

any one nation or continent, but is a widespread problem. The practice of apartheid in the Republic of South Africa, however, surely constitutes a unique record of discrimination and prejudice; for there, not only has the practice of racial discrimination been enshrined in the legislative and legal structure of state but the theory has been consecrated as a philosophy of government. The Government of South Africa, far from devoting itself to eliminating this unhappy practice, is rather the deliberate and determined agent for promoting and consolidating discrimination between the inhabitants of its territory on grounds of colour. As the Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Diefenbaker, has remarked, the apartheid policy of the South African Government has become the world's symbol of discrimination.

Canada deplores the suffering and frustration which the apartheid policy has imposed upon the non-white population of South Africa. Those who have sought to make a case for apartheid have referred to the physical benefits which it provides, or is intended to provide, for the non-white population - low cost housing, hospital and medical facilities, economic improvements, and educational facilities. Mr. Chairman, I have no wish to disregard or minimize the importance of any alleged benefits that may have accrued to the non-white population of South Africa. Good as they may be in themselves, however, in the Canadian view these benefits do not affect the basic issue, which concerns the intrinsic evils of a system that deliberately asserts the idea of racial superiority of one group over another within the national community.

The systematic restraint of human liberties which the practice of this policy involves has already given rise to tragic outbreaks of violence in South Africa. None of us would venture to speculate on the course of events in that unhappy country, if the present policies are perpetuated or intensified.

It had been our earnest hope that at this 16th session