

CANADIAN POSITION

Canada has consistently called for a halt to hostilities between the GOS and the SPLA. A just, negotiated political solution is the only way to ensure lasting peace. Canada supports the IGADD (and earlier Nigerian) efforts to broker an agreement among all sides, and recognizes the need to surmount obstacles to short-term success. Canada vigorously supports OLS which provides safe passage for relief workers operating in the South. Though its operations are hampered both by SPLA in-fighting and aerial bombardment by GOS forces, OLS remains one of the UN's most successful relief ventures.

Canada has suspended bilateral development aid to Sudan and encourages other countries to suspend both development aid and arms sales to any side in the conflict. Trade is minimal, with food, medicine and agricultural equipment making up more than one half of 1993 Canadian exports to Sudan. We continue to deny permits for sale to Sudan of parts for Canadian-built Buffalo transport aircraft, to prohibit sale of munitions or military equipment to the government or the insurgents, and to vote against IMF development projects for this unstable country.

GOS intransigence and self-justification through resort to Islamic principles (as opposed to Western "human rights") remain major obstacles to our pressure on the GOS to respect human rights. The Bíró Report on human rights abuses, which resulted from a UN resolution co-sponsored by Canada, must be used to exert maximum pressure on the GOS and the SPLA factions to observe internationally accepted human rights.

The Canadian Government has repeatedly made its concerns about human rights known to Sudanese officials. Representations have been made in Khartoum, Addis Ababa and to the Sudanese chargé d'affaires in Ottawa.

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