

CANADIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

CAUTION: ADVANCE TEXT

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ADEN

Text of Statement in Explanation of Vote
on Question of Aden to be delivered in
the Fourth Committee by the Canadian
Representative, Mr. Gordon E. Cox, on
Wednesday, November 3, 1965.

Mr. Chairman, I wish to explain the Canadian position
on the resolution on which we are to vote.

Before commenting on particular paragraphs of the
resolution, I should like to say that the Canadian Delegation
has listened with great interest to the statements made by
the petitioners and by the distinguished representatives on
this Committee who have taken part in the general debate on
the question of Aden. During this debate a variety of
opinion was expressed and we had hoped that the fact that
there was a genuine difference of opinion about the modalities
of future constitutional development in Aden and about the
actual situation prevailing in that territory would be
reflected in any draft resolution placed before the Committee.
We regret that the resolution in no way acknowledges diffi-
culties faced by the British Government and the efforts
expended in pursuit of its expressed aim of bringing South
Arabia to independence not later than 1968. In general we
consider that the resolution is not based on a balanced
assessment of the situation in the area and accordingly
proposals for United Nations acting deriving from that assess-
ment are not likely to achieve a genuine step forward in the
attainment of independence for the territory.

In addition, the Canadian Delegation believes that
it must put on record its views on certain paragraphs. We
do not consider that the General Assembly should make
judgments **in** terms which infringe upon the responsibilities
of the Security Council. Moreover, we consider that the
judgment which is made overstates the case.

My delegation also has reservations about operative paragraph 1. We would find it difficult to approve everything in the reports of the Special Committee or endorse every conclusion and recommendation of the Sub-Committee on Aden. For example, my delegation notes that the Sub-Committee on Aden has stated in its report, and I refer to page 29 of Annex II of Document A/6000, Addendum 4, that, and I quote, "The failure of both the proposed constitutional commission and the London talks held in August can be attributed to the refusal by the Government of the United Kingdom to accept the provisions of General Assembly Resolution 1949 (XVIII) which, it would point out, not only sets out principles but also outlines the methods whereby self-determination and independence may be achieved."

While Canada is not able to agree with some of the recommendations made in Resolution 1949 (XVIII), we firmly support the right of colonial peoples to self-determination and to independence. We think each colonial territory has its own special problems — the United Nations approach should therefore be pragmatic with different methods applied to fit particular circumstances. Therefore, the United Nations must take account of the responsibilities of the administering authority as well as the wishes of all the peoples of the territory concerned. Accordingly, we believe that constitutional change in Aden should be brought about by consultation among political leaders in South Arabia and the administering power. We do not believe that it is appropriate for this Committee to attempt to impose a rigid timetable for independence upon those who are directly concerned. For this reason, we have difficulties with operative paragraphs 2 and 3.

Other operative paragraphs, in our view, do not reflect the actual situation in Aden nor the motives and policies of the administering power.

As regards that portion of the resolution dealing with the military base, my delegation sees no reason why the Committee should predetermine what the attitude of the people of Aden should be on the question of the maintenance of the base when their country becomes independent and to impose that attitude upon them.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I think there is a danger of our impairing the future usefulness of the United Nations on the question of Aden by adopting a resolution of this character. During the anticipated evolution of Aden towards independence, any possible role the United Nations can play might be inhibited by the Assembly's stand reflected in the resolution.

The following information was obtained from the records of the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, regarding the land grant to the State of California for the purpose of establishing a State University. The grant was made by the United States Congress in 1850, and the land was surveyed and patented to the State of California in 1851. The land was located in the State of California, and the grant was made for the purpose of establishing a State University. The land was surveyed and patented to the State of California in 1851. The land was located in the State of California, and the grant was made for the purpose of establishing a State University.

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