

imposing any measure for unification, and even from suggesting any specific formula. The 1960 United Nations Visiting Mission also shared the Belgian view that the problem of relations between the two states should be settled by the representatives of Ruanda and Burundi without outside pressure.

This is the background. At present we have a situation where there are two duly elected governments both of which maintain that they wish to live separately. These governments now possess a very wide measure of self-government. We cannot ignore their wishes. Moreover the United Nations itself, as Commissioner Gassou has reminded us, bears a certain responsibility for this state of affairs. The General Assembly approved the holding of separate elections and the creation of separate assemblies and governments in the two parts of the Trust Territory. Although we endorsed the conception of a united Ruanda-Urundi we did little to foster a sense of unity.

It therefore seems to my Delegation that we cannot impose unity on these two states against their will. What we can do, however, even at this late stage, is to point out to the two governments the advantages of closer association in the political as well as the economic field. In the Canadian view the United Nations Commission for Ruanda-Urundi, which has the full confidence of the local governments and the Administering Authority, might well be asked to return to the territory, perhaps with additional members, where it would be available to advise on the various constitutional issues which may arise.

I sense that the representatives of the governments of Ruanda and Burundi distrust the idea of federal union because they are afraid it would diminish their recently acquired powers and suppress the free development of their respective communities. I assure them that this is not the intention of the Assembly.