

expressed the hope that Tanzania's Commonwealth associations can be preserved. His appreciation of the Commonwealth for the relations it provides with such countries as Canada -- I remind you that we are helping to train his army and air force -- no doubt influenced his attitude.

I might add that Canada is trying to diminish the damage to the Commonwealth from the break in relations by looking after British interests in Tanzania and after Tanzanian interests in Britain.

The Rhodesian situation and the Lagos conference have been, therefore, severe tests of the continuing interest of many states in the Commonwealth association. If this association were declining and if attitudes were generally apathetic, a problem as great as the Rhodesian one would probably have lead to its abandonment by many states.

I am not overlooking what are still very considerable dangers to the Commonwealth inherent in the Rhodesian situation. What I should like to stress, however, is that African leaders who have been most critical of Britain and impatient over Rhodesia have nevertheless given due weight to the substantial and good features of the Commonwealth connection. In fact no country has left the Commonwealth on this issue.

I do not intend to list or comment on the many practical implications of Commonwealth membership. I would simply remind you, by way of current examples:

- (1) that by far the largest part of our expanding Canadian aid programme goes to Commonwealth countries, and that other developed members of the Commonwealth do a great deal to help the developing nations within its ranks;
- (2) that we are giving military aid also to several Commonwealth nations;
- (3) that, for the first time, a Secretariat was set up last year by the collective decision of members to promote co-operation and consultation (a Canadian is the Secretary-General);
- (4) that the Commonwealth Educational Scheme has promoted very significant contacts between Commonwealth nations and that new cultural exchanges have been inaugurated only last year;
- (5) that trade preferences remain from earlier years and that, in many ways not always well known throughout the world, there are clear economic and technical advantages to remaining within the world-wide framework of specialized institutions which originated in an Empire and survived to serve a Commonwealth;