

order . . . police custody." Custody without charges, he added, could not exceed three months and all arrested persons had a right to legal counsel. However, this statement was contradicted by Mr. D.K. Maitra, director of the Indian external affairs ministry's information department in New Delhi. "I am afraid that our diplomats have confused normal legal practices with this special act . . . . It is true, normally, that people must be brought into court within twenty-four hours, but that's obviously not the case for terrorists." The special legislation overrode the three-month limit on detainment without charges, he added, and in fact suspected terrorists could be detained for up to two years with the approval of special courts that met in closed session and could accept evidence from anonymous witnesses. A Canadian diplomat in New Delhi said, "If we can't even get in to see [Daljit Singh] with all the diplomatic notes and the Vienna Convention behind us, you can assume that no lawyer can get to him, either."

While the Canadian mission waited for the Indian authorities to cooperate, Canadian High Commissioner James Harris launched a campaign of daily telephone calls to the external affairs ministry in New Delhi, to no avail. Another Canadian at the mission said, "The Indians act as if we are trying to set this guy free. We argue that our only interest is to ensure that he gets legal counsel and a fair trial. But they seem to believe we are trying to prove his innocence" (*Globe and Mail*, September 25).

Finally, at the end of September, Canadian officials announced that they had been allowed to visit the man, now identified as Daljit Singh Sekhon, in jail. He said that he had not requested legal counsel or asked to see a representative of the Canadian mission. He said that he was well and could have visitors. Indian police said he had made a full confession to gun-running from Pakistan, but they admitted that the confession had followed five days of interrogation by a special police anti-terrorist squad. A spokesman for External Affairs said that it was not clear what would happen to Mr. Sekhon under Indian law (*Ottawa Citizen*, October 1).

## **Clark Visit to Africa**

### **Itinerary**

In early August External Affairs Minister Joe Clark announced that he would spend five days from August 10 to 15 visiting four African countries. In Ivory Coast, he would convey the views of the Canadian government on the approaching Francophone Summit (See Multilateral Relations — *La francophonie*, below), as well as the economic situation in Africa, the question of commodity prices, and developments in southern Africa (External Affairs communiqué, August 5).

Mr. Clark would go next to Zambia to hold discussions with President Kenneth Kaunda, particularly on the ways in which the Commonwealth could maintain its leading role in contributing to the dismantling of apartheid and bringing about non-racial representative government in South Africa. Mr. Kaunda had recently been elected as chairman of the Organization of African Unity. The two were also to meet with leaders of the African National Congress in Lusaka (External Affairs communiqué, August 5).

President Joaquim Chissano would host Mr. Clark's visit to Mozambique, where the two men would discuss the economic and political situation in that country. They would review the assistance that Canada was making available both to help relieve famine and to contribute to Mozambique's long-term economic development. Mr. Clark would invite the minister of government of Mozambique to attend the Commonwealth conference in Vancouver because of the importance of Mozambique in any discussion by heads of governments about the situation in southern Africa (External Affairs communiqué, August 5).

During his visit to South Africa, Mr. Clark would meet with the minister of foreign affairs, R.F. Botha, in order to convey in person to the South African government Canada's position on apartheid. Mr. Clark stated before he left for Africa his intention on behalf of the Canadian government to continue to exert pressure on the South African government to dismantle its policy of apartheid and achieve an early, peaceful and negotiated solution to the South African crisis. Since it was more than a year since South Africa's rejection of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group invitation to dialogue, Mr. Clark hoped to hear from Mr. Botha about South Africa's intentions to initiate fundamental change and to talk with leaders who had widespread support among the South African black majority (External Affairs communiqué, August 5).

### **Pre-Visit Controversy**

The South African embassy in Ottawa responded immediately to Mr. Clark's announcement that he would visit South Africa. A statement issued on behalf of R.F. Botha said that Mr. Clark would not be welcome in South Africa "if he wishes to use his visit to buttress preconceived ideas . . . . Mr. Clark must learn that he cannot prescribe to us . . . . It is for him to decide if he still wishes to visit South Africa . . . . He is welcome to come and discuss matters with us. He is not welcome if he wishes to stage a circus." Mr. Clark responded by saying, "Mr. Botha knows our position on South Africa and dialogue. They have been expressed both publicly and to him by our ambassador. I continue to believe there would be value in a meeting between us. If I am not welcome that is a decision for him to make" (*Globe and Mail*, August 6). The External Affairs Minister also remarked, "I am not Ringling Brothers. I am the minister of external affairs of a country that has taken a leadership role against apartheid." Mr. Clark had also written to request permission to see imprisoned ANC leader Nelson Mandela, who was marking twenty-five years in a South African prison at the beginning of August, and said that he had not received a reply. The Pretoria government was under the impression that the request had been refused, the *Ottawa Citizen* reported on August 7.

Meanwhile, Mr. Clark's spokesman said that no changes had been made in the Minister's plans. Mr. Botha, however, lashed out at Canada again in a letter to Mr. Clark in which he said that he found Canada's involvement in anti-South African campaigns "offensive." A spokesman for the government in Cape Town said the letter also claimed that "a majority of Commonwealth members were ill-informed or not informed at all of the realities in South and southern Africa." On August 8 the pro-government Johan-