

# PRESS RELEASE



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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that Canada will make a substantial contribution to a five year programme for the establishment of a Tanzanian military air wing. A detailed Canadian offer of assistance has been accepted by the Tanzanian Government.

On April 6, 1965 the Secretary of State for External Affairs had indicated in the House of Commons that "in response to a request from President Nyerere, <sup>the</sup> Canadian Government has stated its willingness to cooperate with the Government of Tanzania in an air force equipment and training programme". As forecast by Mr. Martin at the time, an air survey team composed of Canadian armed forces and External Affairs officials has since paid an extensive visit to Tanzania to determine how Canada can best assist in this matter. On the basis of the team's findings and recommendations, the Canadian Government has formulated detailed assistance proposals, which have been welcomed by Tanzania.

The Canadian contribution will include equipment, mainly medium and light military transport aircraft with support equipment and spares. It is planned that, over the period of the programme, Canada will provide for the air wing up to four Caribou and eight Otter aircraft, which are particularly suited to Tanzanian requirements. In addition, Canada has offered to help with the training of approximately 200 Tanzanian aircrew, groundcrew and support personnel, of whom it is expected that almost 200 will train in Canada. Training will also take

place in Tanzania, with the programme designed to reflect the maximum of efficiency and economy. Some 50 Canadian advisory and training personnel will proceed to Tanzania under the programme.

The air force programme is expected to make a significant contribution to the effectiveness of the Tanzanian defence forces. The Canadian contribution will complement the advisory and training assistance which Canada is already extending to the Tanzanian Army. About 30 Canadian forces personnel are currently in Tanzania in connection with the army programme. Eleven Tanzanians received army officer training in Canada last year and 17 more are expected in Canada this month.

Implementation of the Canadian offer will start immediately. By the end of September, up to 25 Tanzanian air wing personnel will be training in Canada and it is expected that the movement of Canadian advisers to Tanzania will begin within the next few weeks.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs expressed the hope that this form of Canadian assistance would prove useful to <sup>the</sup> Tanzanian Government in maintaining the conditions of security and stability which favour economic and social progress.