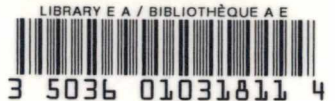


Statement in explanation of vote on Portuguese Territories
in the Fourth Committee, December 16, by Mrs. M. Konantz



Mr. Chairman:

In explanation of the vote which it will cast on the question of Portuguese territories the Canadian delegation wishes to reaffirm that the Canadian Government is deeply concerned about this situation. We strongly support the aspirations of the African people for self-determination in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the territories and when we say self-determination we mean self-determination in the sense that it has been accepted by the United Nations and expressed in Resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV).

We therefore support the spirit and objective of the Resolution on which we are about to vote. Unfortunately, it is difficult for us to accept certain paragraphs of this Resolution. For example, Operative paragraph 7 contemplates measures which in our view should be decided upon by the Security Council after determination that such measures are necessary.

As regards Operative paragraph 8 I wish to make it clear that Canada has not made any contributions of Canadian military assistance to Portugal since November 1960 and our contributions prior to that time were supplied on the understanding that they were for use only in NATO. With respect to the sale of arms and military equipment on a commercial basis it has been the policy of the Canadian Government since 1960 not to permit the export to Portugal or to territories under Portuguese administration of any arms or equipment which in our judgement would be used for military purposes in Portuguese overseas territories.