

roots and developed distinctive local institutions. The actual situation in each of these areas, of course, is different—the Portuguese territories are essentially a manifestation of an outdated colonialism, South Africa is possessed by the cancer of *apartheid*, South West Africa and Rhodesia have elements of both. But there is one common underlying characteristic: each is governed by a white minority whose prosperity and power is based on command of the resources of the country and on the subordination of a black majority, and each recognizes that the application of the concepts of political and racial equality would be ruinous to the existing way of life and is therefore to be resisted to the bitter end.

At the United Nations, it has been the overriding aim of the Africans and Asians to ensure that these territories be governed in accordance with the principle of majority rule. Lacking the power to take effective independent action themselves, they have attempted, by asserting the responsibility of the organization to take punitive action, to involve those nations which do have the power. Their success has been limited. The developed nations of the West have not been prepared to meet all of the African demands and, in particular, have made it clear that they are not prepared to agree to the use of force against South Africa. The resulting confrontation has adversely affected relations between the West and the Afro-Asians in a number of areas, some of which are in no sense related to issues of race or colonialism, thus complicating and distorting the work of the organization.

The prospect in southern Africa is for a heightening of tension and increased risks of conflict. There is a likelihood of the liberation movements (which so far have only limited support from Africans themselves) increasing their activities within the territory, coupled with counter-measures by white regimes against insurgents and against the neighbouring states (already a cause for concern to Zambia). The conflicting and essentially irreconcilable aims of the white and black populations in southern Africa are even now producing situations which inevitably will lead to a more direct confrontation in the area and at the United Nations.

At the United Nations, Canada's position on southern African issues has changed markedly during the past 20 years. During the immediate postwar period, its posture was one of relative detachment. As the intransigence of the white southern Africans became more evident, Canadian delegations became increasingly sympathetic to the arguments of the anti-colonialists. Canada's voting record at the United Nations is such that Canada has come to be regarded by the African nations as one of the more sympathetic among the developed Western countries towards their aspirations. In the case of Rhodesia, extensive sanctions have been applied by