

of the number of forest companies applying for export permits on types of logs that traditionally have not been exported, the *Globe and Mail* reported July 6. A company spokesman called the export agreement a "positive opportunity" because it provided work for 550 loggers this summer. The union believed that 600 jobs could have been saved if the logs had been processed in Canada (*Globe and Mail*, July 6).

Also in July was a sale of 500,000 metric tonnes of wheat to China, worth \$100 million. The Canadian Wheat Board announced July 7 that the sale was in addition to a three-year \$2.25 billion sale announced in May (*Globe and Mail*, July 8).

EL SALVADOR

Canadian Aid

Canada's position regarding relations with El Salvador was questioned by NDP MPs during July. An International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan of eighty-five million dollars to El Salvador was called "one of the most controversial political loans the IMF has granted since the sixty-six million dollar loan to President Somoza a few weeks before he fled with the national treasury," by Bob Ogle (Saskatoon East) on July 22. Asked how Canada had voted on this loan, External Affairs Minister Mark MacGuigan answered that "Canada has a long tradition of treating matters before bodies such as the IMF as economic matters and not as political matters. We do not apply any ideological tests to our aid or to our action before international bodies." Mr. Ogle also asked how Canada would vote on "the question of the \$194 million loan proposals now before the Inter-American Development Bank for El Salvador." He was advised by Mr. MacGuigan that such a decision would be made on economic grounds only.

After a July 27 US announcement that its aid to El Salvador would include "among other things, eighty-one million dollars worth of military equipment," Mr. Ogle asked the External Affairs Minister "what measures he is taking to protest the move by the US President." Mr. MacGuigan replied that it is not Canada's role to determine what US policy should be in this situation. Canada had applauded El Salvador's decision to continue the land reform movement, he said, but Canada was not in the position to give any new development assistance to El Salvador.

FRANCE

Visits to Canada

French Transport Minister Charles Fiterman was in Ottawa on July 2 and 3 to review issues of common interest with Canada's transport department, such as the aeronautics field, and to strengthen cooperation between the two departments (Ministry of Transport press release, July 4).

Later in July a group of French delegates attended in Ottawa the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Canada-France Inter-Parliamentary Association. The meetings, between July 18 and 26, were to "promote mutual understanding by parliamentarians from each country and to

improve general bilateral relations between Canada and France" (Canada-France Inter-Parliamentary Association press release, July 15).

HONDURAS

Canadian Relations

Reports that armed forces from Honduras had invaded border areas of Nicaragua and El Salvador during July prompted critics to ask that Canada review its relations with Honduras. On July 16, Pauline Jewett (NDP, New Westminster-Coquitlam) condemned "Honduran armed forces and mercenary involvement in El Salvador and Nicaragua" and called on the Canadian government to review that country's "target country" status as a recipient of Canadian foreign aid, and to protest the Honduran military support for El Salvador. A similar request was made July 26.

The Council on Hemispheric Affairs, a US-based public interest group, also called upon Canada to deny support to Honduras. It wanted Canada to prevent a proposed thirty million dollar sale of "military transport planes" to Honduras by Crown-owned de Havilland Aircraft of Canada, Ltd. De Havilland had an export permit for three DCH-5D Buffalo aircraft it wanted to sell to Honduras. It was reported that the council had sent a letter to Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau saying that the sale would violate Canada's past declarations about the importance of human rights (*Toronto Star*, July 24). Questioned about the export permit in the House of Commons July 28, External Affairs Minister Mark MacGuigan told Bob Ogle (NDP, Saskatoon East) that he would look into the situation, but that "Buffalo aircraft are not military aircraft, and it is extremely unlikely that a permit to export Buffalo aircraft would have anything to do with the problems which exist in Central America at the present time." (See this issue, POLICY — Aid.)

HUNGARY

Visit to Canada

Hungarian Foreign Minister Frigyes Puja visited Canada from June 1 to 4. Mr. Puja and External Affairs Minister Mark MacGuigan engaged in "wide-ranging discussions of international and bilateral issues" (External Affairs press release, May 28).

INDIA

Trade

The formation of the Canada-India Business Council was announced July 9. A press release from the Canadian Chamber of Commerce said that the "Council will promote bilateral trade and investment, as well as joint investment