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Visit by USSR official expands bilateral relations

Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney met with Vitaly Vorotnikov, a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, during his seven-day visit to Canada. Mr. Vorotnikov was in Ottawa, May 26 to 29, to continue the dialogue between Canadian and Soviet leaders on important international and bilateral topics. He then travelled to Alberta at the invitation of Premier Peter Lougheed. Welcoming Mr. Vorotnikov to Canada, Mr. Clark said that the visit was "the latest step in efforts to develop our bilateral relations". He also expressed the hope that meeting each other would "contribute to a better understanding of each other's positions, aims and motives, at this juncture in East/West relations".

Mr. Clark added that it was necessary to "bring wider circles of decision makers, opinion formers and experts in touch with each other" in order to expand relations between Canada and the USSR.



(From left) Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark, USSR Politburo Member Vitaly Vorotnikov and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney meet in Ottawa during Mr. Vorotnikov's visit.

Canada's major role in international science and technology

Dr. Larkin Kerwin, president of the National Research Council and Canada's representative on the Working Group on Technology, Growth and Employment, has indicated that Canada is playing an important role in a number of science and technology projects of the group.

The working group, which reported to the leaders at the Bonn Economic Summit in May, was set up by the summit leaders at their meeting in Versailles in June 1982. It includes representatives from Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Economic Community.

First in aquaculture

Canada leads the team on aquaculture which has conducted workshops on salmon and shellfish production, and is preparing a report on existing world use of the technology, research efforts and funding for collaborative efforts in the area. The group has identified the need for scientific structures in the field aimed at increasing and optimizing the harvests by maritime industries.

Canada is a co-leader with France of another team studying new technologies as they are applied to culture, education and vocational training. In the field of computeraided learning, France and Canada have committed themselves to establishing national data banks of information on educational technology. Studies are being conducted on the possible use of "intelligent" video disks in technology training.

Some 18 projects were established by the working group. Those studies in which Canadians have participated actively include: remote sensing from space; advanced robotics; public acceptance of new technologies; biotechnology; advanced materials and stanAfter a meeting with the prime minister, Mr. Clark said that Mr. Mulroney "made the point that we are neighbours to both superpowers and while we are unquestionably a member of one alliance, we intend to develop our relations with both".

Trade important

One of the central issues discussed was trade and the secretary of state for external affairs pointed out that it was an important issue as the USSR is Canada's fourth largest trading partner. He recognized that "the structure of our trade needs attention" suggesting that "we must, while continuing to develop our important trade in commodities, move ahead in the manufacturing sector and in the modern technologies of industry and agriculture".

Other issues included expanding agricultural, scientific, technical, Arctic, cultural and artistic co-operation. Mr. Clark also elicited a promise from Mr. Vorotnikov that Soviet and Canadian officials will review information on requests by Soviet citizens to be reunited with family members.

Mr. Clark said Mr. Mulroney accepted "in principle" an invitation from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to visit the Soviet Union at some time during his first term as prime minister. Details remain to be worked out.

Last March, Mr. Mulroney attended the funeral of Mr. Gorbachev's predecessor, Konstantin Chernenko, and met the new Soviet leader briefly. Mr. Clark visited the USSR in April to expand relations between the two countries (see *Canada Weekly*, May 1, 1985).

dards; controlled thermonuclear fusion; food technology; basic biology; high energy physics; and solar system exploration.

Environmental concerns

Canada also played a major role in the 1984 working group report on the environment dealing with atmospheric pollution, toxic and radioactive wastes, marine pollution, pollution of soils and waters, land husbandry and climatic change. The federal Department of the Environment was represented on the group which prepared the report emphasizing that economic and environmental policies can be brought closer together through science and technology.

The working group reported in Bonn that the attention the summit had paid to technology issues has stimulated international co-operation and increased the realization among summit countries and others that research and technology are a driving force for increasing industrial performance.