

of a useful role for the Commonwealth, Canada will look at it realistically; but so far we have made no commitments on either of those scores.

I notice that, as I talk about these subjects, I tend to get into, perhaps, more detail than is necessary and therefore cut down on the amount of time that I want to spend on other subjects of equal, and perhaps greater, importance. So I shall simply say, in terms of the Southern African situation, that we are equally concerned about what is happening in Namibia. It is clear that it is an illegal régime -- a variety of international bodies have reached that conclusion -- and that South Africa is going to have to accept that decision and be governed accordingly.

Similarly, we do not, in Canada (nor to the best of my knowledge does any -- certainly any developed -- country) recognize the Transkei and that device and technique now being employed by South Africa as an appropriate, or suitable, or effective answer to *apartheid*. And so, therefore, it is not our intention, nor do I expect that it will be, that we shall give recognition to the Transkei as a full-fledged member of the United Nations.

But, as I started to say when I talked about the items that are going to come before the Security Council, you can see, just from some of the things that I have said, that the Southern African situation is going to be one of great intricacy and is going to call for a great deal of skill and, in some respects perhaps, a great deal of courage, on the part of the members of the Security Council, including Canada.

The second area, of course, where we are deeply concerned, for historical and many other reasons, is the Middle East. I do not think it any secret that matters in the Middle East, except for the tragedy of Lebanon, have been somewhat quiet in recent months for the very simple reason that all of the parties concerned realized that, until there was a resolution of the domestic election in the United States, it was highly unlikely that there would be strong initiatives from that quarter. Now the United States elections have been held. Fortunately, the situation in Lebanon is stabilized -- for how long, of course, we do not know, but it is stabilized and there is some ground for confidence. Therefore it is my view that negotiations with regard to a permanent settlement in the Middle East should begin at the earliest possible moment, that the situation that exists at present is one that (though, as I said, it is quiet now) could erupt once again into a very serious danger, not only to the peace of the area but to the peace of the world.

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