

UNEF in Gaza and Sinai from its inception until its withdrawal in May 1967. Canada also took part in the United Nations Yemen Observation Mission which was terminated in September 1964.

Another form of Canadian co-operation in UN activities in the Middle East is the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA); Canada has traditionally been one of the leading contributors to that agency since its inception. Following the conflict of June 1967, the Canadian Government supplemented its contribution by providing substantial amounts in emergency food aid and other forms of assistance to the agency and also contributed generously to the International Red Cross for the provision of emergency supplies to relieve human suffering in the Middle East.

Canada and Africa.—The rapid expansion of Canadian diplomatic relations with African countries in recent years reflects the growing Canadian interest in that area and in the problems of its political and economic development. Canada now has diplomatic missions in 11 African countries and the heads of missions are dually accredited to a number of other countries. Canada has particular links with Commonwealth African countries and with French-speaking African states (see also p. 173). Financial and technical assistance is given to these countries through the Special Commonwealth Africa Assistance Plan, a review of which is given on pp. 185-186. Canadian assistance to French-speaking states in Africa is dealt with on pp. 186-187.

Canada and the Far East.—Canada has had important contacts, both official and private, with the Far East over many years and is becoming more and more aware of its position as a Pacific as well as an Atlantic nation. With the development of modern transportation and communications, the Pacific Ocean has ceased to be a barrier and, as a result, contacts between Canadians and the peoples of the Far East are increasing rapidly in number and variety. Many of these contacts are based on a growing volume of trans-Pacific trade. Japan, in particular, is Canada's third largest trading partner; total bilateral trade amounted to over \$650,000,000 in 1966. Canadian Cabinet Ministers hold annual meetings with their Japanese counterparts to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Although Canada does not maintain diplomatic relations with Communist China, it has continued its policy of developing trade and other contacts with Peking on the premise that it should not be isolated but rather encouraged to become more involved in the activities and responsibilities of the international community. In line with this policy, during the 1966 debate on China in the United Nations General Assembly, Canada proposed that representatives of both the Chinese Nationalist Government and the Government in Peking be seated in the Assembly and that the latter participate in the work of the Security Council as a permanent member.

As a member of the International Commissions in Viet-Nam, Laos and Cambodia, Canada has maintained a close interest in the region formerly known as Indo-China. Canadian policy, both within the Commissions and in a broader international context, has been based on a recognition of the needs of the countries of the region for political and economic stability. The course of events in Viet-Nam in recent years has cut across these objectives. In these circumstances the overriding concern of Canadian policy has been to work toward a solution of the present conflict through negotiation rather than by military means. Canada has spared no efforts to this end.

Canada's relations with other countries of the Far East are becoming of increasing importance. As illustrations, a trade agreement was signed with Korea in December 1966, and the establishment of a resident Canadian Embassy in Thailand was announced in April 1967. In the form of economic and technical aid extended through United Nations agencies and the Colombo Plan, Canada is contributing in many ways to the economic development of the Far East. Canada is also a member of the recently established Asian Development Bank to whose capital fund it has contributed \$25,000,000.