

This pattern, if it were successfully worked out in a limited area such as the Demilitarized Zone, might well, I am convinced, be applied elsewhere.

We also believe that bilateral contacts are important. For this reason we have twice sent a special representative to Hanoi in an effort to probe the position of the Government of North Vietnam and to assess the possibilities of moving forward towards at least a beginning of the process of negotiation which we see as inevitable....

CHINESE OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The speaker turned next to the problems posed in Vietnam and elsewhere in the Far East by the attitude of Communist China:

...The Chinese have consistently taken a very rigid position on the prerequisites for a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam dispute. We have witnessed disturbing developments inside China in recent months which are a cause of concern to all those who must base their policy decisions on estimates of future Chinese action.

Nevertheless, it has been, and will continue to be, Canadian policy to take what action we can to persuade the Chinese leaders to assume their place and their responsibilities in the international community. There is ample evidence of this policy in our statements at international gatherings and in specific areas of contact such as trade.

We should hope to continue this process by encouraging closer contacts and understanding in many fields in which the Canadian and the Chinese people have or could have common interests.

In the broader context of the world community, we must pin our hopes on the United Nations. I realize that one of the factors which limits the capacity of the United Nations to play a useful role in the Vietnam conflict is that not all of the parties concerned have a voice in the United Nations or consider themselves bound by the terms of the Charter....

...There is a growing feeling in Canada that, if the United Nations is to realize its potential capacities, all nations, and especially those like continental China which represent a significant portion of the world's population, must be represented in the world organization....

It is also our firm conviction that progress towards effective measures of arms control requires the participation of all the principal world powers, including Communist China, in the discussion of these questions.

RHODESIA AND THE COMMONWEALTH

The relations of the rebel government in Rhodesia and the rest of the Commonwealth were discussed by Mr. Martin as follows:

...Although Britain has the constitutional responsibility for Rhodesia, it is a problem of strong Commonwealth concern since the illegal régime affronts the basic premise of our Commonwealth, an association based on equality and free from discrimination. Our common objective is to see an end to this situation which perpetuates racial discrimination and minority rule.

The policy of the Canadian Government shares the Commonwealth task and outlook. Canada has put a full trade embargo on Rhodesia in conformity with Commonwealth concern and United Nations recommendations. We share the objective of an early return to constitutional rule and independence on the basis of majority rule.

I should hope that the recent meeting of Commonwealth heads of government in London made a contribution toward the attainment of the common objectives. It reaffirmed our determination to pursue them and achieved a considerable measure of agreement on the means to that end....

Commonwealth governments agreed on "the need for stronger and mandatory economic sanctions under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter". Most heads of government favoured general mandatory sanctions, while others favoured sanctions on selected individual commodities important to the Rhodesian economy.

Canada was one of the latter countries. Along with all the other members, we noted the British willingness to co-sponsor a Security Council resolution providing for "effective and selective" mandatory sanctions before the end of the year if by then the illegal régime has not accepted a return to constitutional rule under the executive authority of the Governor. This British intention is also conditional on full Commonwealth support being given in the United Nations.

The communiqué of the London Conference...noted that, in these circumstances, there will be another very important consequence. The British Government would then withdraw all previous proposals for constitutional settlement and would not thereafter be prepared to submit to the British Parliament "any settlement which involved independence before majority rule"....

USE OF FORCE

There was disagreement at the London meeting with respect to the possible use of force. On this subject, I would only repeat here what I said last week in the General Assembly. Canada is well aware that there are many who feel that the best answer to the problem of achieving an end to the illegal régime is armed force. The Canadian Government has deep misgivings about such an answer. I have spoken of the manifold dangers in the present world situation. They suggest that force should be contemplated only in very special situations.

We do not, of course, condemn the use of force as such because there may be situations when force is necessary. But each situation is different, each must be treated on its merits. Would use of force achieve results that we desire? Might it not hurt those it was designed to help? These are the kinds of questions we must ask ourselves.

We believe firmly that the need at present is to concentrate on seeing that measures now in operation are applied with maximum effectiveness and that they are strengthened and supplemented in areas where this is practical....