

PRESS RELEASE



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AID TO ZAMBIA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that Canada has decided to make available an additional \$500,000 in grant aid for Zambia.

It is hoped that these development funds will contribute to easing the economic problems faced by Zambia as a result of events which followed the unilateral declaration of independence last year in neighboring Rhodesia.

Canadian officials are now in Lusaka, discussing with Zambian authorities the most effective manner in which the Canadian funds may be used. Already underway is a program of recruitment for 12 Canadian air control officers and technicians who will work at Lusaka airport.

Since 1962-63, when the Canadian Government first extended aid to Zambia, a total of \$127,000 worth of technical assistance has been given, represented by the training of 23 students in Canada and the services of four teachers and two advisers in Zambia. During the current fiscal year, plans have been made to provide technical assistance costing approximately \$300,000. In addition to these sums, Canada made a \$300,000 contribution to the joint Canadian-British feasibility study of a possible rail link between Zambia, which is landlocked and a port in Tanzania. A further form of Canadian assistance to Zambia was the participation of RCAF aircraft in the oil airlift from December 1965 to April 1966, at a total cost of \$1,250,000.

Mr. Martin said this assistance should help Zambia with the economic problems resulting from actions of the Smith regime in Rhodesia.