

In response to an invitation extended by the Minister of Foreign Relations of Peru, Ambassador Jose de la Puente, the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, Mr. Donald C. Jamieson, paid an official visit to Peru from January 18-21, 1977.

Mr. Jamieson was accompanied by Mr. Marcel Prud'homme, M.P., Chairman of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence of the the House of Commons, senior officials of the Departments of External Affairs and Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Canadian International Development Agency, the Export Development Corporation of Canada, the Department of Agriculture and representatives from the Canadian Association for Latin America and the media.

During his visit, the Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs paid a call on the President of Peru, His Excellency Francisco Morales Bermudez Cerrutti, to whom he transmitted cordial greetings and with whom he discussed matters of common interest and in particular the development of Canadian relations with Peru.

Mr. Jamieson and his delegation also met with the Peruvian Minister of Integration, the Minister of Industry and Tourism, the Minister of Commerce, the Minister of Economy and Finance, the Minister of Food, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Transportation and Communications, the Minister of Fisheries, the Minister of Agriculture, the Minister of Energy and Mines, the head of the National Planning Institute and the President of the National System of Social Property.

During their conversations the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Peru and the Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada reviewed a number of multilateral and bilateral topics of interest to both countries. They agreed that the relations between Canada and Peru have been developing very well and they expressed their conviction that the visit has strengthened the desire of the two governments to continue to further this friendly relationship to the mutual benefit of both countries.

The two ministers reviewed the state of hemispheric affairs and developments in inter-American institutions. Minister de la Puente outlined his views on the evolution of the Organization of American States and other organizations and welcomed the contribution being made by Canada as an observer to the OAS and through its membership in the Inter-American Development Bank and a variety of other bodies. The two ministers agreed on the desirability of further co-operation on a pragmatic basis in inter-American organizations. Continuing support will also be given to efforts to further moves towards economic integration in Latin America. Canadian technical assistance to the Andean Pact and discussions of projects with the Latin American economic system were noted in this connection.