

We have agreed with the Soviet Union to enter into early negotiations for the conclusion of a comprehensive agreement on cultural, scientific and technical exchanges in order to ensure better reciprocity and to raise further the level of mutually beneficial exchanges between the two countries. We have also agreed on the opening of a Soviet Consulate-General in Montreal to deal with the growing flow of trade and persons both ways. It was agreed that Canada has the right to open a comparable office in the U.S.S.R. whenever it wishes.

It is true, as news reports stated, that Mr. Gromyko raised with me the questions of the extradition of alleged "war criminals" and the so-called "anti-Soviet campaign" in Canada. I explained to him the Canadian law on the former subject, law designed to protect the individual against arbitrary action. On the latter, I made it clear that there was not and had not, as suggested, been any "anti-Soviet campaign" inspired or encouraged by the Canadian Government. I pointed out that Canada is a free country and that the Government is not in control of the news media. I also urged Prime Minister Kosygin, on humanitarian grounds, to continue to facilitate the movement of close relatives from the U.S.S.R. to Canada in order to assist the reunification of families. I have every hope that there will be an amelioration in the reunification of families as a result of what Mr. Kosygin said to me. I sought to impress on him how much this means to Canadians who come from that part of the world.

In Italy, needless to say, my talks took place in the very easy and open atmosphere to which we have long been accustomed in our relations with Italy, our friend and ally. We were readily able to reach agreement on some bilateral matters and in large measure we found ourselves in agreement on the international issues.

I was happy to explain to Italian Government leaders the implications for immigration from Italy of the recent White Paper, and to assure them both of our great appreciation of the contribution made by the Italians who have already come to Canada and our hope and desire that the flow should continue. I signed with Mr. Fanfani an