

Concern over South Africa

On the instructions of Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson, who was out of the country, the Acting Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs made the following comments to the Ambassador of South Africa in Ottawa on October 25:

The Canadian Government has noted with concern the developments which have taken place in South Africa in recent days, involving widespread arrests, bannings and the closing of newspapers.

It is evident that the South African Government is attempting to silence voices of dissent to the policies of *apartheid*.

For 30 years successive Canadian Governments have condemned these policies as being a denial of fundamental human rights.

Moreover, Canada has consistently believed that these policies of *apartheid* and

their effects are quite properly matters of international concern.

The Canadian Government considers that, in the attempt to silence such legitimate dissent, the South African Government appears to be employing tactics which will produce more bitterness, more violence and much more insecurity.

Therefore, the Canadian Government urges the Government of South Africa, before it is too late, to pay heed to these voices of dissent. South Africa will only find real security when greater social justice is given to the majority of the people of that country.

Visit to francophone Africa

The External Affairs Department announced on October 28 that Minister of Supply and Services Jean-Pierre Goyer, who is also Adviser for *Francophone* Affairs, would visit *francophone* Africa — Upper Volta, Zaire and Gabon — from November 6 to 15. Mr. Goyer led a Canadian delegation to West Africa in June and, more recently, a commercial mission to Algeria and Morocco.

The Minister was expected to discuss with his hosts bilateral and multilateral relations, including political issues, aid development and trade.

In Ouagadougou, Kinshasa and Libreville, he was to follow up on several projects examined during the recent visit to Canada of President El Hadj Omar Bongo of Gabon and the private trips to Ottawa of the Foreign Affairs Ministers of Zaire and Upper Volta.

Accompanying Mr. Goyer, the announcement stated, would be officials of the Department of External Affairs, the Canadian International Development Agency and the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

First female tops Forces officer training course

Tradition was broken at the Canadian Forces Officer Candidate School, Chilliwack, British Columbia recently when a servicewoman won the sword — awarded to the top graduate of the course.

Second Lieutenant Wendy Tighe of Kingston, Ontario, editor of *The Sentinel*, Forces national magazine, was the first female to win the sword in the school's eight-year history. She earned the honour after 15 weeks of basic officer training, competing against 77 men and women. The course concentrates on leadership and physical training.

Naturally very pleased with her achievement, Wendy Tighe said she had suspected she was doing well in her platoon, one of three attending the course. But, she said, she was "a little surprised" to be top graduate of the whole course.

After seven years in the Naval Reserve, the lieutenant transferred to the Regular Force last November, when she joined the Information Services at National Defence headquarters in Ottawa. Experience in the Reserve helped a lot, she said, in becoming adjusted to life in the Regular Force.



Second Lieutenant Wendy Tighe (left), first female to top the Canadian Forces Officer Candidate School at Canadian Forces Base, Chilliwack, British Columbia, was presented with the ceremonial sword by Commander B.E.E. Derible of Montreal, commandant of Canadian Forces Fleet School, Esquimalt, B.C., with whom (above) she carries out the graduation inspection.

Major cutback in nickel production

Conditions in the nickel market, which have progressively deteriorated and with no prospect of early improvement, have forced a major curtailment of nickel production next year by Inco Metals Company, the primary metals production and marketing unit of Inco Limited. Substantial reductions in capital and other expenditures will also be made.

Layoffs

In Canada, employment at Inco Metals' Ontario and Manitoba Divisions will be reduced by some 3,450 hourly rated and staff jobs by mid-1978 through a combination of layoffs and attrition. About 2,800 of these jobs are in the Sudbury area and about 650 in Thompson, Manitoba. Most of the reduction in the Manitoba Division will be accomplished through attrition. With the attrition rate much lower in the Ontario Division, it will be necessary to lay off an estimated 2,200 hourly paid and staff employees at the end of January 1978. These employees will be given 16 weeks' notice. This reduction in employment is in addition to