



CANADA

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CANADA AND THE NATIONS OF EASTERN EUROPE

Notes Prepared for the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, in Connection with a Private Meeting Sponsored by the World Affairs Council at Boston on October 26, 1966.

. . . In little over a week, I shall be undertaking a 12-day visit to Poland, the Soviet Union and Italy. This trip will be in answer to long-standing invitations from the governments concerned. I expect to discuss relations between Canada and these countries and to review some of the leading subjects in world affairs.

. . . There are certain fundamental points about the present world situation, as we have seen it in Canada, which can serve as an introduction to my remarks:

- (1) In spite of the Vietnam situation, there appear to be possibilities for better relations with the Soviet Union and the European Communist nations which are worth exploring.
- (2) The policies of individual Western nations in this field may not always be the same, but this situation is not necessarily a weakness from the standpoint of general Western interest.
- (3) Although settlement of many of the greatest problems depends finally on relations between the United States and the Soviet Union, there can be significant discussion and action by lesser powers.
- (4) The search for better relations in Europe must almost inevitably at present be directed towards bilateral questions, but progress in this field is very likely to have an important bearing on the eventual solution of the underlying and general problems.
- (5) The European Communist nations seem likely to maintain a fairly vigorous and increasingly sophisticated campaign to achieve their objectives in relations with the West. Whether they fully intend this or not, they are likely to