

\$485.9 million, proceeds of a borrowing on the Japanese capital market of 120 billion yen.

The August international reserve figures were released September 6 by the Finance Department, and the change registered resulted from a rise in the US dollar value of the SDR (representing an increase of \$4.9 million). Included was a \$1 billion repayment under the standby credit facility with foreign banks and \$200 million with Canadian institutions. Again in millions of US dollars the reserves as of August 31 were:

US Dollars	1,781.8
Other Foreign Currencies	323.6
Gold	717.7
Special Drawing Rights	90.0
Reserve Position in IMF	719.6
Total:	3,632.7
Change from July 31:	-560.7

## FOREIGN

### Party Positions

Preceding the September federal election, the Ottawa-based North-South Institute submitted questions to and conducted interviews with representatives of the principal political parties of Canada (receiving a written statement from the Liberal Party) to ascertain positions on a wide range of foreign policy issues. Reviewing the responses of Sinclair Stevens (PC), Pauline Jewett (NDP), and Jean Chrétien (Lib.), Institute Director Bernard Wood stated that none of the party positions represented a "complete and coherent" foreign policy (*Globe and Mail*, August 25). Mr. Wood suggested that there existed a "lack of understanding of the complexity of the issues," resulting in a "real drought in foreign policy discussion." News reports had frequently mentioned the absence of foreign policy issues from the political platforms as presented during the summer's election campaign. While the Institute has, in the past, advocated an internationalist approach to global economic problems, it did not find among the three parties any "convincing, informed internationalist options." Mr. Wood cited as responsible for the hesitation to bring foreign policy issues to the forefront during a campaign, the potential for "false steps" in an area similar to a "minefield."

The Progressive Conservative responses to the Institute provide an indication of possible future foreign policy. Mr. Stevens outlined several "initiatives" that would be viewed as priorities by a Conservative government to provide for Canada a more "effective and prominent role . . . on the world stage." There would, said Mr. Stevens, be greater emphasis on both South and Central America, including membership in the OAS and closer economic and diplomatic ties. A "more focused look" would also be given to ASEAN, the Commonwealth and La Francophonie. Canadian efforts to strengthen the UN would be "redoubled," he continued. Development assistance would be concentrated in fewer countries than at present, said Mr. Stevens, in order to sustain long-term potential for successful development. While traditional Canadian responsiveness to sudden emergencies would remain in effect,

new emphasis would be placed on donor-receiver "compatibility" — business prospects of bilateral trade gaining in importance. On financing and debt, the Conservatives did not envisage the necessity of a radical restructuring of international financial institutions, provided they remained "tuned and responsive to the conditions that prevail." On the economic revival front, the Conservatives felt that the dangers of protectionist trends did not warrant a lowering of trade barriers when the present state of Canada's economy was taken into consideration. Export drives would be a major priority, along with research and development (North-South Institute press release, August 23).

### UN Appearance of Clark

Prior to his late-September appearance before the UN General Assembly, External Affairs Minister Joe Clark elaborated on several aspects of Conservative foreign policy. The new government, according to Mr. Clark, would place greater emphasis on international trade, and endeavor to gain for Canada a greater share. He noted that "economic development is the key, particularly the promotion of international trade." He indicated at that time that the Party would be undertaking a review of Canadian foreign policy in the near future, in order to define "contemporary Canadian interest . . . in modern world affairs" (*The Citizen*, September 18, 19).

Joe Clark's address to the UN was designed as a "message of reassurance" that no drastic changes would be undertaken in foreign policy under the new government. Policy would remain basically unchanged, including Canada's commitment to the UN (*The Citizen*, September 22). For more complete coverage of the UN address, see this issue — UN — Clark address.

## IMMIGRATION

### Family Reunification

On August 13, then Employment and Immigration Minister John Roberts announced changes to Canadian policy which would facilitate family reunification. The change, requiring neither Cabinet approval nor legislative amendment, affects the Commission's special program pertaining to last remaining family members, which had undergone a review. Special consideration "on humanitarian and compassionate grounds" will now be granted "in all instances where there is a last remaining single son or daughter who is not sponsorable and who otherwise meets statutory requirements of good health and no criminal record." It will only remain for a visa officer to be satisfied that such family members are alone abroad with parents in Canada or in the process of receiving immigrant status. Mr. Roberts stated that this partial easing of admission requirements would alleviate the hardships faced by separated families. It will no longer be necessary to prove "ongoing financial and emotional dependency on relatives in Canada" when applying for immigrant visas by this class. The change was described by the Minister as a clarification and expansion of the immigration program (Employment and Immigration news release, August 13, *Globe and Mail*, August 14).