



Mr. Trudeau meets with Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

tract to provide the Algerian government with tanker trucks and parts.

Algeria is Canada's largest customer in Africa with 1980 exports to that country reaching a high of \$400 million. Exports to Algeria consist primarily of agricultural products, lumber, prefabricated buildings and asbestos. Current projects under negotiation between Canadian



Prime Minister Trudeau and youngest son Michel tour Rome.

firms and the Algerian government are in the areas of energy, transportation, telecommunications, education, agriculture and housing. The Canadian and Algerian governments are co-operating in areas such as public health, fisheries, agriculture and education.

The existence of a \$1.2-billion line of credit, provided to Algeria by Canada's Export Development Corporation, is expected to reduce technical barriers and increase bilateral exchanges. In addition, the establishment of a joint commission on "economic, scientific and technical co-operation" provides a framework for planning future exchanges.

Italian visit

Before returning to Canada, Prime Minister Trudeau visited Rome where he met with Italian Premier Arnaldo Forlani to discuss preparations for the Ottawa Summit. Italy is one of the seven countries which will participate in the summit meeting.

The Prime Minister made an unexpected visit to the hospital where Pope John-Paul II was recovering from injuries sustained in an assassination attempt. Mr. Trudeau did not meet with the Pope but signed the guest book, becoming the first foreign head of state to formally pay his respects.

Ontario funds job training

The Ontario government is offering grants of up to \$60,000 a year to community groups which offer employment counseling and job placement or training to unemployed youth.

The program is designed to help young people who have an especially tough time entering the job market.

The program is in response to a study last year which indicated that school drop-outs with little work experience have a harder time than any other group finding work.

Programs to meet the needs of the group would offer counselling, job placement and training, and follow-up assistance.

They would also have to be locally based, non-institutional and have links to other employment programs and youth services.

The provincial government will provide \$15 million during the next five years for the program.

Social security pact with Portugal

A social security agreement between Canada and Portugal went into effect in May.

It is the third Canadian social security agreement to come into force; Canada also has agreements in force with Italy and France. A similar agreement has been signed with the United States but is not yet in effect.

The agreement with Portugal will allow about 5,000 Canadian residents to qualify for Canadian benefits during the first year of implementation.

The agreement co-ordinates the application of the Old Age Security and Canada Pension Plan programs in Canada with the application of the social security programs in Portugal which cover old age, disability and death. Both Canada and Portugal have minimum residence or contributory requirements for individuals to qualify for benefits.

Wheat to U.S.S.R.

Canada and the Soviet Union have signed a major long-term grain agreement.

Senator Hazen Argue, minister of state for the Canadian Wheat Board and Boris Gordeev, vice-minister of foreign trade for the Soviet Union, exchanged letters finalizing the deal.

The agreement stipulates that Canada will sell to the Soviet Union five-million tons of grain a year for the next five years made up of wheat, barley and oats.

"This agreement reinforces Canada's traditional role as a first line supplier of grains to the U.S.S.R. and continues the grain trading relationship that has existed between the two nations for many years," said Senator Argue.

The agreement was negotiated between representatives of the Canadian Wheat Board and V/O Exportkhleb, the Soviet grain trading corporation.

Canada and the Soviet Union exchanged "most favoured nation" status in 1956 when the Canada-U.S.S.R. trade agreement was signed. Long-term agreements were continued until 1969.

As with other long-term agreements of this kind, the Senator said separate contracts for the sale of specific amounts of grain at particular times will be negotiated periodically.

The new agreement will be in effect from August 1, 1981 to July 31, 1986.