

"The situation which has arisen in Rhodesia is particularly serious because of its potentially divisive effect on the Commonwealth, and on race relations which are so important to cooperation and development in Africa. We are engaged in continuing and close consultations with African and other Commonwealth Governments about the consequences of this most regrettable Rhodesian action.

"The action of Mr. Smith's Government is in defiance of unanimous Commonwealth opinion expressed at the meetings of Commonwealth Heads of Government in 1964 and 1965. The United Nations General Assembly has also expressed clearly its opposition to such a unilateral declaration of independence. Canadian measures I have described which reflect our disapproval of the Rhodesian decision are therefore also in accord with Commonwealth and world opinion."