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instrument of diplomacy, eloquence and peace. There are avenues which are more effective than acting alone.

The Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry called upon the Government for boldness and heroics. He went on to say that Canada is known not to make false judgments. He is right that there is a time for boldness and heroics. However, we do not believe that this is the time. We look for opportunities to continue to put pressure on South Africa through our own actions and those of other nations.

The Hon. Member for New Westminster—Coquitlam quoted the report of the Eminent Persons Group which said that we must prevent the worst blood-bath since World War II. That is why deliberated action is important. All actions that are taken both from without and within South Africa can have an impact on the balance, can cause blood to run, and can cause the destruction of the very people we want to save.

There is no question that the report of the Eminent Persons Group is an important event for South Africa and the Commonwealth. Never before has a group of such standing examined the problems of apartheid and the possibilities for change. None has spoken to so wide a group of South Africans or taken on so great a challenge, that being to promote real dialogue. None has delved so deeply into the aims and thoughts of political leaders of all communities. The group's experience was unique, its wisdom apparent, its sorrow profound, and its conclusions striking and argued with conviction and logic.

It is, therefore, tragic in every sense that the South African Government rebuffed a group which reached out its hands in a way that no other has done. Through its words and actions that Government missed an opportunity to find a new course with new partners ready to help. The possibility of dialogue, however, was not rejected by the Eminent Persons Group and the opportunity was not irrevocably passed. Our Government continues to work to convince South Africa to think again.

There is no doubt that the South African Government's ban on peaceful gatherings, marking the tenth anniversary of the tragedy of Soweto and its imposition of a country-wide state of emergency, has heightened the risk of widespread violence. The South African Government uses force every day in the townships. Its actions and policies provoke and exacerbate violence, hatred, fear, and rage.

This is not only a dangerous path but an immoral one which our Government has been eloquent about. We will proceed with dialogue with our Commonwealth colleagues and other nations in order to bring an end to violence, to reconcile people and to shape a new future. The report of the Eminent Persons Group urges us all to think again. It urges South Africa to do so, as have the words and actions of the Canadian Government, which stand out among the major industrialized nations.

We have acted quickly and on our own. Yesterday we announced five measures on Government procurement, tourism, additional aid to black education, the cancellation of non-resident accreditation and the Canadian Embassy's

observance of Soweto and South Africa. I think these measures stand Canada ahead of the crowd. We have taken 21 very deliberate actions over the last two years.

The process of discussion which the Prime Minister has initiated with our Commonwealth colleagues shows an unparalleled commitment in this country to the struggle against apartheid. They are to be added to the measures previously taken. To those who are excluded and disenfranchised in South Africa, these measures say that they are not alone, that we have tried to assist in the past and will not desist from our efforts in the future. These actions tell the South African Government that there must be a change in course in this time of crisis. That Government must realize that the majority of South Africans can no longer accept, not only their exclusion from the life and direction of their own country, but the danger and life-threatening activities which they daily face.

The Canadian Government has conveyed that message to the South African Government in very clear and unmistakable terms together with its deep concern and hope that the South African Government will withdraw its state of emergency and the other measures it has adopted which threaten to provoke and extend violence in the coming days.

Both of the speakers from the other side of the House have criticized these measures and called for more dramatic steps. I remain convinced that the Government's actions are designed, not only to be aggressive but to be effective. That means working with other countries to bring a synergism which we cannot bring alone. Those who care about the Commonwealth and South Africa will agree that the Government's actions are well designed to maintain the effectiveness of the institution of the Commonwealth that we value, to keep Canada in the forefront of those who oppose apartheid and, most important, to meet the direct objective of helping those who suffer from apartheid and, therefore, need our help. That is where our Government will be in the future.

I listened to the words of the Member for New Westminster—Coquitlam. She talked about actions taken today and in the past not being enough. I know the Hon. Member for Winnipeg—Fort Garry was sitting in a seat similar to mine 10 years ago Monday when public action was called for. I know he is sympathetic to the dilemma the Canadian Government is in as it faces another occasion where it tries to bring pressure to bear on a problem not of its making but one in which we have an enormous human stake. Our Government has taken many actions in response to this situation. I know that the Hon. Member, as he spoke today, must have remembered what it was like to be in Government faced with this situation, knowing something must be done.

● (1550)

We in this country were very fortunate recently to have Bishop Tutu with us. He has been an advocate of peaceful change in South Africa. I had the honour of meeting with him while he was here, not at a rally or march but at a communion