

*Supply—External Affairs*

to most of the basic needs of the international community in a period of exceptional difficulty.

A foreign minister of one of the great powers said to me only a few days ago that Canada is an idealistic nation; its confidence in the United Nations seems to be unbounded. My reply was yes, we are an idealistic people; we do believe in the United Nations, and we do believe that if our world is to survive in this interdependent period, that body must be given increasing support. I believed, when I said that, I spoke for every member of this house and for the vast majority of the people of our country.

I made reference a few minutes ago to the rapidly changing nature of the world in which we live. One of the most dramatic manifestations of change has been the emergence in the past few years of scores of new independent nations with widely varied backgrounds. In Africa a whole continent has come awake and for the first time has taken its place on the world stage. The vitality of these new countries, and their determination to play a significant part in world affairs, were demonstrated at the conference of the heads of some 32 independent African states held in Addis Ababa last May. At that meeting the charter of the organization for African unity was adopted, envisaging a new era of political and economic co-operation. At that gathering the African states also served notice of their impatience with the rate of progress toward the solution of the remaining colonial problems.

The Portuguese African territories in South Africa are the focal point of anti-colonial pressure. In the case of Portugal, the difficulty arises from its claim that its overseas territories are an integral part of metropolitan Portugal. The time is, in fact, long overdue for Portugal to give some sign that it recognizes the principles of self determination in its overseas territories. The Canadian government has made it clear that it cannot accept the theories on which Portugal's colonial policy is based. We welcome the reforms which Portugal has instituted during the past two years in its overseas territories. We hope that the Portuguese government will wisely take the further steps which alone can turn aside the criticisms to which it is now exposed.

It is harder to foresee any solution to the problem of race conflict in South Africa. The Canadian government can understand the fears of white South Africans about the possibility of being submerged and eventually forced out of their homeland. However, the Canadian government cannot understand South Africa's claim that apartheid is the only solution, and we deplore the use of harsh and repressive measures offensive to fundamental

human rights which are used to carry out this policy. We derive no pleasure, and I am sure no one in this house derives any pleasure, from seeing our former sister nation of the commonwealth become an outcast amongst nations for its race policy. I repeat what I said at the United Nations, that we are prepared to help in any way possible to achieve a solution based on justice, but we cannot and we will not support one which is offensive to human dignity.

In Southern Rhodesia the race problem is not yet hardened along irrevocable lines. African leaders, including some commonwealth leaders, have pointed out that it would not be in keeping with normal commonwealth practice if Southern Rhodesia were given her independence under a government which is not broadly representative of its whole population. More time is needed to search out a solution in Southern Rhodesia which will avoid the heavy problems now facing South Africa.

Elsewhere in former British colonial territory the movement toward independence marches steadily forward. Malaysia came into being on September 16, embracing Sarawak and North Borneo. We in this house welcomed wholeheartedly the founding of Malaysia. We now regret, along with the British foreign secretary who spoke on this yesterday, the external difficulties which have attended the birth of a state which we are satisfied is destined to enhance the peace and stability of southeast Asia.

In the Caribbean we have watched with satisfaction the progress of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago since they achieved independence last year. They have provided reassuring models of stability in an area which has been otherwise turbulent. The Canadian government continues to follow closely constitutional developments in other islands and territories in that region, and as I have already announced, steps are being taken to improve and expand our aid arrangements for the region in the economic field. This was one of the subjects discussed at Hyannis Port between the late President of the United States and the present Prime Minister.

The nurturing of one of our other cornerstones of foreign policy, the commonwealth, is a basic feature of our external policies. In the past few years membership has been progressively enlarged until today it embraces 16 sovereign states. The majority now are in Asia and in Africa. It is because of the special insight which the commonwealth gives us into the new forces which have emerged in the post-war era that we most value this unique association of states. The commonwealth practice of continuing consultation among members on matters of