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CANADIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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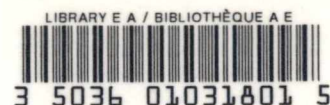
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RHODESIA

Text of Statement in Explanation of Vote
on Question of Rhodesia to be delivered
in the Fourth Committee by the Canadian
Representative, Mr. Gordon Cox, on
Monday, November 1, 1965

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Canadian Delegation I would like to comment on the resolution before us in order to make a brief explanation of our vote on it.

I should first emphasize the very deep and anxious concern about the situation in Rhodesia which the Canadian Government and people share with virtually all members of the United Nations. Canada has made its attitude on this question very clear in this Committee and in the General Assembly. We have also made it very clear directly to the Rhodesian Government. In a message delivered to Mr. Smith earlier this month the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable L. B. Pearson, stated and I quote, "The Commonwealth Heads of Government have twice declared that they were irrevocably opposed to any unilateral declaration of independence by the Rhodesian Government, an action which can only be considered by them as illegal. I share sincerely the views held by other Commonwealth leaders that independence for Rhodesia should only be recognized if based on the principle of majority rule. Any other course will inevitably have consequences which can only be very unhappy for your country. You should know that Canada would join other members of the Commonwealth in refusing to recognize a unilateral declaration of independence and would also join in certain practical measures that would inevitably follow."

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