

## REPLY TO U THANT ON VIETNAM

On March 29, the Secretary of State for External Affairs released the next of his reply to the proposals on Vietnam by the Secretary-General at the United Nations, made available on March 14 to the Canadian Government and others. The following Canadian reply was handed to U Thant by Canada's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador George Ignatieff, on March 22:

I want to let you know how much I appreciate your keeping the Canadian Government informed of your current efforts in connection with the Vietnam problem. As you know, we have welcomed the persistent interest you have taken in this question, and the efforts you have been making to see whether some opening might be found which could show the way towards a peaceful settlement. I need hardly assure you that we have given the closest attention to the text of the proposals you have presented to North Vietnam and the United States, and it is our hope that the response of both sides to your action may be positive, in whole or even in part. As far as Canada is concerned, I should like to confirm that if it were to appear that a useful role could be played by the International Commission in achieving the objectives we all have in mind, we would be fully prepared to use whatever influence we command by virtue of our membership in that organization. In the meantime I look forward to maintaining the closest possible contact with you as these matters evolve.

Paul Martin

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## FISHERIES MINISTER TO U.S.S.R.

At the invitation of the U.S.S.R. Government, the Minister of Fisheries, Mr. H.J. Robichaud, left Canada on April 1 for a 12-day visit to Russia. Mr. Robichaud was accompanied by the Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Dr. A.W.H. Needler; Richard Nelson, Chairman, Nelson Brothers Fisheries Limited, Vancouver; W.R. Morrow, Vice-President, National Sea Products Limited, Halifax; Guy LeBlanc, President, Fisheries Council of Canada, Montreal; and Dr. W.E. Ricker, Chief Scientist of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, Nanaimo, British Columbia.

Mr. Robichaud is meeting the U.S.S.R. Minister of Fisheries in Moscow and will then visit fishery administrations, fishery research and training establishments, as well as some of Russia's modern fishing vessels and processing plants.

Areas visited during the stay in Russia will include Moscow, Murmansk, Leningrad, Riga and the Black Sea. Russia is a highly developed fishing nation, and the group will have an opportunity to see and assess some of its fisheries developments which have significance to Canada's fisheries.

Mr. Robichaud, Dr. Needler and Mr. Nelson will also spend three days in Norway after they leave Moscow on April 6. They will meet with Norwegian fishery officials, and see Norwegian fishing activities,

including the herring fishery, particularly appropriate at this time in view of the rapidly-expanding herring fishery on Canada's Atlantic coast.

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## CARIBBEAN LABOUR FOR CANADA

Seasonal workers from the Caribbean area will be admitted to Canada again this summer to assist Ontario farmers in the growing, harvesting and canning of fruit and vegetables, it was announced recently by Mr. Jean Marchand, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration. The Minister recalled that last year, as an experiment, seasonal workers from Jamaica had been admitted to Canada. An evaluation of the movement by his Department indicated that employers were well satisfied with the performance of the 264 workers concerned.

The decision to admit seasonal workers this year has been made after consultation with the Canada Agricultural Manpower Committee. Expected acreages and growing conditions this year are such that extra help will again be needed in Ontario; the traditional sources of seasonal labour - the Atlantic Provinces, Quebec, the United States and Indian reserves - will not be able to meet the need.

This year it is expected that workers will be recruited in Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago, as well as Jamaica. If the 1967 movement warrants it and there is a continuing need for seasonal labour in 1968, the canvassing of other Caribbean countries will be considered.

Mr. Marchand said that his Department would also co-operate with employers who, through their own arrangements, hired individual seasonal workers in other Commonwealth or French Caribbean territories, provided they met the same terms as those stipulated for the organized movement.

## CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

The main conditions which will apply to all seasonal workers from the Caribbean are:

(1) Employers will be required to pay a minimum wage of \$1.30 an hour or the prevailing piecework rate, whichever is higher. (The rate last year was \$1.25 an hour.) They will also provide a minimum average weekly salary of \$50 during the employment period. In addition, they must provide adequate accommodation.

(2) Transportation costs, based on the economy return air-fare from Kingston, Jamaica, to Toronto, will be paid by the employer. Where employers or their associations are able to arrange charter flights, they will benefit, of course, from the resulting economies. The extra fare from the more distant islands over and above the return fare - Jamaica to Toronto - will be borne either by the workers themselves or, if preferred, by their governments.

(3) Between May 1 and October 31, employers may bring in workers for not less than six weeks or more than four months. All workers will be required to leave Canada by November 1.

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