

Statement in explanation of vote on Portuguese Territories  
in the Fourth Committee, December 16, by Mrs. M. Konantz



Mr. Chairman:

In explanation of the vote which it will cast on the question of Portuguese territories the Canadian delegation wishes to reaffirm that the Canadian Government is deeply concerned about this situation. We strongly support the aspirations of the African people for self-determination in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people of the territories and when we say self-determination we mean self-determination in the sense that it has been accepted by the United Nations and expressed in Resolutions 1514 (XV) and 1541 (XV).

We therefore support the spirit and objective of the Resolution on which we are about to vote. Unfortunately, it is difficult for us to accept certain paragraphs of this Resolution. For example, Operative paragraph 7 contemplates measures which in our view should be decided upon by the Security Council after determination that such measures are necessary.

As regards Operative paragraph 8 I wish to make it clear that Canada has not made any contributions of Canadian military assistance to Portugal since November 1960 and our contributions prior to that time were supplied on the understanding that they were for use only in NATO. With respect to the sale of arms and military equipment on a commercial basis it has been the policy of the Canadian Government since 1960 not to permit the export to Portugal or to territories under Portuguese administration of any arms or equipment which in our judgement would be used for military purposes in Portuguese overseas territories.

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of any arms or equipment which in any circumstances would be used  
for military or police purposes under Portuguese administration  
of the colonial government since 1960 and to which the export  
and military equipment is not subject in any way and which  
were not used in any way, with a view to the sale of arms  
or for any other purpose, and the undersigned does not  
intend to continue since November 1960 and the conditions  
that Canada has not made any contribution of material directly  
or indirectly to the Government of Portugal or to any other  
such measures are necessary.

It is decided upon by the Security Council after consultation with  
the relevant organs of the United Nations and in accordance with the  
provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, for example,  
in which we are asked to vote, and to abstain for

the purpose of supporting the efforts and objectives of the  
1974 (XV) and 1971 (XV) and 1971 (XV) and 1971 (XV).

has been accepted by the United Nations and expressed in resolutions  
of the Security Council in the sense that it  
issues of the Security Council and when the Security  
Council is called upon to determine in accordance with the Security Council  
situation. We strongly support the aspirations of the African  
people and the colonial governments to be fully concerned with  
of Portuguese territories the Council has decided to refer  
in explanation of the vote which it will cast on the question

Mr. Chairman:

In the Security Council, December 1974, of the Security Council  
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I should also like to reply to allegations that have been made in the Security Council and in the General Assembly that the Federal Republic of Germany and Portugal were negotiating the sale of Canadian built military aircraft. I should like to state here that the Canadian Government has good reason for believing that no Canadian built military aircraft have been or are being sold or otherwise transferred to Portugal by the Federal Republic of Germany.

Mr. Chairman, for the reasons I have already stated, the Canadian delegation will be unable to support the resolution before us.

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