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CANADIAN
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Overview

October 1987

Canada Against Apartheid

Introduction

A year and more ago, the Eminent Persons Group of the Commonwealth concluded, in its report on South Africa, that "the alternative to a negotiated solution would be appalling chaos, bloodshed and destruction".

That group was the closest anyone came to finding a formula which might lead to a negotiated end to apartheid. But its mission failed and tensions and killings have continued.

Canada has already played a major role in building international pressure against apartheid. It has implemented all of the sanctions and the measures proposed by the last Commonwealth conference and has encouraged more powerful Western countries to increase pressure for change.

At the same time, Canada has been able to develop a relationship of trust with the Front Line States and the African National Congress that it is hoped has helped strengthen the hand of black moderates.

Canada shares with other Western democracies an obligation to seek a peaceful end to apartheid.

Our challenge is to maintain steady growing pressure upon the South African government to change apartheid and, at the same time, encourage real dialogue between white South Africans and the leadership of the black community.

The Right Honourable Joe Clark
Secretary of State for External Affairs
(Extract of a letter to the *Toronto Star*, August 28, 1987)



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