

Canada in 1976 than before. This includes a number of individuals on whose behalf no Canadian government representations were required. Romania, which has the second largest number of outstanding cases with Canada (after the USSR) has been steadily resolving these cases in the last two years. Poland and Hungary have not created major problems for us on family reunification. As diplomatic relations are just in the process of being established with the German Democratic Republic, we have had little direct contact with that country about family reunification.

Regarding the information provisions of Basket III, there is little to add to the points included in the November paper. No new measures aimed at improving the working conditions of journalists have been introduced by the USSR or the other Eastern European countries to our knowledge. The human rights question which has become a central issue in recent months has made the government of Czechoslovakia, in particular, sensitive about visits by foreign journalists and we have already had one unfortunate experience of this involving a Canadian journalist.

As noted in the November paper, some foreign newspapers (including the Globe and Mail) began appearing on Soviet newstands in small numbers in March 1976. Recently the number of Globe and Mail papers imported into the USSR increased slightly. The paper has also begun appearing on some Czechoslovak newstands in small numbers. Bulgaria indicated not long ago it would be importing foreign newspapers as well. These papers, it appears, are intended mainly for foreigners visiting these countries.

As the human rights question has become more and more prominent, the Eastern European governments have become increasingly sensitive about radio broadcasts from the West and some jamming has occurred. To our knowledge, Radio Canada International has not been jammed although it has come under some criticism in the Soviet press in the past. In general, however, the cooperative arrangements between the respective broadcasting organizations of Canada and Eastern Europe have been working well.

As for the cultural and educational provisions of the Final Act, activities in these areas continue on the basis of arrangements that pre-date Helsinki. However, the Final Act has served to provide some momentum to existing arrangements and has influenced to some degree the pace and direction of new arrangements as described in the November paper.

Basket III: Cooperation in Humanitarian and Other Fields

Family Reunification

The main objectives of Basket III are to promote the freer movement of people and the freer flow of information. The ultimate purpose of Basket III provisions is to develop the kind of contact and understanding between people that will increase the confidence the Final Act aims to encourage. As the Belgrade meeting draws near, Canadian public and parliamentary interests in Eastern European performance in these humanitarian areas, specifically family reunification and contacts on the basis of family ties, has clearly reflected a concern that progress be made.

In the past six months there have been some encouraging developments in several Eastern European countries, which would seem to indicate that a more positive approach is now being taken by the governments concerned to resolving outstanding family reunification questions. With the exception of the USSR, the countries with which Canada has had most difficulties over family reunification (Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia) have indicated that they are prepared to resolve existing cases on the periodic lists which we have submitted to them. These family reunification lists have been submitted to all Eastern European governments with the exception of the GDR (and, of course, Albania which is not a CSCE participant and with which Canada has no diplomatic relations). Details regarding the lists submitted are contained in the attached Annex III. The statistics of cases resolved shown in that Annex do not include cases where exit permits have been granted without Canadian government intervention. They reflect only the number of cases resolved from the specific lists mentioned. Detailed statistics regarding migration to Canada from Eastern Europe are contained in Annex I.