

South Africa and to decide what further action, if any, should be taken by the Commonwealth.²⁰

In late November the Government named Archbishop Edward Scott of the Anglican Church of Canada as Canada's representative on the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group. The Group held its first meeting in London on 12-13 December, and began meeting with leaders in Southern Africa in January 1986.

On 30 January 1986 Mr. Clark released a statement which

expressed deep concern about recent developments affecting Lesotho and Botswana. These two Commonwealth partners, which have given shelter to refugees from South Africa, have in the past few weeks been subject to military action, border restrictions, and continuing threats by South Africa.

Canada joins in the international condemnation of these acts of intimidation...South Africa cannot hope to sustain apartheid by actions outside its borders.²¹

Responding to reforms announced by President Botha in the first week of February 1986, Mr. Clark stated in the House on 4 February that "the recent speech by the President of South Africa touched upon some of the points raised in the Nassau Accord..." but it "has a long way to go before it meets other fundamental elements of the Nassau Accord."²²

Secretary of State Clark "strongly condemned" South Africa's 19 May 1986 attacks on alleged ANC targets in Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe. He "called upon the South African Government to refrain from further acts of aggression against its neighbours" and "expressed deep regret that the South African Government had chosen to take violent action at the very time that the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons was in the region to promote

¹⁹ DEA, Statements and Speeches, No.85/14, 23 October 1985.

²⁰ Office of the Prime Minister, "Notes for a Statement to the House of Commons by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney", 28 October 1985.

²¹ DEA, Communique, 86/19, 30 January 1986.

²² Commons Debates, 4 February 1986, p.10433.