

CANADIAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FIFTEENTE SESSION

TEXT OF ADDRESS: QUESTION OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

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STATEMENT BY MR. MARTIAL ASSELIN, M.P., CANADIAN
REPRESENTATIVE ON THE FOURTH COMMITTEE, ON MARCH 23,
1961, IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE ON DRAFT RESOLUTION
CONCERNING THE QUESTION OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA
(A/C.4/L.675/Rev.1).

Mr. Chairman,

Since the Canadian Delegation did not participate in the debate on the 24-power-draft resolution on the question of South West Africa, I now wish to explain briefly our attitude towards the revised text which was circulated yesterday, and the vote we intend to cast on this resolution.

The Canadian Delegation will vote in favour of this resolution. To this extent our position has changed from that which we adopted in regard to Resolution 1568 (XV) of December 18, 1960. We do so in the belief that under the mandates system the supervision of the League of Nations was intended to be effective and genuine, not a purely theoretical or formal kind of supervision.

Under the League of Nations the question was once asked: Should the Council of the League of Nations content itself with ascertaining that the Mandatory Power has remained within the limits of the powers which were conferred upon it, or should it ascertain also whether the Mandatory Power has made good use of these powers and whether its administration has conformed to the interests of the native population? The League Council approved the wider interpretation of its right of supervision.