

establish a strong presence outside the zones held in 1974, ethnic resistance, dissatisfaction among foreign minorities (as indicated by the steady decline in the number of Europeans and Indians), a breakdown of the modern economy, upheavals in administrative, educational and health-care structures, lack of good administrative personnel, the possibility of a military takeover, increased problems at the border with a white stronghold whose reactions are unpredictable, and possibly brutal. Added to this are: (1) the constraints of an inhospitable geopolitical structure that has made the country a mere assemblage of ill-related segments, and (2) the shadow of South Africa lengthening over a land the departure of

Portuguese personnel has left practically without any administrative infrastructure.

Whatever the short- and medium-term prospects may be, Portuguese Africa cannot hope to carry much weight south of the Sahara until Angola, which in two years has lost the benefits of a remarkable period of economic development, is able to regain its former stability. It will probably do so within a few years and, since it has much more in the way of resources and personnel than its four companion countries, Angola may be called upon to act in some leading capacity among this group ravaged by the process of decolonization, which, all things considered, has been a failure, with the poorest elements once again becoming the victims.

Recovery of stability in Angola within few years

A new kind of dialogue between Canada and Cuba

By Roger Mégélas

The friendship between the Canadian and Cuban peoples did not begin with Prime Minister Trudeau's visit to Havana last February. In fact, Canada is, apart from Mexico, the only state in the Western hemisphere to have maintained diplomatic relations with Cuba since 1959.

In his book *Vers un accord américano-cubain*, the late Léon Mayrand expressed a wish to see Canada "act on merit alone, whether or not it displeases North America's major republic". The former ambassador was referring to Canada's participation in the Organization of American States, which he saw as a possible catalyst for a Cuban-American thaw. The Prime Minister's visit to Cuba shows that Canada is going even beyond the wish expressed by Mr. Mayrand. While Mr. Trudeau made it known clearly that Canada did not intend to play the role of mediator between the United States and Cuba, the fact remains that, in the long term, his visit could well lead to this objective. In the short term, this theory is not admissible, especially when one considers that the intervention of Cuban forces in Africa and the perspective of the 1976 Presidential elections in the United States make any *rapprochement* between the two countries unlikely, to say the least.

Relations between Canada and Cuba seem to be increasingly oriented towards a new kind of dialogue, in which mutual benefit is of primary importance.

Three hypotheses can be proposed to explain Canada's behaviour towards the largest island in the West Indies. The first hypothesis, certainly, involves Canada's desire to display more independence from its huge neighbour immediately to the south. Friendship with Cuba, in addition to aiding Canadian nationalism, enables Canada to clarify its positions on problems affecting relations with the United States. This can create a difficult situation that, in the midst of the American Presidential campaign, has not failed to provoke severe criticism from Washington of Canada's foreign policy. In an interview with the weekly *U.S. News and World Report*, Secretary of State Henry Kissinger declared that the United States

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