

CONSULAR PACT WITH U.S.S.R.

Mr. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, has announced the signing of a consular agreement with the Soviet Union.

The main purpose of the agreement, concluded by an exchange of notes in Moscow between the Canadian Ambassador and the Soviet foreign ministry on July 14, is to protect citizens of each country visiting the other from the difficulties sometimes created by differences on citizenship legislation.

It also provides that the area of jurisdiction of a Canadian consulate, when it is eventually opened in the U.S.S.R., will be of comparable size to the area of jurisdiction of the Soviet Consulate-General in Montreal, which covers the Province of Quebec.

REUNIFICATION OF FAMILIES

At the same time, the Secretary of State for External Affairs reports continuing progress toward the solution of the question of reunification of families separated by the Second World War and its aftermath.

Since 1964, the Prime Minister has been in direct correspondence with Mr. Khrushchov, and subsequently with Mr. Kosygin, on this subject. The

STREAM OF STATE VISITORS

At the invitation of the Governor General, official guests from 15 countries visited Canada from the latter half of May to mid-July. Heads of state or their representatives were welcomed in Ottawa and went on to Expo '67 for the celebration of the national days of their countries. Several guests, were forced however, to curtail their visits because of uneasy world conditions.

President Z. Shazar of Israel and Mrs. Shazar, accompanied by senior Israeli officials, arrived in Ottawa on May 21. Events in the Middle East necessitated the cancellation of their scheduled visit to Toronto, limiting their visits outside the capital to Montreal and Quebec.

Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard of The Netherlands, accompanied by The Netherlands Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. J.H. Luns, were in Canada from May 13 to 26. Besides Ottawa and Montreal, the Queen and her party visited Toronto, southwestern Ontario, Calgary and Victoria.

President L.B. Johnson of the United States, accompanied by the U.S. Postmaster-General, Lawrence F. O'Brien, visited Montreal on May 23. Afterwards, he made a brief visit to the summer home of Prime Minister L.B. Pearson at Harrington Lake near Ottawa.

Like the U.S. President, Prime Minister Harold Wilson of Britain, had to cut his visit short. While Mr. Wilson was being officially welcomed in Ottawa, on June 1, Mr. H. Bowden, the British Commonwealth Secretary, represented his country in Montreal, during the celebration of Britain's national day.

Prime Minister H.E. Holt of Australia and Mrs. Holt, accompanied by senior Australian officials,

Secretary of State for External Affairs also raised it with the Soviet Premier in Moscow in November 1966. There have been many other discussions of the question, including those initiated by the Canadian Parliamentary delegation on its visit to the U.S.S.R. in 1965.

HELP FROM RED CROSS

The results of efforts on both sides and of the continuing work of the Canadian Red Cross, in cooperation with the Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent, have been encouraging. In 1965 and 1966, the number of people able to leave the Soviet Union to join their families in Canada has more than doubled over the two preceding years, to over 400.

In discussions with Canadian representatives, the Soviet Union has confirmed its intention to continue to give sympathetic and benevolent consideration to applications from people in the U.S.S.R. wishing to join their families in Canada. The Secretary of State for External Affairs is, therefore, hopeful that this matter, once a serious obstacle to improved understanding between Canada and the U.S.S.R., will continue to be resolved satisfactorily.

visited Canada between June 3 and 8. Besides Ottawa and Montreal, Mr. Holt and his party visited Quebec City.

The Minister of Economy of Iran, Dr. Ali-Khani was in Canada from June 7 to 10. His visit included national day celebrations in Montreal.

The Associate Minister of Industry and Commerce of Tunisia, Mr. Bechir Ennaji represented his country at its national day celebrations at Expo '67 on June 13.

President H. Lübke of the Federal Republic of Germany and Mrs. Lübke were in Canada from June 9 to 15. Besides Ottawa and Montreal, the President visited Calgary.

The President of the Korean Red Cross, Dr. Doo Sun Choi, represented his country in Ottawa and Montreal. During his week in Canada, from June 13 to 18, he also visited Quebec City and Toronto.

Prime Minister Dudley Senanayake of Ceylon, accompanied by senior officials, was in Ottawa and Montreal beginning June 19. Before he returned to Ceylon on June 25, he also visited Quebec and British Columbia.

King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit of Thailand were in Canada from June 20 to 24, visiting Quebec City as well as Ottawa and Montreal.

The Minister of Information, Broadcasting and Tourism of Uganda, Mr. A. Ojera, was in Canada from June 25. After visiting Ottawa and Montreal, he left Canada for the United States on June 30.

Dr. Zakir Husain of India, accompanied by senior officials, visited Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec and Halifax from June 26 to July 1.

Ambassador Louis Rakotomalala of the Malagasy Republic, accredited to Canada from Washington,