

can countries themselves traded with South Africa and we don't feel it necessary to be purer than they are.

**Q. David Van Praagh, Toronto Globe and Mail. Sir, on the . . .**

**P.M.:** Could I just add, in case the gentleman doesn't know in answer to the previous question, that of course we have no trade of a military nature with South Africa; it is purely trade in civilian goods. We have stated our policy along the lines of the United Nations resolutions banning trade of a military kind with South Africa and it is on that that some of our disagreement with the United Kingdom decision is based.

Sorry—David Van Praagh of the Toronto Globe and Mail. What are you doing here? (Laughter).

**Q. You're not supposed to ask that. On the basis of your talks with Mrs. Gandhi, do you anticipate active support from the Indian delegation at Singapore for your attempts to reach an accommodation between members of the Commonwealth?**

**P.M.:** I would hope so. I have the impression that India isn't particularly anxious to see the Commonwealth break up. Mrs. Gandhi has said, with complete justification, that India and Canada co-operated at the very beginning of the foundation of the new Commonwealth, when we went into the multi-racial Commonwealth, India was there as a founding member, and in complete agreement with Canada. Therefore, I think it's not saying too much to express the hope that I think India will do what she can to prevent the Commonwealth from breaking up. But of course India, like Canada, like many others, would be in a difficult position if this chain reaction of which I talked earlier were to begin.

**Q. Mr. Prime Minister, talking of friendship between India and Canada, what place do you give to aid as compared to trade? If you believe that trade is more important for cementing our friendly relations, what steps do you propose to have more trade, particularly your importing items from India?**

**P.M.:** Well, we did talk about that in our bilateral discussions this morning. We talked about particular tariff questions, dumping questions and so on. I think the hope that you express about increasing imports into Canada from India is exactly paralleled by the hope that I expressed of increasing imports from Canada into India. We do have a favourable balance of trade with India at this time but as you know that favourable balance is because of the aid program which permits you to buy in Canada—if I may say so, with our money—more than we buy in India. So there is nothing unfair to India in this particular situation. On the contrary. We are hoping that India will come to realize that Canada is not just a producer of agricultural products and basic materials but that we have a great deal to offer in fields of advanced technology, in services in the communications trade, in the transport fields, in the servicing and construction of airports and production of short takeoff and landing aircraft. You know, this is the pitch that our Trade Commissioners give here. We very much hope that increased trade will be the fact in both directions between our two countries and we have resolved to have our High Commissioners and our Trade Commissioners work at it.

**Q. You started your journey with Agra, Benares and Mathura. Will you say what are your impressions of your visits to these three cities?**

**P.M.:** Well, I visited those cities for reasons of accommodating to a schedule which was acceptable to both our governments. I didn't want to have trilateral meetings in New Delhi. But I must say that it was my desire to go there at some time, either before or after my meetings with your government leaders because I have a very great interest in the institutions, in the traditions, of wisdom, of love, of knowledge, which are characterized by at least Mathura and Brindaban, and the origins of Hinduism. For the same reasons I went to Sarnath because I think that we in the West have a great deal to learn from the eternal truths that have been expressed so strongly and so lastingly by the people who lived and loved in those parts of India.