

expense of third countries like Canada. We have made concrete proposals to minimize the possible adverse effects of enlargement. In the same constructive spirit, we have urged the Community to be open and outward-looking and non-discriminatory in its trading policies, and to do everything to avoid a trade confrontation with the United States costly to themselves, to us and the Western world as a whole.

While in Europe, I re-emphasized these points, as did my colleague the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce who, as the House knows, was in Bonn at the same time. I went a step further on this occasion and urged both the member governments and the Commission of the EEC to give serious consideration to the establishment of procedures for regular consultation with Canada. Honourable members will readily understand that if and when enlargement is achieved relations between Canada and the other great trading entities - the European Community, the United States and Japan - as well as among these entities themselves, will assume even greater significance for us and for them. It will be a different trading world.

I believe I am justified in saying that the Canadian concerns are fully understood in Europe and that the response has been positive, principally because our fundamental attitude to European unity has been constructive. We shall continue to press our case on every suitable occasion during the months ahead when crucial decisions are to be made.

While in Brussels, I signed, on behalf of Canada, an Agreement for Scientific and Technological Co-operation with Belgium. This Agreement will facilitate and encourage expansion of scientific, industrial and technological co-operation between our countries. The Agreement illustrates how Canada is broadening the scope of its relations with Europe, one of our major policy objectives, so identified in the Government's foreign policy review.

While in Rome, I was received in audience by the Pope. Our discussion ranged over the troubled areas of the world and concentrated upon the Middle East, which is one of His Holiness' gravest concerns. The Pope recalled with pleasure a visit he paid to Canada some twenty years ago, and the expression of his warm sentiments for this country brought to mind the thoughtful comment he made in 1969 when he said that the forces uniting Canadians seemed to him stronger than the forces that tend to divide us.