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CANADA'S VIEWS ON APARTHEID

The following excerpt is from a recent statement to the Special Political Committee of the United Nations by Mr. Paul Beaulieu, the Canadian representative:

...The belief in human equality is a basic concept of the United Nations. Canada, like most United Nations members, holds the view that a society such as that in South Africa runs counter to all the fundamental principles of justice. We do not deny that some non-whites in South Africa possess a relatively high standard of living; it would be difficult to expect otherwise in a country as rich in natural and human resources as South Africa. However, this standard of living should not be regarded as a gift from the ruling groups. There are, unfortunately, still many countries in which racial discrimination can be found; human imperfection still exists everywhere. However, there is no country, with the single exception of South Africa, where racial discrimination is enshrined in the legislative fabric of its society and where the Government is committed to a policy of systematic segregation. No matter to what heights of material or intellectual achievement a South African non-white may rise, he is still subject to degrading *apartheid* laws. We do not deny the rights of the white population of South Africa, all we, and the overwhelming majority of the members of the United Nations, say to them is this: we cannot accept racial discrimination; it is a policy which violates the letter and the spirit of the Charter and of the conventions and declarations of the United Nations on human rights - a policy which is not compatible with human dignity.

Canada has faithfully respected the resolutions of the Security Council of August 7, 1963 and December 4, 1963, on the export of arms and military equipment to South Africa. Canada's policy on the shipment of arms and military equipment to South Africa shows clearly Canada's will to dissociate itself from the enforcement of South Africa's *apartheid* policy.

We share the belief that the United Nations should take positive steps towards the abolition of *apartheid*. This is why the Canadian Government sent a representative to the International Seminar on *Apartheid*, Racial Discrimination and Colonialism which was held at Kitwe, Zambia, from July 25 to August 4. My Government wishes to thank the Government of Zambia for making available the facilities for the Seminar. We consider the Seminar to have been useful, even though we found ourselves unable to subscribe to the concluding documents in their entirety.

We favour all measures to assist citizens of South Africa who have suffered from *apartheid*. It is for this reason that Canada has contributed \$25,000 to the United Nations Programme for the Education and Training of South Africans.

POSITION RESERVED

In recent years, resolutions have been placed before this Committee which characterize the situation in South Africa as a threat to peace and security and call on the Security Council to take measures under Chapter VII of the Charter. My delegation is aware of the tensions existing in South Africa, and of the