

non-white majority in South Africa. We are looking for yet other measures which will underline the total opposition of the Canadian Government to apartheid and everything it represents. Our objective is peaceful change. Canada must bring additional pressure on the South African regime to introduce meaningful reform, and not simply tinker with the edges of the problem. The twenty-fifth anniversary of Sharpeville, and the further tragic events that marked that anniversary, have given new impetus to our efforts.

Canada's objective must be an international system of human rights standards, and mechanisms for their protection on a universal basis, in all states. But we cannot, nor should we, rely solely on efforts at the United Nations to make progress towards this goal. Human rights must be an important element in Canada's bilateral relations with other states. They can be either an impediment - at times a major impediment - or an element of cooperation.

In it's bilateral relations with many states Canada will continue to make quiet and persistent official representations on behalf of persons whom we believe have been unjustly treated, according to international standards. While resented by some states as an intrusion into affairs which they consider domestic, these efforts will be maintained as an integral part of Canada's relations with the states concerned. These relations may be based on a complex mix of political, economic, security, and development factors, but within this mix there will be a definite place for human rights.

The weight carried by our private representations on human rights will depend upon upon Canada's overall relations with the state concerned. Conversely, the respect which governments show for the rights and freedoms of their citizens will remain a vital consideration in the general development of Canadian relations with individual states. The international protection and promotion of human rights is not a moralistic ornament to the world stage, it is a critical element in the improvement of relations among states, and in maintaining the peace. In our review of Canada's foreign policy, we shall be looking to you for advice on how this element may find its best expression.