

Strong stand against apartheid

The time has come for basic change — for the repudiation of apartheid as a concept and a policy. . . . Canada cannot tolerate a course which means continued repression within South Africa. . . . We cannot accept that the majority of South Africans should remain on the outside, deprived of dignity and basic human rights, harassed by police, arbitrarily held in detention, denied citizenship, some separated from their families, all deprived of a true voice in their own country's affairs.

Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark.
Speaking in Baie Comeau, Quebec, July 6, 1985.



Joe Clark

Seeking the realization of a free and equal society in South Africa, living at peace with its neighbours, the Canadian government has taken a firm stand against *apartheid*. It agrees with the report of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group that only a process of genuine negotiation with recognized black leaders can avert tragedy in South Africa and that more pressure must be exerted on the South African government to dismantle *apartheid* and initiate dialogue.

Canadian efforts to help bring justice and greater harmony to the region have been undertaken through consultations with other nations, particularly those in the Commonwealth. Canada has been very active in seeking consensus among Commonwealth leaders and has adopted many of the measures outlined in the accord signed at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference in Nassau in October 1985 (see *Canada Reports*, November 20, 1985). The country was also represented on the Commonwealth Group of Eminent Persons on South Africa by Archbishop Ted Scott.

The United Nations is another important forum for Canadian attempts to influence South African policy on *apartheid*. Recent efforts include participation at the UN World Conference on Sanctions held in Paris in June.

Government action

With growing opposition to *apartheid* in Canada, the government has taken a number of economic, diplomatic and humanitarian steps during the past two years to maintain steady pressure against *apartheid* and to foster peaceful change in South Africa. The measures adopted are:

- Strengthening the voluntary *Code of Conduct Concerning the*

Employment Practices of Canadian Companies Operating in South Africa by:

- appointing an independent and impartial administrator;
- introducing a standard reporting format; and
- making the code applicable to all Canadian companies including those with minority interests.

- Tightening the administration of the United Nations arms embargo to end exports of sensitive equipment such as computers to the government of South Africa and its agencies.
- Applying the voluntary UN embargo on imports of South African arms.
- Abrogating Canada-South Africa double taxation agreements.
- Terminating the Export Market Development Program for the South African market.
- Terminating insurance to Canadian exporters to South Africa provided by the Export Development Corporation.
- Issuing public guidelines severely limiting sporting contacts between Canada and South Africa.
- Terminating toll-processing of Namibian uranium.
- Introducing a voluntary ban on the sale of Krugerrand gold coins.