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Mr. Trudeau in Washington - congenial, useful talks with Mr. Ford

Prime Minister Trudeau returned from a two-day visit to Washington on December 5 after having met twice with President Ford. He also spoke with U.S. senators, was guest of honour at a lunch and answered questions at a press conference.

Although the purpose of the visit was to "get acquainted" with Mr. Ford and not to solve any particular problems, the two leaders discussed a broad range of subjects including international issues, defence, and such bilateral matters as oil exports, beef quotas and pollution of the Great Lakes.

Passages from a transcript (published December 8) follow of the Prime Minister's interview with U.S. World and News Report:

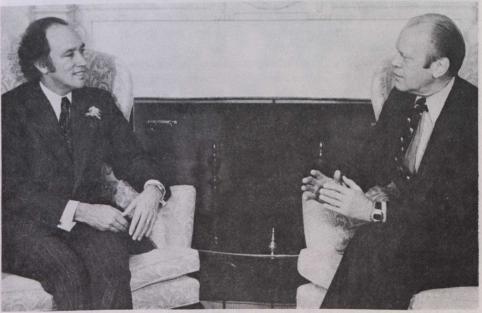
Q: Mr. Prime Minister, you have just had an official visit with President Ford in Washington. Would you say relations are still healthy?

A: Yes, relations are healthy. There are bound to be difficulties or "irritants" all the time between countries which together have the largest bilateral trading partners in the world. But I think the important thing is that each country knows and respects the other well enough, and desires to be on good terms with the other enough, that we always find ways of resolving our difficulties.

Q: Are you satisfied with the outcome of your talks?

A: Yes. I found the meetings very congenial and very useful. Not only did we cover every point on the agenda albeit briefly - but I think we reached a greater understanding of the background of our respective policies. And I feel I reached a level of personal relationship with the President which I believe will be very useful in the future.

Q: For the first time in decades the U.S. has directly retaliated against a Canadian policy - imposing quotas on your cattle and beef exports after you placed limits on American shipments. Is this a change in tactics by Washing-



Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau (left) with U.S. President Gerald Ford | at the beginning of December.

in the Oval Office of the White House