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CANADIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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APARTHEID - ITEM 36

Text of Statement to be delivered in the
General Assembly by the Canadian Repre-
sentative, Mr. P.A. Beaulieu, on Wednesday,
December 15, 1965

Mr. Chairman,

In explaining the Canadian vote on the main resolution on apartheid before the General Assembly, today, I would like to underline at the outset the fact that Canada unequivocally opposes the apartheid policies of the Government of South Africa which we consider abhorrent and offensive to human dignity. In various ways we have brought these views to the attention of the South African Government. We believe that by stubbornly persisting in its present course in defiance of world opinion the South African Government is moving steadily towards disaster. Moreover, the South African racial policies, which are directly contrary to the basic justice and human rights, are the source of deep bitterness and thus contain the seeds of a conflict which could endanger everywhere in Africa the concept of multi-racialism which we in Canada strongly endorse.

In line with this Canadian attitude we have complied with the Security Council Resolution of August 7, 1963. In announcing this policy to the Canadian House of Commons on October 21, 1963, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Hon. Paul Martin, said:



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"It has for several years been the policy of the Canadian Government not to permit the shipment of arms to South Africa which might be used against the non-white population for the enforcement of the policy of apartheid. On August 7, 1963 the Security Council passed a resolution recommending that all states should cease the sale and shipment of arms, ammunition and military vehicles to South Africa. Taking into account the Security Council's recommendations and wishing further to express our disapproval of South Africa's apartheid policies, the Government has decided that it will not authorize the acceptance of any new orders from South Africa for items of military equipment nor permit the shipment of such equipment to South Africa."

We are fully aware of the existence and of the problems arising out of the various forms of discrimination, and successive governments of Canada have made elimination of them a major objective in their domestic and international policies.

At the United Nations and at other international meetings and conferences where racial problems have been discussed, our opposition, not only to the apartheid policies of the South African Government but also to all forms of racial discrimination, has been clearly stated by Canada's representatives. While discussions on this item were going on in the Special Political Committee my delegation was playing a role in efforts of the Third Committee to write a declaration on racial discrimination. In his statement to the General Assembly on September 24, the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada described Canada's attitude in



the following terms:

"Canadians attach particular importance to the maintenance and extension of individual rights, to the protection of institutions of family and faith and to the removal of all forms of discrimination based on race, colour, sex or religion."

Mr. Chairman, we agree with the welcome objective of the resolution before us today, namely, the elimination of apartheid, and we agree with many of its provisions. However, since there are some we are unable to endorse because we consider them unsuitable, we must with regret abstain on the resolution as a whole.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



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