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Ottawa, Canada

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Canada urges reconsideration of course of action in Namibia

In an address to the twenty-third regular session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on September 26, Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, Donald C. Jamieson, spoke of issues that have been of concern for several years: the Middle East; southern Africa; human rights; the new international economic order; and peace-keeping.

Referring to Namibia, the minister urged "those who wish to stand in the way" of bringing peaceful independence there, to reconsider their decision, and, he warned: "The road you are taking can only lead to a dead end.... Instead of enjoying the benefits of free and close association with the rest of the world, you will only beget more bloodshed and bring about in the long run the destruction of what you hold dear."

The following passages are from notes prepared for Mr. Jamieson's address:

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Namibia

It was...with shock and dismay that we heard last week of the South African Government's decision to proceed unilaterally with elections in the territory [Namibia].

Neither of the reasons invoked by the South African Government is valid.... I wish to declare most categorically that the Secretary-General's report is fully in line with the original Western proposal. That report is a professional assessment of the human and financial means required to perform the tasks which our proposal calls for.

* * * *

We must urge those who wish to stand in the way of such a noble enterprise to reconsider their decision. The South African Government must realize that its defiance of the will of the international community, particularly when that Government has been so closely involved in a long negotiating process, cannot be tolerated. The new Government of South Africa, which we understand will be formed by the end of this month, would be seriously mistaken if it assumed that its actions in respect of Namibia will have no serious consequences. To those leaders inside Namibia who are being led to believe that they can solve their problems through some sham electoral procedure, I can only say: think of the future of your



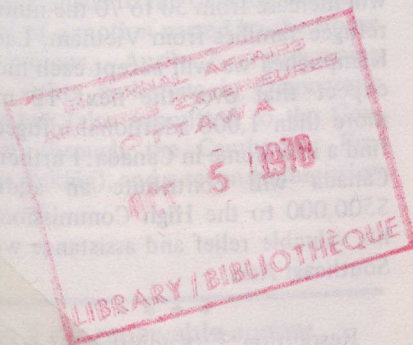
Donald C. Jamieson

country. The road you are taking can only lead to a dead end. Make no mistake: a so-called government chosen through the so-called elections currently envisaged by the Administrator General will never be recognized internationally. Instead of enjoying the benefits of free and close association with the rest of the world, you will only beget more bloodshed and bring about in the long run the destruction of what you hold dear. It is not too late and I sincerely hope that all concerned will reconsider their course of action.

South Africa

The danger signals are clear. In November 1977, the Security Council imposed a

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One hundred years ago Saturday...

The Marquis of Lorne, husband of Princess Louise, was named Governor General of Canada. He founded the Royal Society of Canada in 1882 and was instrumental in the creation of the Royal Canadian Academy of Art.