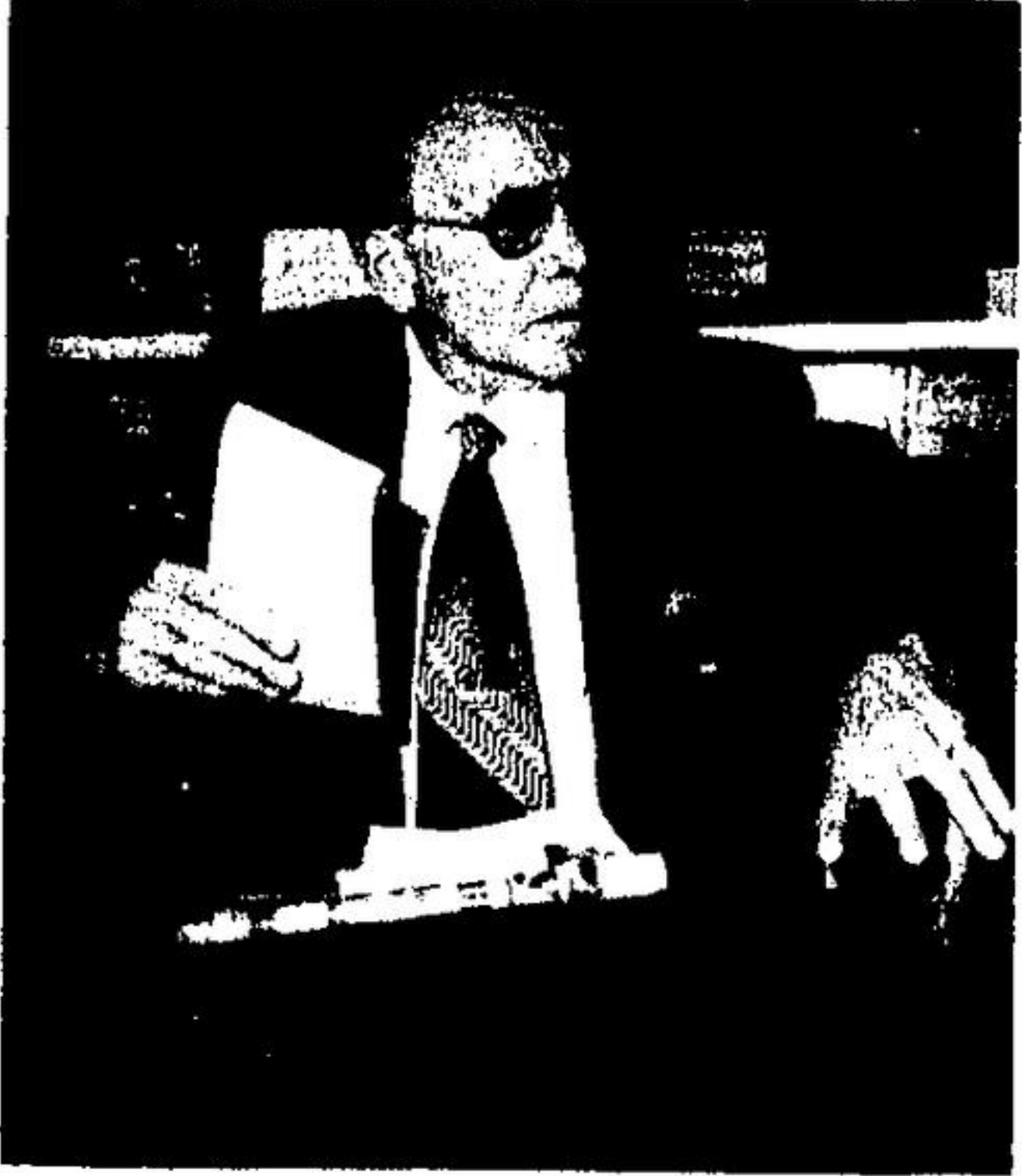


Is Mitchell Sharp really satisfied with explanations?



By Lorraine Root

Asked by reporters this past week, if he were afraid of rocking the boat, External Affairs Minister Mitchell Sharp said "No" - he just did not see what else could be done.

He was referring to the incident which centred around the tragic deaths of our two girls, Marjon Drijber of Mary Street, Rockwood, and Christine Sinclair of Guelph, formerly of the village, whose lives were so disastrously snuffed out when shot down on May 15th by soldiers of a country to which Canada, within the past few days, has sent one million dollars in military aid.

The episode makes us take a second look at our office of External Affairs to question its function and what constitutes Canadian diplomacy. It would seem that the position of the External Affairs Minister of any country should be one of first looking after the safety and concern of its citizens and, in this case, that of Canadian citizens in foreign countries.

What is the advantage to the average Canadian taxpayer if its external affairs office does not delve into just such matters as this?

The fact that Mitchell Sharp may be satisfied with the results raises the question: "If it were his daughter would he so readily accept the same wishy-washy explanations of the Zambian government which, according to the testimonies of Mr. Drijber's witnesses, were inaccurate?"

If the Canadian government is making monetary grants to a country whose very leaders are so incapable of telling the truth and accepting their responsibilities in a humanitarian twentieth-century manner, then we have to question, from where we sit, the value of throwing away money that may never reach the destination for which its sending is designed.

There are many who, although respecting and understanding the grief for the stricken girls, question Mr. Drijber's fervent quest for the

Lorraine Root gives her views on episode

answers to his daughter's death; there are others who ask what he hopes to accomplish, suggesting he should accept her loss as a grievous accident but not as one to crucify whole multitudes of innocent Zambians by cutting off support.

On the other hand, had our External Affairs department immediately spearheaded an investigation and delved into the matter completely rather than being concerned about stepping on someone's toes, the episode might never have reached such vast proportions.

Looking at it coldly, there is no doubt that the two girls were used as clay pigeons and murdered. Had this happened in our own country justice would have been done. It seems to us that the External Affairs office should have insisted on more accurate answers if they were really concerned about their own Canadian citizens rather than their so-called diplomatic relationships.

Again, there are those people who measure the loss and wonder whether it is any greater than any other daily tragedies constantly occurring on our provincial highways, but, any deliberate snuffing out of human creatures should never be accepted lightly and, only through exposure, can something worthwhile be salvaged.

Marjon Drijber's and Christine Sinclair's deaths will never be in vain if only because two valiant parents took the time and showed the courage to stand and be counted. They believe that their daughter and her friend were unwarrantedly murdered. To them the tragedy must count for something else besides solemn grief.

They loved, they lost, they mourn, and now they stand for what principles they believe in.

Oscar and Sybke Drijber, in opposing man's injustices to man make their contribution to world peace because, if ever such is to be accomplished, it will only be by every individual daring to act on the premise that such atrocities cannot be allowed.

It's easy to say: "Terrible things are happening constantly all over the world" and accept them unquestioningly as part of life, but we say that, to sit back and allow such things to happen without stating our objections loud and clear is morally wrong.

Persecute the multitudes and let them suffer for the indiscretions of a few? Never!

But in living in what we term today as a Christian society, we must stand for the rights of all God's children and, for goodness' sake, let no one condone or accept any violation of the code of brotherly love without identifying oneself as opposed and, in so doing, be prepared to accept the responsibilities incurred in hunting out the criminals who make our world an unsafe place in which to live.

As it stands now, Mr. and Mrs. Drijber will be seeing Mitchell Sharp next Thursday afternoon at 4 p.m. in Parliament House, Room 3185. Not in the presence of the press, as they had hoped, but at a closed meeting.

What will be derived from such a meeting can only be told after it has been completed. The Drijbers are intelligent, Christian people who are not vindictive over their daughter's death but feel that murder has been committed which should be rectified, or how else will it ever be safe for other young people to travel freely in other countries.

More important they feel that Canadian citizens are too intelligent not to see the ludicrousness of handing enormous sums of taxpayers' monies to a government conducting themselves like children. They feel that Canada should stop soft pedalling to protect their image and examine the facts as they really are.

OSCAR DRIJBER of Mary Street, Rockwood, father of one of the girls slain in the Rhodesia-Zambia incident on May 15, is seen after his audience with President Kaunda of Zambia. He is not vindictive over his daughter's death but feels that murder has been committed and that Canada should stop soft pedalling to protect her image and examine the facts as they really are.



FRAN BAZNICK, of Burlington and Elanor Acolin and Bill Stevenson, both of Toronto were among the visitors to the Rockwood flea market Sunday morning.

Organizers are eager to draw both customers and exhibitors to the site to take part in the various demonstrations. (D. Pink photo)

Campaign to get rid of cars

Effective Saturday, July 7, anyone with more than two derelict vehicles on his property will be subject to Ontario's new derelict motor vehicle regulation.

"Enforcement measures will be applied gradually," Environment Minister James Auld said, "but our intention is to establish control over private and commercial accumulations of junked automobiles. When the regulation is fully enforced, the owners of these collections will have to choose either proper disposal or the establishment of a regulated, well-run waste management system."

He said those who plan to continue operation will require a certificate, issued only to approved sites and systems. "While the enforcement structure is being developed," he said, "we intend to do our best to encourage people with inoperable cars on their property to have them removed or to co-operate with cleanup programs."

Last summer, the Ministry of the Environment sent seven teams of students across Ontario to establish the extent of the abandoned car problem.

The survey established that there are close to 500,000 abandoned cars in the province.

As a result of the survey, some local collection of derelict autos was accomplished. Mr. Auld said. "But in the absence of an organized transport and marketing system for recycling, these collected hulks had to be taken to the nearest landfill site.

This summer, \$20,000 has been set aside to get these cars from the landfill sites to where they can be reclaimed as raw metal. A car contains more than a ton and a half of steel. That's too much to throw away."

"Our goal is to determine the most economical system so that we can establish a practical cleanup program next year."

Hydro rates up in November discuss parking lot on green

Due to increased costs of power from Ontario Hydro, which must be passed on to avoid difficulty in operation, Rockwood residents will be faced with higher rates to be imposed on billing beginning November 1, 1973.

At the last meeting of the Rockwood Trustee Board, secretary Len Hockey was instructed to inform all hydro users of the new rate schedule by letter two months prior to introduction.

Other orders of business at the June 25th meeting at the Rockwood Town Hall included:

- That the Valley Road garbage dumping area be closed off with the posting of the sign "\$50 for unauthorized dumping" still pending.

- Discussion of new sidewalks to be laid by the Department of Highways as per meeting with trustee Gary Bateman, the actual placement of which has not been definitely established.

Offer \$100

By Henry J. Stanley

At the last directors meeting of the Halton Federation of Agriculture on Thursday, June 21, the two annual scholarships of \$100 each were discussed.

One of these scholarships will be available to a selected student entering the first semester of the B.Sc. (Agr.) or B.A. Sc. program at the University of Guelph. The other will be available to a selected student entering the first semester or term year of the Associate Diploma in Agriculture program at the University of Guelph or diploma programs at any of the four Colleges of Agricultural Technology in Ontario (Ridgetown, Kemptville, Centralia or New Liskeard).

Participation counts

These awards will be made on the basis of agricultural background and academic standing as well as participation and achievements in 4-H, Junior Farmer and other community activities.

Application forms are obtainable from the office of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, 181 Main St., Milton. The application form should be submitted to the Agricultural Office by Sept. 1. The Education Committee of the Halton Federation of Agriculture will select the winners of the scholarships.

confirmed that there was no objection to the proposed holding tank system and advised Mr. Hillis to continue to press his case with the township.

- Mr. Hillis also proposed for consideration for necessity of a paved parking lot for village use. After discussion, the secretary was instructed to write to the St. John's Church executive to arrange a meeting to discuss the proposal of a parking lot on the bowling green area.

- The secretary read a letter from Mr. Bert Scarff the owner of 28 acres of the Phillips property just outside the village limits. Mr. Scarff was unable to attend the meeting to discuss a proposed sub-division on his property which he will do at the July meeting.



A RECENT EXPANSION took place at Nassagaweya Township roads department's garage and headquarters building at Brookville, and this Saturday afternoon an open house is planned by the staff and councillors. In the evening a

dance will be held in the nearby township hall, which was recently renovated with the assistance of a federal grant. Waiting for the garage to open is a neighborhood youngster. (Photo by P. Ford)

Canada Land Inventory will provide information for land use planning in agriculture, forestry, recreation and wildlife over approximately one million square miles of the country.

Country Music Jamboree
EACH SUNDAY NIGHT AT Meadowview Park ROCKWOOD

NOTICE

To Residents of The Township of Nassagaweya

WEED SPRAYING

The Township shall be commencing its 1973 Roadside Weed Spraying Program throughout the Municipality commencing July 23, 1973. Signs are available from The Township office to be POSTED to indicate to the Weed Spray Operator that the crop nearby may be damaged.

Should additional information be required, please contact The Municipal Office at 854-2206, G. MacMillan, Road Superintendent

Health assessment

Child Health Centres providing health supervision and immunization for young children and infants have experienced a steady decline in attendance with the coming of OHIP. Dr. J. H. Chamberlain of the Halton County Health Unit told the Board of Health last week. The health unit's program would thus be more effective if emphasis were switched from health supervision to health assessment, he said. Beginning in September, then health assessment centres will replace the child health centres.

After the program for young children has been established, the Health Unit hopes to extend it to other groups.

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