

hours with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. The two leaders were expected to discuss Mr. Peres's meeting of the previous week with Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak, as well as Israeli proposals for bilateral cooperation on a Third World development project and a joint scientific agreement (*The Citizen*, September 18).

At a news conference following the meeting, Mr. Peres said that Mr. Mulroney had supported his idea of an international anti-terrorist force, which he had also discussed with US President Ronald Reagan in Washington. Mr. Mulroney said that the idea, still in its infancy, interested Canada and merited further discussion (*Globe and Mail*, September 18).

JAPAN

Auto Imports

On August 12, the *Globe and Mail* reported that talks in Victoria on August 4 and 5 between International Trade Minister Pat Carney and her Japanese counterpart had led to an agreement, still to be formally approved, that would permit Japan to increase its auto exports to Canada in the fiscal year ending March 31, 1987, by 17.6 percent, to 240,000 units. Eiichi Sato, the commercial counsellor at the Japanese Embassy in Ottawa, said in response to the report that Japan had not made any agreement on the exact number of cars it will export to Canada this year, while a spokesman for the Minister said "negotiations have concluded. There will be a statement" (*The Citizen*, August 13).

On August 20, the Minister announced that Canada and Japan had reached an understanding on Japanese automobile imports for the current fiscal year. Japanese authorities, she said, had given Canada an understanding that there would be no disruption of the Canadian market caused by Japanese imports, which were expected to be about 21 percent of the Canadian auto market, about the same level of penetration as in the US (Government of Canada news release, August 20).

SOUTH AFRICA

Sanctions

Prior to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Review meeting held in London from August 3 to 5, Bernard Wood, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's personal representative, predicted that the meeting would produce a basic package of sanctions against South Africa, including a ban on air links and agricultural imports. While Mr. Wood refused to speculate on whether Britain was likely to be among the countries that would accept the basic package, he did say that some countries were likely to refuse to accept in total the basic sanctions package, while others would wish to add to it. Mr. Wood tried to discount notions that Mr. Mulroney might act as mediator between British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and other members of the Commonwealth, explaining that Mr. Mulroney was seen

by southern African nations as a strong advocate of sanctions, instead of in the less committed position that the word mediator suggested (*Globe and Mail*, August 1).

At the end of the Commonwealth "mini-summit," Canada, Australia, the Bahamas, India, Zambia and Zimbabwe issued a communiqué in which they agreed to recommend to the entire Commonwealth the following program of eleven punitive economic measures against the Pretoria government:

- a ban on air links,
- a ban on new investment or reinvestment of profits earned in South Africa,
- a ban on agricultural imports,
- termination of any double tax agreements with South Africa,
- termination of any remaining government assistance to investment or trade with South Africa,
- an end to any government procurement inside South Africa,
- a ban on any government contracts with majority-owned South African companies,
- a ban on the promotion of South African tourism,
- a ban on all new bank loans, whether to the public or private sector,
- a ban on imports of uranium, coal, iron and steel,
- the withdrawal of all consular facilities except those dealing directly with each country's own nationals.

Britain accepted only voluntary bans on new investment and tourist promotion, but agreed to accept an expected European Community decision to ban imports of coal, iron and steel, and gold coins.

While the seven nations regretted "the absence of full agreement" on the question of sanctions, they recognized that "the potential for united Commonwealth action still exists," and agreed to keep the situation under review and to call a full Commonwealth heads-of-government meeting if necessary (*Globe and Mail*, August 5).

Prime Minister Mulroney said he was "less than ecstatic" about the split between Britain and the other Commonwealth nations, but firmly defended the six-nation agreement, saying that it held "little solace" for Pretoria, and represented "a model which others can follow." Mr. Mulroney had urged Mrs. Thatcher to recognize that US moves on sanctions were imminent, and that Commonwealth members must choose between being seen as leaders on sanctions or as followers of Washington later (*Globe and Mail*, August 5). *The Citizen* reported on August 5 that Mr. Mulroney and External Affairs Minister Joe Clark had met with Mrs. Thatcher and British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe for an hour after lunch at 10 Downing Street, in a final attempt to persuade Britain to sign the communiqué. *The Citizen* also reported on the same day that Mr. Mulroney had spoken to US President Ronald Reagan by telephone just before leaving for the London meeting, and the Prime Minister had pointed out to Mr. Reagan that, while the President said that he was opposed to sanctions on principle, he had not hesitated to ask for Mr. Mulroney's support for sanctions against Libya.