

CANADIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RHODESIA

Text of statement issued in
Ottawa Wednesday, December 8,
1965, by the Acting Prime
Minister, the Hon. Paul Martin

"The Canadian Government has decided to ban the import of ferrochrome, chrome ores and concentrates, asbestos and meats (sterile, canned and cooked), of Rhodesian origin. These commodities were, along with sugar, which is already banned, the major Rhodesian imports into Canada in 1964. The result of these new measures will be an embargo on items which constituted over 90 per cent of Rhodesian imports into Canada last year.

"These measures are pursuant to the resolution of November 20 of the United Nations Security Council, which recommended that all states do their utmost to break their economic relations with Rhodesia. These new measures follow the Canadian non-recognition of the unilateral declaration of independence of November 11 and other Canadian responses announced on that date and on November 26.

"These measures reflect Canadian support for the United Nations and the Canadian Government's belief that effective economic action should be taken to bring to an early end the illegal situation in Rhodesia. Britain and other countries have recently implemented new economic measures with that aim. The Rhodesian situation has created a serious threat to Commonwealth unity and African stability. Events of last week have pointed up the gravity of the situation in Africa caused by events in Rhodesia and have underlined the need to end the crisis soon by non-military means."

(On November 11, Prime Minister Pearson announced that Canada did not recognize the Smith Government, that Canada was withdrawing preferential tariff treatment accorded Rhodesian imports, and was bringing into effect a complete arms embargo. On November 26, Mr. Pearson announced the Government's decision to ban the import of Rhodesian sugar and tobacco.)