

efforts to resolve the longstanding Rhodesia issue. As for South Africa, the Government continues to keep its policies under review, in particular those affecting commercial relations. We are especially hopeful that Canada's opposition to apartheid and its support for racial equality can be underlined in practical terms through growing realization of the objectives of the Code of Conduct issued last April on employment practices for Canadian companies operating in South Africa.

(c) The Middle East

Canada strongly supports all positive efforts towards reconciliation and lasting peace in the Middle East. We have welcomed the Camp David Accords and the negotiating process resulting from them, and we have encouraged Israel's Arab neighbours to join this process. We have cautioned against disillusionment because an Israeli-Egyptian treaty was not signed within three months. After so many years of hostility it is not surprising that the resolution of differences should prove difficult. As President Carter visits the Middle East in the pursuit of peace, I applaud his statesmanship and that of the leaders of Egypt and Israel.

Recent events in Iran have had a serious destabilizing effect on the region. Canada's concern has been to protect its citizens and to seek to develop effective working relations with the new government which Canada recognized on February 16.

(d) Peacekeeping and Peacemaking

Against the background of the frequently recurring resort to force in the world, we continue to promote the achievement of peaceful solutions through the United Nations. Canada remains the major troop contributor to on-going peacekeeping operations. The situation in each of the peacekeeping operational areas was relatively quiet in 1978, with the spasmodic exception of Lebanon in which Canadian forces were for a time engaged. Canada's experience on the Security Council in 1977 and 1978 convinced us that the Security Council and the General Assembly need to become more actively involved in promoting solutions and solving the political problems underlying various conflicts. Our membership in the Group of Five dealing with Namibia and the joint Canada-USA-UK initiative of late 1978 designed to facilitate the resumption of intercommunal negotiations in Cyprus are imaginative examples of how Canada is attempting to encourage the UN to move in this direction. In Cyprus,