

CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(EIGHTEENTH SESSION)

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STATEMENT BY MR. LEO CADIEUX, M.P.  
IN THE FOURTH COMMITTEE ON OMAN  
DECEMBER 6, 1963.

Mr. Chairman,

As a number of speakers have already mentioned this is the first time that the question of Oman has been considered in this Committee. As I have listened to the discussion my initial conviction that this item is not a colonial question has been reinforced and confirmed. At no time has the situation in Oman been considered in the United Nations in the context of colonialism and Oman has never appeared in any list of non-self-governing territories coming within the ambit of Chapter XI much less Chapter XII of the Charter.

May I now refer to the excellent report of the Secretary General's Special Representative, Mr. Herbert de Ribbing, which we have before us in Document A/5562 of October 8. My delegation has read this report most carefully and we can find nothing in it to indicate that the situation in the Sultanate of Muscat and Oman involves a colonial problem.

Mr. Chairman, I consider that the Special Committee of Twenty-Four has many serious and urgent questions related to the implementation of the declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples and I believe it should confine its attention to these important issues. The Committee is specifically charged with considering the implementation of that Declaration and it would be not only unwise but contrary to its terms of reference to submit to the Committee a question which in our view does not come within its jurisdiction.