

ance on trade with Japan," a press release from the Minister's office stated (October 8).

POLAND

Support of Solidarity

Canadians continued in October and November to protest against the Polish government's ban on the trade union Solidarity. On October 12, the Polish Emergency Committee of Canadian Parliamentarians endorsed a statement made by the Canadian Polish Congress October 5 condemning the delegislation of the Solidarity Union in Poland, and the continuing blatant breach of all international agreements with respect to the human rights of the Polish people which could lead to tragic consequences." The Committee urged the Canadian government to express strong concern and indignation to the Polish government (Committee press release, October 12).

On October 13, the Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) announced that it would propose the suspension of Poland from membership in the UN agency, the International Labour Organization, and called on Western governments not to grant credits to the Polish military regime. On the same day, as on the thirteenth of every month (martial law was declared in Poland on December 13, 1981), demonstrations were held in several Canadian cities.

When the House of Commons resumed sitting on October 27, one of the first motions presented was, "That this House express its strong concern and indignation at the action of the Polish Government with regard to the legalizing of the Solidarity Union Movement." There was unanimous consent for this motion, and members of all three political parties addressed the Commons to demonstrate their concern for recent events in Poland. In addition, PC external affairs critic John Crosbie (St. John's West) asked External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen whether the Canadian government was considering imposing sanctions against Poland, beyond the existing suspension of academic exchanges, the restriction of movement by Polish diplomats, and the refusal to extend commercial credits for goods other than food. Mr. MacEachen explained that the view of the government was that "the effect of additional sanctions in the field of exchanges would likely be very ineffective indeed." Mr. MacEachen also did not support Mr. Crosbie's specific requests that Canada not renew the credit terms on the sale of grain to Poland, and withdraw fishing quotas for Polish trawlers in Canadian waters.

In a separate announcement, Employment and Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy said that about 150 persons, including former detainees who belong to Solidarity, and their families, would be admitted to Canada from Poland. "They are not being expelled from Poland but have voluntarily elected to immigrate to Canada to escape unrest and the persecution they and their families have experienced in their own country," Mr. Axworthy said (Minister of Employment and Immigration press release, October 26). The House of Commons again gave unanimous consent to a motion November 16 commending the Polish government for releasing Solidarity leader Lech Walesa,

wishing Mr. Walesa "successful re-entry into the public life of his country," and giving support to a liberalization of conditions in Poland, the release of all other people imprisoned since the imposition of martial law, and the lifting of martial law.

PORTUGAL

Visit of Prime Minister to Canada

The Prime Minister of Portugal, Francisco Pinto Balsemão, visited Canada between October 4 and 7. During the first-ever visit of a Portuguese head of state to Canada, bilateral relations, as well as relationships within NATO and other multilateral organizations were discussed by Mr. Balsemão, Prime Minister Trudeau and several cabinet ministers. It was also reported that better trade relations between the two countries were urged by Mr. Balsemão (*Globe and Mail*, October 6).

SOUTH AFRICA

IMF Loan

Despite some opposition in Canada, the Canadian delegation voted to support a loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to South Africa on November 3. The \$US1.1 billion loan was requested by South Africa because of a serious recession brought on in part by a sharp drop in the price of gold, its major export (*Globe and Mail*, November 4). Among those urging a negative vote by Canada was NDP external affairs critic Pauline Jewett. An October 12 press release from Miss Jewett stated that this would be the first such loan to that country since 1976. "Canada must strenuously oppose this loan application . . . There is little point of imposing sport and cultural sanctions on South Africa if the international community then gives massive financial support to the apartheid regime there," she said.

At the United Nations General Assembly in late October, Canada had been one of twenty-three countries abstaining from a vote, which passed by 121 to three votes, to request that the IMF refuse the loan (*Globe and Mail*, October 22). At the IMF, countries such as Canada voted to approve the loan because the qualifications for receiving the international funds are based on technical and economic reasons only (*Globe and Mail*, November 4).

USSR

Grain Exports

It was announced by Senator Hazen Argue, Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, on October 13 that Canada and the Soviet Union had signed a record-breaking grain deal, expected to earn grain producers in Canada about 1.4 billion dollars. The contracts involved