

Botswana. Pressed by his hosts to accept the need for violent action against South Africa Mr. Mulroney reaffirmed the need for a peaceful, negotiated resolution of racial conflict but said that he nonetheless recognised the validity of the reasons which led his hosts to support violence. While in Africa he undertook to impose further sanctions on South Africa, to try to persuade President Reagan, Prime Minister Thatcher and other Western leaders to take drastic economic measures against South Africa, and to meet the president of the African National Congress, Oliver Tambo.

A month later, while on a visit to Asia, Joe Clark, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, said that the Government might break off diplomatic relations with South Africa if the latter persisted in the policy of apartheid.³ Mr. Clark did not discount that further sanctions would be imposed on South Africa in October, when the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting took place in Vancouver.

On 28 February 1987, in a speech to the Canadian Council for International Co-operation in Montreal, Mr. Clark expressed satisfaction that world opinion was hardening on apartheid. Referring to sanctions he said:

If there has been some movement recently it is partly because sanctions have been introduced. The question now becomes what further sanctions will be effective, at what pace in the company of what other measures.

A little later he added:

As has been noted, the world's purpose is to bring South Africa to its senses, not to its knees. We are seeking to change an evil social system, not cripple a strong economy. Canada would welcome more trade with a South Africa free of apartheid.⁴

³ Citizen, 5 Feb. 1987

⁴ DEA, Statement 87/11, 28 Feb. 1987.