increasingly urgent if major contributors are to retain their confidence in and support for future United Nations efforts in this field.

**PRIORITY OF EFFORTS AT PEACEFUL SETTLEMENTS**

I should not wish to conclude my remarks about Canada's general views on peace keeping without referring to our belief that peaceful settlement of

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**FIRST FRANCO-CANADIAN CULTURAL AGREEMENT**

Mr. Paul Martin, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, recently announced the signing by the French Ambassador, His Excellency François Leduc, and himself, of the first general cultural agreement between France and Canada.

The new instrument aims at establishing a framework for co-operation in the cultural field between France and Canada, in the light of current conditions. This initiative is in accord with the desire expressed by General de Gaulle and the Prime Minister during their meeting in Paris in January 1964, for a policy of close co-operation between the two countries.

**STRENGTHEN ALL BONDS**

The aims of the agreement, which consists of a preamble, 11 articles and an exchange of letters, are to strengthen the traditional ties of Franco-Canadian friendship by developing cultural, scientific, technical and artistic exchanges and to encourage the dissemination of the French language.

The means by which these ends are to be attained are outlined in the 11 articles of the agreement. The exchanges to be carried out will involve films, television, radio and publication. A joint Franco-Canadian commission will be set up to facilitate this increased co-operation, to examine how the present agreement can best be implemented and, in particular, to draw up a programme for submission to the two governments.

**ROLE OF THE PROVINCES**

An exchange of letters between the two governments is included as part of the agreement, which will enable the Canadian provinces to make their own agreements with France, either within the framework provided by the general agreement (and the exchange of letters) or within the assent of the Canadian Government.

disputes must logically take precedence over arrangements to prevent hostilities from taking place or to restore conditions of order and security. Article 33 of the Charter is quite specific that the parties to any dispute shall "first of all" seek a solution by "peaceful means of their own choice". But even if a solution by such means is not found and the dispute is referred to the United Nations and peace-keeping arrangements are decided upon, we believe that a continuing obligation rests upon the governments concerned to strive to settle their differences. My Government, for one, will find it increasingly difficult to participate in peace-keeping operations, especially those that may be financed voluntarily, if we are not at the same time convinced that efforts to negotiate a peaceful settlement are being pursued vigorously....

In announcing the agreement, Mr. Martin said that, during the previous few years, new opportunities for exchange had developed and new possibilities for Franco-Canadian co-operation had appeared. The agreement had been designed, he pointed out, to take advantage of these developments. As a result of it cultural exchanges between France and Canada would henceforth be better co-ordinated, would present greater and more varied opportunities, and would be substantially increased.

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**FRANCO-CANADIAN ECONOMIC COMMITTEE**

Representatives of the French and Canadian Governments met in Ottawa recently to examine the principal aspects of economic, financial and commercial relations between the two countries, within the framework of the Franco-Canadian Economic Committee, created in 1949. The two delegations studied the possibilities for further developing these relations and also considered certain international problems of common interest.

The French and Canadian delegations were led respectively by Messrs. Tanguy de Courson, Minister Plenipotentiary and Head of the Service of Bilateral Agreements of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and J.H. Warren, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, and included representatives of the various departments concerned from both countries.

These consultations reflect the desire of both governments to intensify and broaden relations and co-operation between the two countries, notably in the economic, financial and commercial fields.

The two delegations envisage further consultations at a further meeting of the Committee in Paris next year.

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(Continued on P. 4)

## FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY OF THE WORLD

The following excerpts are from a speech by Mr. Maurice Sauvé, Minister of Forestry and acting Minister of Agriculture, on accepting the chairmanship of the thirteenth session of the FAO Conference recently:

When delegates of 42 nations met in Quebec City, on October 16, 1965, in the conference that was to found the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, they elected as their chairman a Canadian - Lester B. Pearson, today Prime Minister of Canada. Today, therefore, as the Organization founded in Quebec City celebrates its twentieth anniversary, it is a particularly great and moving honour for me, as a Canadian and as a member of the Government which Mr. Pearson now heads, to have been chosen to serve as chairman of the thirteenth session of the FAO Conference....

Where do we stand today? No man, not even the most impatient, can deny that, in the last 20 years, FAO has accomplished much of which we can all be proud. Yet no man, not even the most complacent, can deny that we have not done nearly enough. For, in 1965, A.D., famine, most dread and cruel of the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, still rides and ravages unhindered throughout most of the inhabited world. Not only does mankind's age-old enemy remain unconquered, but he is slowly and inexorably gaining ground. In spite of all that we have done so far, we must acknowledge that we are losing, not winning, the war on hunger. Let me repeat the bleak, stark facts:

More than half of the world's population - over one and a half billion human beings - is undernourished or mal-nourished today.

It is estimated that world population, about three billion in 1960, will be doubled in 35 years from now.

To feed these people adequately, Asia and the Far East will need four times their present food supply; Latin America will need scarcely less; the Near East will need three times its present food supply; Africa will need from two to three times its present food supply. By the year 2,000, these areas will contain three-quarters of the world's population.

In spite of all our efforts so far, the gap in food supplies and productivity between developed and developing nations is widening, not narrowing, although four-fifths of the population of most developing countries is engaged in agriculture.

### CHALLENGE NOT INSURMOUNTABLE

The litany is sobering indeed. To me it makes one thing absolutely clear - there can now be no possible question that the increasing disparity in the satisfaction of basic human needs between the rich nations and the poor nations of the world, is the major problem of our time. Not only is it the number one social and economic problem facing mankind, it is also by far the number one threat to world peace. At the very heart of this problem is food, the most elementary of all man's needs. As a hungry man is a desperate

man, so is a hungry nation a desperate nation. Therefore, even the most naked self-interest demands that all governments do their utmost to give to each man his daily bread, everywhere in the world. The obligation lies on rich nations and poor alike. If we fail, mass starvation must eventually result, with incalculable human misery, desperation and inevitable violence, perhaps on a world scale. This is the awesome challenge that faces FAO; this is the stirring challenge that faces this conference for the next three weeks. On our response to this challenge may well hang the future of civilization and of mankind itself. One shining fact must always condition our reaction to the challenge of freeing mankind from hunger. That fact is, that however enormous the task may seem, we know that it is not impossible. We know that victory is within our grasp....

### PROBLEM ESSENTIALLY SOCIAL

Scientifically, technologically, we know we have the answers. We have also identified the sole remaining barrier that prevents us from achieving our goal. This barrier is the problem of effectively communicating to developing nations the technology and the economic conditions that will permit them to increase agricultural productivity. What we now face is basically an educational task, and like all educational tasks it depends to a large degree on incentive and motivation. We can and we must solve this problem. It is essentially not a technical problem, but a social one.

Our knowledge of the social and behavioural sciences is sufficient to solve this problem right now. What we have not done, and what we must now do, is to marshal our existing knowledge and experience in this field, and bring it to bear on this last remaining barrier in a massive onslaught of experimental programmes and trial approaches. The key to winning the war on hunger once and for all, is to concentrate our knowledge, energies and resources in a comprehensive co-ordinated, unified attack. This is far from easy. We must co-ordinate the efforts of the public sector and the private sector. The freedom from hunger campaign has made much progress towards this goal. We must co-ordinate and synthesize the findings and research of all relevant sciences and disciplines. We must always remember that we are not trying to solve the problem of hunger alone - this is both impossible and undesirable, but to satisfy the whole spectrum of human needs, of which the need for food, if perhaps the most basic, is but one. Therefore, we must concern ourselves as well with shelter, health, welfare, recreation, and above all, education and training. This means a closer co-ordination of our efforts in FAO with those of other international bodies more practically concerned with other human needs.

### A COMMITMENT FROM ALL

What can we do to achieve this essential global approach? Such teamwork, such co-operation and common action, demand above all a commitment: a commitment from ourselves as delegates, because we are here not only as representatives of governments,

but as men, as members of a common race with concern and compassion for our fellow men; a commitment from our nations and our peoples, not only to offer with humility, but to accept with dignity, that which is sincerely given — for, though it may be more blessed to give than to receive, it is often more difficult to receive than to give. But perhaps more than anything else, the ultimate conquest of mankind's historic enemy, hunger, demands an ultimate personal commitment from mankind's appointed leaders.

I therefore appeal to the political, economic and religious leaders of our several countries to reaffirm their personal dedication to eradicating hunger from the world. For it is these men, above all, who hold in their hands the real power to win man's ancient struggle for food. To have this power is to have the duty to use it. If our generation, at the most crucial moment in the memory of man, fails to win the war on hunger, much of the blame will be theirs before the bar of history. "We need only the will", said Kennedy. The will of mankind is manifest. Let the leaders of mankind pay heed. It is their great task, and ours, to translate into effective action the mute longing of inarticulate millions: freedom from hunger and want. Our ultimate goal must always be to give to every man the opportunity and freedom to live a full life upon this earth. Freedom from hunger must be the first step....

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### UNRWA AND PALESTINIAN REFUGEES

(Continued from P. 2)

The Canadian Government has duly noted the comments of the Commissioner General concerning the present financial situation of the Agency and, in the light of these observations and conscious of the appeal of Mr. Michelmore, will examine in a constructive spirit the question of its contribution.

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### LONGER MANDATE DESIRABLE

The second issue concerns the renewal of UNRWA's mandate. As you are aware, the present mandate, which was renewed for one year only, will expire June 30, 1966. The Commissioner General, in his report, stresses the need for a longer mandate if he is to organize his programme of activities on a stable and economic basis. The Canadian Government agrees with the principle that a longer mandate, perhaps of three years, would greatly facilitate the organization of the Agency's work. My Government will give it all the attention it deserves while keeping in mind, of course, other proposals submitted in this debate.

In conclusion...allow me to quote the last paragraph of the text of the inscription on the plaque that was unveiled during the inaugural ceremony of the Vocational Training Centre at Siblin in 1962, for it expresses better than I could, not only the motives that inspired my statement, but also the fact that international co-operation, far from being a hollow term, constitutes a constructive reality:

"This inscription bears witness to the hope that co-operation and brotherhood between nations will continue to flourish and to faith that within these walls will be trained young men who will bring joy and pride to their families and by their devoted labour help to enrich the Arab world and all humanity."

...The inscription at the Vocational Training Centre at Siblin eloquently demonstrates that, in the search for a solution to the problem that faces us, if goodwill between nations exists and the desire for the brotherhood of man prevails, the co-operation between governments and private organizations permits us to envisage substantial progress towards assuring the well-being of the Palestine refugees. It is in this spirit that my Delegation proposes to follow the debate of our committee.