

### Political Developments - Africa

The violent struggles which preceded and accompanied in some cases the end of colonialism; the subsequent problems of instability and adjustment; dramatic problems such as those arising in the Congo - these have all focused attention on political developments in Africa. I should say, however, that I have been just as much aware of the achievements of newly-independent African nations. These include the creation, out of rival groupings, of a single Organization of African Unity spanning the entire continent. These countries have made Africa's voice strongly felt at the United Nations and in other international organizations.

Some people maintain, because of continuing problems of colonialism and racial relations, that the interests of the black and white races are essentially opposed. I do not agree. Black and white have a basic community of interest in economic development and in the goal of racial equality and co-operation. This community of interest is reflected in a remarkable way in daily personal relations between black Africans and the white people living among them. To my mind this is the overriding reality in relations between Western countries and the countries of black Africa, not political difference and memories of past struggles.

To relate these general considerations to specific problems in Africa, I should point out that the Canadian Government is in general agreement with the leaders of black Africa that the objective throughout Africa as elsewhere should be majority rule. This shared view has enabled us to adopt a common approach with African leaders on many issues at the United Nations and also at meetings of Commonwealth prime ministers. We do not, however, agree in all respects with African countries.

Our disagreement with the Africans about problems in the southern part of the continent is not on objectives but on methods and timing. We do not agree that military force and coercion should be used to bring about the necessary changes in that area. Nor do we believe that all the problems in the southern part of Africa should necessarily receive similar treatment.

### Rhodesian Problem

We believe the problems in this area should be kept apart as far as possible because there are significant points of difference between them. We also believe that the problem of Rhodesia should be kept as isolated as possible for tactical reasons. That is one reason why we do not believe that, in present circumstances, United Nations mandatory sanctions should be applied to the illegal régime in Rhodesia. Such a step would seem likely to drive Rhodesia, Portugal and South Africa closer together and, therefore, to delay rather than speed up a satisfactory solution of the Rhodesian problem.

This is an important problem for Canada as a member of the Commonwealth. I do not need to outline in detail to this audience Canadian policy and its basis. They are well known to you.