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SOUTH WEST AFRICA

Text of Statement to be made on the question of South West Africa by the Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs and Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the 21st Session of the General Assembly, the Hon. Paul Martin, Q.C., in the Plenary Session on Friday, October 7, 1966.

The complex problem now before the United Nations General Assembly has been for several years the subject of many discussions, reports and resolutions and of advisory opinions and judgements of the International Court. Let us admit candidly, very little progress has been made towards a solution. Nevertheless, my delegation believes that we should redouble our efforts to achieve a settlement of this issue that would be in the best interests of South West Africans themselves.

For more than a week we have listened carefully to many views expressed in this debate. These views have varied in content and emphasis, but almost all have made a constructive contribution to a greater understanding of the issues involved in this extremely difficult problem. On September 26 a draft resolution was introduced (AL/483) in the name of forty-nine countries and it is to this document that I wish to direct most of my remarks.