

Resolution on Iran supported

Secretary of State for External Affairs Flora MacDonald travelled to New York where she addressed the United Nations Security Council meeting on Iran, December 30. In her speech, she said that Canadians were "outraged by the violation of international law" that has occurred in Iran. Excerpts from her statement follow:

Rarely is a turning point in world history so clear to the people in whose hands a decision lies. To ignore this stark need for communal corrective action would be to threaten the fabric of the international community, and to risk a dark age of diplomatic anarchy.

But, Mr. President, what the Security Council faces today is more than just a decision on a matter of humanitarian rights or of international law. Members should all be conscious that their decision may substantially affect the relevance, the very usefulness, of the United Nations as an instrument for the maintenance of world order.

The Security Council has already called upon Iran to release the hostages it holds in Tehran, and has asked both Iran and the United States to take steps to resolve the remaining differences between them. The International Court of Justice, in a unanimous decision, has also called for such release. Clearly, those actions have not sufficed to convince Iran to live up to its international obligations.

The resolution you have before you allows for a final, intensified effort at persuasion by the Secretary-General further to those he has already made. We pray it will be successful. But should he fail, should Iran not respond, you are asked to agree to take further measures: to implement sanctions under the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. These provisions were designed from the outset to be used in situations such as this one, where a country is in flagrant violation of the obligations it has undertaken as a member of the international community.

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By supporting the resolution, members of the Council will be sending a direct message to the Government of Iran that its current behaviour is totally unacceptable to the [rest of the] world. But it should be clear that, once Iran has again made its behaviour conform with international law, it will be able to turn to the international community for a full and

fair hearing of its complaints.

On behalf of the people of Canada, I urge the members of the Council to endorse this resolution. It is a powerful, positive and peaceful step that can help resolve this intolerable situation which threatens the peace, order and good governance of the whole world.

Sanctions lifted against Rhodesia

Canada will lift the economic sanctions which have been in force against Rhodesia over the past 14 years, Secretary of State for External Affairs Flora MacDonald announced December 18.

Miss MacDonald expressed her satisfaction at the announcement in London that the Lancaster House talks had reached a successful conclusion. All parties concerned have joined in the comprehensive plan proposed for a peaceful solution to this long-standing problem and the objectives of the Lusaka Declaration to which the Canadian Government has subscribed have been met. Upon the establishment of an effective cease-fire the threat to international peace and security, which led to the imposition of sanctions in 1965, will have been removed, said the Minister.

Miss MacDonald also expressed the hope that the international community would assist in the early implementation of the London accords.

Government rejects Soviet intervention in Afghanistan

Secretary of State for External Affairs Flora MacDonald said in a statement December 28, that the Canadian Government could not accept the reasons cited by the Soviet Union for its military intervention in Afghanistan.

The Canadian Government could not find any "evidence for the contention that Afghanistan has been the object of external aggression", said the Minister. "The situation in Afghanistan, in the view of the Canadian Government, is one of civil war based on the resistance of a substantial part of the Afghan population to the policies of a regime which seized power by means of a *coup d'état* in April 1978 and whose tenure of power has been marked by increasing internal dissent. The military intervention of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan is, therefore, an

intervention in a situation of civil conflict and not of external aggression."

"The Canadian Government," she said "accordingly rejects the view that the situation in Afghanistan is such as to justify action under...the United Nations Charter which, in any event, would require an immediate report to the Security Council."

"The Canadian Government deeply regrets the action taken by the Soviet Union which will have an adverse effect on stability in the immediate region, in other parts of the Asian continent, and on the climate of *détente* which depends on an atmosphere of mutual confidence and on the practice of restraint by all the states concerned in all parts of the world," said the Minister.

Oil and gas survey augurs well

A significant portion of revenues generated from oil and gas is being reinvested in the search for and the development of costly energy resources, according to a Federal Government study.

The results of the 1978 Canadian Petroleum Corporations' Monitoring Survey indicate that total funds available to the reporting companies were over \$8 billion in 1978, of which internal cash generation in the producing sector contributed \$4 billion, an increase of 20.2 per cent over the 1977 figure. This was attributed principally to increases in well-head prices. Capital expenditures in Canada by the companies participating in the study increased by 16.1 per cent to \$4.7 billion.

The survey included information on 31 corporations, which have previously voluntarily participated in the study, and other data covering all corporations that have reported since the enactment of the Petroleum Corporations' Monitoring Act in June 1978. Total industry coverage now represents 90 per cent of Canada's crude oil production.

Recent discoveries in the Beaufort Sea, the Arctic Islands, off the East Coast and in the conventional southern basin together with the preliminary approval of the Alsands and Cold Lake projects and the expansion of the Great Canadian Oil Sands are encouraging events in recent months, said Energy Minister Ray Hnatyshyn. The Minister was optimistic that this trend would continue throughout 1979 and into the 1980s.