An Article by Chinese Ambassador to Canada Cong Peiwu Published on *Esprit de Corps* Magazine

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China's New Security Initiative: Marking the 96th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Liberation Army

中国的新安全倡议 ——纪念中国人民解放军建军96周年

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August 1, 2023 2023年8月1日

There has been a lot of discussion recently in Canada about how to view China's role in international security and the role of the Chinese military. As August 1 approaches, I would like to share some thoughts with you.

August 1 marks the anniversary of the founding of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA). Ninety-six years ago, China was mired in poverty and weakness, suffering from internal and external troubles. As a result, it was difficult for the Chinese people to enjoy the most basic of security guarantees.

In pursuit of national independence, people's liberation, and a peaceful and stable life, the Chinese revolutionaries fired their first shot in Nanchang, Jiangxi Province, on August 1, 1927. This act opened the curtain on the Chinese Communist Party's armed resistance to the reactionaries. Since then, through their adherence to the concept of "serving the people", the PLA has been both courageous and tenacious. The PLA have laid a solid foundation for the founding of New China, in which the people themselves are masters of their own country. More specifically, the PLA has provided strong support for safeguarding national sovereignty, security and development interests, and for safeguarding regional and world peace.

Yet there are sentiments expressed in Canada that China is an increasingly disruptive global power, with a flagrant disregard for international rules. One common theme of these discussions is that the PLA is becoming more aggressive, and projecting force further afield. These talks are certainly provocative, but what is the truth?

The fact is that China has always been committed to promoting world peace and development with concrete actions and will continue to do so. A distinctive feature of the Chinese way of modernization 最近在加拿大国内有一些议论,如何看待中国 在国际安全中的作用和中国军队的作用。在8月1日 来临之际,我想和大家分享一些看法。

8月1日,是中国人民解放军建军纪念日。96年前,中国处在积贫积弱、内忧外患的苦难深渊,中国人民难以获得最基本的安全保障。为追求民族独立、人民解放、和平安定的生活,中国革命者们于1927年8月1日,在江西南昌打响第一枪,拉开了中国共产党武装反抗国民党反动派的大幕。自那时起,中国人民军队秉持"为人民服务"的理念,不怕牺牲、英勇顽强,以鲜血和生命为建立人民当家作主的新中国奠定了牢固根基,为维护国家主权、安全、发展利益,为维护地区和世界和平提供了强大力量支撑。

然而,此间却有议论认为,中国是一个日益具有破坏性的全球大国,越来越无视国际规则和规范;中国军队越来越具有侵略性,等等。这些言论颇具煽动性,但事实究竟是什么呢?

事实是,中国始终致力于以实际行动促进世界 和平发展,并将继续这样做。中国式现代化道路

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is the adherence to peaceful development. This course relies on the struggle, diligence and innovation of more than a billion people, rather than armed aggression, expansion or plunder. Over the past decade, China has contributed an average of 38.6 percent to world economic growth and has become a major trading partner to more than 140 countries and regions.

China has not only eliminated abject poverty completely within its own borders, but has also actively helped other developing countries to rise out of poverty. The Belt and Road Initiative has become a popular international cooperation platform for the collective public good.

China has in fact written 'peaceful development' into its Constitution, firmly in pursuit of a national defense policy that is purely defensive in nature, and one which actively upholds global and regional security.

Since 2008, China has deployed 44 flotillas totaling 139 warships to escort more than 7,000 Chinese and foreign ships through pirate infested waterways. Over the years, China has deployed more than 50,000 peacekeepers on UN missions worldwide. This constitutes the largest number of troops deployed among the permanent members of the UN Security Council. The PLA has conducted peacekeeping exchanges and cooperation with more than 90 countries and more than a dozen international and regional organizations. China has also trained thousands of police officers in police-contributing countries. Currently, there are more than 2,000 PLA members serving on seven separate UN Missions.

In the face of the present vacuum in global governance, China holds high the banner of multilateralism and strictly adheres to the concept of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits in order to achieve global governance. China attaches great importance to the legitimate security concerns of all countries and remains committed to; promoting global security governance, upholding justice and fairness, bridging differences and maintaining unity.

Throughout the world today, "security" remains a scarce commodity in many places. The Cold War mentality is resurgent, and regional conflicts keep cropping up. In direct response to the aspirations of the people of all countries to achieve peace, development and cooperation, President Xi Jinping has put forward the Global Security Initiative. This blueprint outlines a concept of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, and a new security path featuring dialogue rather than confrontation, partnership rather than alliance, and win-win rather than zero-sum. This initiative commits China's strength to addressing international security challenges.

Sincerity is the key to a lasting relationship. China calls upon all countries to; strengthen strategic communication, enhance mutual understanding and trust, and to shed suspicion. As for those disputes that can be resolved within a short period of time, all parties should communicate in good faith, meet each other halfway and resolve divisive issues as soon as possible. We should also conduct candid consultations on issues that cannot be resolved for the time being, manage differences, and gradually build a mutual trust. We should abide by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, complement and improve existing rules, and make the international order more just and equitable.

At the same time, rest assured that China will do its best to provide more public security goods to the international community.

The dreams of mankind are indelibly interwoven. People of all nationalities, are in simpatico with the Chinese people, in desiring a life of peace, tranquility and happiness. Let us join forces to replace bullying with mutual respect, transcend the law of the jungle with fairness and justice, eliminate confrontation and conflict through mutual trust and consultation, so as to jointly create a better world.

(Source: Embassy of China in Canada)

的一个鲜明特色就是坚持和平发展,靠的是十几 亿人民的奋斗、勤劳与创新,而不是通过侵略、 扩张、掠夺。过去10年,中国对世界经济增长平均 贡献率达38.6%,成为140多个国家和地区的主要贸 易伙伴; 中国不仅自身彻底消除了绝对贫困, 还 积极帮助广大发展中国家脱贫;共建"一带一路"成 为深受欢迎的国际公共产品和合作平台。中国将 "和平发展"写进宪法,坚定奉行防御性国防政策, 积极维护世界和地区安全。2008年至今,中国共派 出44批139艘次军舰,为1500余批、7000余艘中外船 舶护航。多年来,中国累计派出维和人员5万余人 次,在联合国安理会常任理事国中人数最多,与 90多个国家、十多个国际和地区组织开展维和交 流与合作,为维和出警国培训上千名维和警察, 有16名中国官兵在维和行动中牺牲。此时此刻,仍 有2000多人继续在7个任务区执行维和任务。面对 全球治理赤字,中国高举多边主义旗帜,坚持共 商、共建、共享的全球治理观。我们重视各国合 理安全关切,致力于推动全球安全治理,始终伸 张正义、主持公道、弥合分歧、维护团结。

放眼今天的世界,"安全"在许多地方仍然是 稀缺品,冷战思维卷土重来,地区冲突此起彼 伏, 世界很不太平。面对各国人民求和平、谋发 展、促合作的愿望, 习近平主席提出全球安全倡 议,倡导共同、综合、合作、可持续的安全观, 走出一条对话而不对抗,结伴而不结盟,共赢而 非零和的新型安全之路, 为应对国际安全挑战贡 献了中国的力量。以心相交,成其久远。中方呼 吁各国加强战略沟通,增进相互了解,不断增信 释疑, 对短期内可以解决的矛盾, 各方应真诚沟 通,相向而行,尽快解决;对暂时解决不了的矛 盾, 也要坦诚协商, 管控分歧, 逐步积累互信。 我们应遵照《联合国宪章》宗旨和原则,对现行 规则进行补充完善,推动国际秩序朝着更加公正 合理的方向发展。同时,中国也将在力所能及的 范围内, 为国际社会提供更多的公共安全产品。

人类的梦想是相通的,中国人民同各国人民一样,都在追求和平、安宁、幸福的生活。让我们携起手,用相互尊重取代霸凌霸道,用公平正义超越丛林法则,用互信协商消弭对抗冲突,用开放包容防范阵营对抗,共同创造一个更加美好的世界!

(来源:中国驻加拿大大使馆)

Mutual Respect, Peaceful Coexistence and Win-Win Cooperation

—The Right Way for China and the United States to Get Along in the New Era

相互尊重、和平共处、合作共赢探索新时期中美正确相处之道

Keynote Speech at the Welcome Event Hosted by the U.S.-China Business Council ——在美中贸委会欢迎活动上的主旨演讲

Xie Feng, Chinese Ambassador to the United States 中国驻美国大使 谢锋

June 7, 2023 2023年6月7日

President Allen, Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends,

Let me start by thanking the U.S.-China Business Council (US-CBC) for hosting this event. It is a great pleasure to join friends old and new to celebrate the 50th birthday of the Council.

Founded even before China and the United States established diplomatic relations, the USCBC has been a pioneer in bilateral economic cooperation and trade, an advocate of China-U.S. relations, and a contributor to as well as a beneficiary of win-win cooperation. Over the past five decades, the Council has been actively boosting China-U.S. exchanges and cooperation, and promoting trade and investment. It has driven and witnessed the historical process as our trade surged from US \$12.88 million to nearly US \$760 billion, and two-way investment from nearly zero to over US \$240 billion.

We will never forget your kind assistance when the Chinese people were hit by major disasters. And we will always cherish your vision, courage and commitment at times of serious difficulties. Let me take this opportunity to salute the Council, its member companies and all of you here for everything you have done for this relationship!

It is wonderful to be back in the United States after 13 years, my third posting here. A lot has changed, and we are finding ourselves in a world of turbulence, with serious challenges in China-U.S. relations. We are again at a crossroads. Which way should we take: to stabilize the relationship and find the right way to get along in the new era, or to let it spiral downward further into conflict and confrontation? This is a major choice we need to make.

尊敬的艾伦会长,

女士们, 先生们, 朋友们:

感谢美中贸委会为我举办欢迎活动,很高兴同各位新老朋友欢聚一堂,共同庆祝美中贸委会50岁 生日。

美中贸委会成立于中美建交之前,是两国经贸合作的先行者,是中美关系的促进者,是互利共赢的贡献者和受益者。50年来,委员会为促进交流合作发声,为推动贸易投资尽力,参与并见证了中美贸易额从1288万美元增长到近7600亿美元、双向投资从几乎为零攀升至逾2400亿美元的历史性跨越。我们不会忘记,大家在中国人民遭遇重大灾难时伸出的温暖援手,不会忘记在中美关系遭遇严重困难之际,大家展现的远见、勇气和坚守。我要向委员会及其成员企业和在座各位朋友表示敬意和感谢!

很高兴时隔13年第三次来美国工作。与前两次相比,时移世易,令人感慨。当前世界变乱交织,中美关系面临严峻挑战,是止跌企稳、找到正确相处之道,还是螺旋下滑、陷入冲突对抗的深渊,我们再次站在何去何从的十字路口。