

Incidentally, there is always room for discussion in responsible groups such as this as to Canadian policy with regard to commercial transactions of a non-sensitive nature with countries with whom we have profound differences on matters of ideology. Up to now, we have taken the position that trade in commercial goods of a non-sensitive nature with South Africa ought to be carried on by private interests if they so wish, and that it is no part of the government's responsibility to put any inhibitions in the way of that type of trade. The same, of course, could very well be said for many other countries where, once again, we are strongly divided between ourselves and those countries on ideological questions. And so, therefore, our position has been that, in the broad terms of commercial activity, it would be virtually impossible for us to set down guidelines or restrictions in terms of how private interests in Canada will be dealing with countries with whom we have these kinds of objections, and South Africa, of course, stands out as the best example of that.

Similarly, in terms of South Africa, we have at the moment a most pressing question in front of us with regard to the whole question of sports activities between teams or participants from Canada and segregated teams from South Africa, whether in that country or with South African teams coming to Canada. Once again, we have taken the position that individual citizens of our country should not be inhibited, or prohibited, in terms of what they wish to do as individuals, but that as the Government of Canada we are discouraging those kinds of exchanges and have determined that we will not provide any form of financial assistance as long as the apartheid policies are maintained. This, of course, has led us and many other countries of the Commonwealth into a somewhat difficult position, as of this moment, with regard to the holding of the Commonwealth Games in Edmonton in 1978.

We have made many efforts already, and I believe with some success, to ensure, and to try at least to have this matter resolved amicably and to ensure, I repeat, that there is the widest possible participation by Commonwealth countries, both black and white, in the Games; and I will be holding further talks in that connection during this trip on which I'm about to embark.

In the broader sense, of course, Southern Africa, as opposed to South Africa, is really more in the news these days because of the Rhodesian situation. And while none of us can, at this time, forecast what will emerge, as I said a moment ago, from the Rhodesian talks in Geneva, there is one thing of which we can be sure, and that is that majority rule will come to Rhodesia and will come sooner than later. And the question, it seems to me, that faces all of those who are either directly involved in the talks or who are in a peripheral role at the moment -- such as Canada -- is whether that transition, which of course we support -- namely, majority rule -- whether that transition to majority rule is going to be brought about in an orderly and peaceful way, or whether it is going to be accompanied by the kind of violence which all too frequently over the post-war years has accompanied