

Representatives of the African National Congress will be part of the solution in South Africa, whenever it comes, however it comes. Canada's whole purpose is to encourage a peaceful solution that results in freedom and equality in South Africa. We are more likely to achieve both peace and freedom by dealing with the ANC than we are by leaving them to extremes.

As has been noted, the world's purpose is to bring South Africa to its senses, not to its knees. We are seeking to change an evil social system, not cripple a strong economy. Canada would welcome more trade with a South Africa free of apartheid. We pray that the prejudice ends before violence disrupts all order in the sub-continent. With that in view, we must all seek means to keep lines open to all parts of South Africa - black and Botha, Buthelezi and Tambo, Mandela and Afrikaner. The worst result would be for us to cause the Botha Government to change its view, and then not have the channels to effect that change. Mr. Diefenbaker, a quarter century ago, spoke not only of the repugnance of apartheid, but also of the "Light in the Window" that would welcome a South Africa without apartheid.

As I watch Pretoria's Ambassador to London come home to run against his President's Party, as I see Gavin Relly travel to Lusaka to meet the ANC, I ask myself, "If I were a Minister in the Government of South Africa, and decided what we were doing was wrong, and I wanted to change it, not just protest, whom would I talk to, where in the world outside South Africa could I seek support?" The dilemma is that, as we isolate a repugnant regime, as we must, we also reduce the opportunities for that regime to change.

The best response to that dilemma was the Eminent Persons Group of the Commonwealth, who offered a route to change. Their overture was rejected, violently, and that moment was lost. No one believes that distinguished group can be reconstituted, but the idea it represented should not be abandoned. As you consider sanctions here, as you discuss the isolation of South Africa, please also consider ways to keep lines open, to keep the light in the window.