

November 20. This is in accordance with the basic Canadian policy of strong support for the United Nations in situations with grave international repercussions.

Our desire to help create the practical conditions for effective action by Britain is also clearly manifested in the airlift of oil to Zambia in which we are now participating. Zambia's economy is closely linked to that of Rhodesia and economic measures against Rhodesia have had to be taken with an eye on the consequences for that country.

There has also been much debate over the relative merits of economic sanctions and force as means of settling the problem. The British have not precluded the use of force to restore law and order in Rhodesia but they are unwilling to use force in existing circumstances. We agree with them. Force should always be avoided if this is at all possible and, in this situation, the use of force could have explosive effects on the whole of Africa and grave international repercussions. The question of using force will not arise if economic sanctions can be made to work.

Some people suggest that the life of the illegal régime is being unnecessarily prolonged because the white population fear that the restoration of constitutional government will lead to an ill-prepared and unstable African majority in Rhodesia. British assurances make it clear that these fears are unfounded. Prime Minister Wilson has pledged his Government to the attainment of a "just and democratic society in which full equality of opportunity is assured, racial discrimination is removed and the rights of Europeans and Africans alike are safeguarded". On this and other occasions, Mr. Wilson has made it plain that a very careful, step-by-step period of preparation would be undertaken before majority rule and independence, to ensure a successful launching of the new state, in which there would be an important role for white as well as black Africans. Instead of a government based on discrimination, there would be a government based on racial co-operation.

Conclusion

There are some of the questions currently of concern to the Canadian Government and relevant to your theme "The World - Your Neighbourhood". I have tried to preserve some balance between the complex issues of a situation such as the Rhodesian one, which can change from day to day, and the broader perspective of African developments and our relations to them.

I have many opportunities to meet African leaders and diplomatic representatives, particularly at meetings of the United Nations. I have great sympathy for their idealism, their generous commitment to good causes in the world. There is no doubt in my mind that Canadian relations with African nations will prosper. We shall, I hope, play a useful part in the economic development which they so ardently desire. We shall work with them in the Commonwealth and in the United Nations to achieve the peace, goodwill and understanding between nations and races which we all desire.