

STATEMENT TABLED IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TO THE ZAMBIAN AUTHORITIES

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I would like to review for the information of the House developments to this date concerning the death of two Canadian girls on the Zambian/Rhodesia border.

On May 16, 1973, the Department of External Affairs learned by telegram from our Embassy in Cape Town, South Africa, that Miss Christine Louise Sinclair of Guelph, Ontario, and Miss Marjan Drijber of Rockwood, Ontario, had been fired on by Zambian troops at the Rhodesian/Zambian border near Victoria Falls. Miss Sinclair reportedly was killed instantly. Miss Drijber had been hit by bullets and had fallen into the Zambezi River. Her body had not as yet been recovered.

The next of kin were notified immediately of these facts by the Department of External Affairs. The parents were assured that Canadian diplomatic representatives in the area would do whatever was possible to assist the families of the young women. Mr. Oscar Drijber indicated that he would personally fly to the area. He was informed that Canadian representatives were prepared to do whatever was required on his behalf if Mr. Drijber wished to avoid such a long trip under these distressing circumstances. Mr. Drijber was also informed about the political tension