

the independence of the Transkei. We welcome this action as we welcome their further rejection of the whole concept of *apartheid*. In the face of such complete opposition, we believe that the South African Government will have no other choice but to recognize that its policy of "separate development" is bankrupt.

The Canadian Government has urged the minority in South Africa and their Government to accept the fact that fundamental change in South Africa is inevitable and that the time period in which such change can be brought about by peaceful means is very restricted. The events of the past year demonstrate visibly that the time remaining for effective peaceful change is growing shorter day by day. We believe that our individual and collective efforts must be intensified and harmonized; we believe that no opportunity should be missed to expose the Government of South Africa and its electorate to unanimous and relentless international pressures which demand action and change. Change is bound to come. South Africans of all races must face up to that fact and develop a new relationship. If conditions of chronic turbulence which risk deterioration into civil war, with its attendant toll of human tragedy are to be avoided, change must take place, not ten years hence, not five years hence, but now.

Question of Namibia

Canada intervened in the Fourth Committee debate on the question of Namibia to express its deep regret at the lack of progress towards bringing to an end the illegal South African presence in this territory, a feeling that was shared by the 78 speakers who took part. The Canadian statement was delivered on November 24, 1976 by Ambassador Jacques Gignac, Canadian representative in the Fourth Committee:

It is with deep regret that the Canadian delegation has noted that the situation in Namibia has evolved little in substantive terms since our last debate on this question. It has been ten years since the General Assembly terminated the South African mandate over Namibia; it has been five years since the International Court of Justice, in its important advisory opinion, concluded that the continued presence of South Africa in Namibia was illegal and that the South African Government was indeed obligated to withdraw its administration from Namibia immediately, thus putting to an end its occupation of the territory. That opinion also affirmed the obligation of all member states of the United Nations to recognize the illegality of the South African presence in Namibia and to refrain from any acts implying recognition of the legality of, or lending support to, the administration of that territory by the Republic of South Africa.

Thirteen resolutions of the United Nations Security Council adopted between 1960 and the present time have required South Africa to put an end to the extension to Namibia of the odious institutionalized practices of racial discrimination of *apartheid*, and to cease carving up that international territory into so-called homelands or Bantustans. Those resolutions have demanded that South Africa comply with the provisions of the International Declaration of Human Rights; that it abolish politically repressive laws and practices; that it release political prisoners; and that it facilitate the return to their country of Namibians in exile without risk of arrest, detention, intimidation or imprisonment. The Security Council has deplored the militarization of Namibia and its use as a base for attacks on neighbouring countries. Most importantly, it has enjoined South Africa to withdraw its illegal administration from Namibia. In its most recent resolution on the subject, No. 385, adopted unanimously on January 30, 1976, the Security Council declared itself in support of a reasonable and pragmatic means of enabling the people of Namibia to determine their own future, and, we would comment, to facilitate the early transition to independence — namely, free elections in Namibia under United Nations supervision and control.

Canada entirely supported the termination of South Africa's mandate over Namibia and we continue to insist, as we did then, that the population of Namibia must be accorded at the earliest possible time the right of self-determination and independence, recognizing the territorial integrity and unity of Namibia as a nation. Following the issuance of the International Court of Justice's opinion, the Canadian Government advised the Government of South Africa that Canada did not recognize any authority of the Republic of South Africa over Namibia. My Government has taken a number of measures to ensure that no recognition is given by it to the illegal administration of Namibia. Canada maintains no diplomatic, consular or commercial representation in Namibia. Canadian companies which propose to invest there, and Canadian citizens who plan to travel there, are informed that they do so at their own risk. Canadians who are travelling on official business and, therefore, on diplomatic or official passports, are prohibited from travelling to Namibia. It is well known, in addition, that the Canadian Government has effectively prohibited the sale of arms to South Africa — thus doing what it can to avoid assisting that country in maintaining its military hold on Namibia.

Canada views with deepening concern the course of developments in Namibia. This concern derives from the continuing lack of success in bringing about a rapid and peaceful solution of the present illegal situation. We support