

# News Release

# Communiqué

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NOW WELCOMES CLEMENCY FOR SHARPEVILLE SIX

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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, welcomed today's announcement that South African President P.W. Botha had granted clemency to the "Sharpeville Six". Mr. Clark noted that he, the Prime Minister, leaders of many other countries, the Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers on Southern Africa, and community leaders in South Africa had made numerous appeals for clemency on their behalf. He commended the unstinting efforts of the defence lawyers.

Mr. Clark observed that had the executions been carried out further unrest could have been expected but hoped this commutation would help enhance the prospects for reconciliation. He urged that clemency be exercised in other similar cases.

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Secretary of State  
for  
External Affairs

Secrétaire d'État  
aux  
Affaires extérieures

Canada