

tween the countries was that Japan was under pressure from the US and Europe to accept more exports from those countries because Japanese exports exceeded imports from those countries, by billions of dollars. Canada is one of the few nations which has a trade surplus with Japan — about \$1.5 billion in \$9 billion in two-way trade. Most of what Japan imports from Canada is in raw or semi-finished material, and only about 2 percent had been in manufactured products (*Globe and Mail*, January 17). Canada was afraid that Japan would begin to import more from the US and Europe at the expense of Canadian goods (*The Citizen*, January 17). After two meetings with Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Mr. Trudeau told the press that Mr. Nakasone was aware of Canadian fears, and "It's fair to say he gave me assurances there would be no such diversions."

Mr. Trudeau was questioned by local and Canadian journalists on January 17 about a range of issues, mostly trade-related. He said that both Japan and Canada are firm believers in international trade and open markets, as expressed in recent GATT talks. Mr. Trudeau answered questions by local journalists about Canadian export restrictions. Only the export of energy resources and uranium are conditional, the Prime Minister answered. And about foreign investment in Canada, he said that he had specifically told the Japanese government that Canada encourages additional Japanese capital investment in Canada, and that 90 or 95 percent of applications for foreign investment are regarded as being "to the benefit of the Canadian economy," as the Foreign Investment Review Act stipulates.

The next day, in a speech to members of the Canada-Japan Society and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in Japan, Mr. Trudeau urged the Japanese businessmen to engage in the kind of investment in Canada which would give Canadians jobs. He told the group of six hundred, "To maintain harmony in our relationship, I ask Japan to bear constantly in mind Canada's strong manufacturing sector and our own imperative need to produce and export." He also made assurances that Canada is "the most secure source of untapped resource potential on the face of the planet." In trade, Japan and Canada should seek a "long-term commitment" and a "sense of partnership," he said (*Globe and Mail*, *The Citizen*, January 19). After meeting about twenty prominent businessmen on January 19, Mr. Trudeau and his aides left Tokyo for Ottawa.

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Parliament had not been sitting during most of the time the Prime Minister was away (it resumed January 17), and so MPs did not have much chance to comment in the House about the Asian activities. On January 18 and 20 there were requests for a Canadian "economic strategy," and a full report on the trip. On January 20, upon Mr. Trudeau's return to the House of Commons, Pat Carney (PC, Vancouver Centre) told the MPs that the Asian tour had enhanced the Prime Minister's reputation as "an international globe-trotter and fun kind of guy." She wanted to know what concrete results and commitments he had won abroad that would create jobs in Canada. The Prime Minister explained that it had not been the intention of the trip to sign trade agreements. "I think that the tour was mainly conceived to make Canadians and members of the ASEAN aware of the vast trading possibilities potential

between us. In that sense, I think it will be up to the House and the public to judge whether the trip will have been worth while," he said.

Also on January 20 in the House of Commons, the Prime Minister was asked about the statement made by the official in Manila about not wanting to cause unemployment in Sudbury to free a nun in the Philippines, an attitude the press had referred to as the "nickel-or-nuns" position (*Globe and Mail*, January 20). Bob Ogle (NDP, Saskatoon East) asked what the government's position was on the relationship between trade and human rights. Mr. Trudeau replied that the two matters were not in the same category, and that they should be pursued for their own merits in effective ways.

### Asia: Bruk Study on Asia Pacific Foundation

A study by John Bruk of Vancouver on the feasibility of the establishment of an Asia Pacific Foundation was released by External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen December 2. Mr. Bruk had consulted provincial governments, representatives of business, labor, the universities and others with experience in relations with Asia and the Pacific about the idea to create an Asia Pacific Foundation as a means of enhancing the relationship between Canada and the countries of Asia and the Pacific.

The report's Summary of Recommendations stated that there had been broad, general support across Canada for the immediate establishment of an Asia Pacific Foundation. It was recommended that the federal government commit approximately twenty million dollars over three years as its share of an endowment fund for the Foundation, and that provincial and territorial governments be asked to match the total federal contribution.

Prime Minister Trudeau, in Vancouver December 2, said that he had not yet seen the report, but that International Trade Minister Gerald Regan and two Senators were very enthusiastic about it. He said that there was "a very favorable inclination towards something of that nature."

In the House of Commons, PC Members of Parliament supported the establishment of the foundation. On December 8, Robert Wenman (PC, Fraser Valley West) presented a motion, because of Canada's ailing economy and over-reliance on resource exports and trade with the United States:

That the government move as quickly as possible to implement the recommendations of the Bruk study to establish an Asia Pacific Foundation Headquarters in Vancouver to exploit and expand Canada's trade relations with Asian Pacific countries in order to open up new markets for Canadian producers and thereby revitalize Canadian export trade and create new employment opportunities for Canadians.

In the House December 10, Pat Carney (PC, Vancouver Centre) also expressed support for the report, and asked Prime Minister Trudeau about plans for the establishment of the foundation. He replied that a group had been set up in the External Affairs Department to study the proposals.

While in Asia in January, Mr. Trudeau was asked about government preparations to earmark funds for the purpose of establishing the foundation. At the Thailand news conference January 6, Mr. Trudeau told reporters that his