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June 10, 1964

At the invitation of the Canadian Government, the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr. Ludwig Erhard, visited Ottawa from the afternoon of June 9 to the morning of June 11. Accompanied by his Foreign Minister, Dr. Gerhard Schroeder, Dr. Erhard had talks with the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. L.B. Pearson, and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Hon. Paul Martin, in which senior officials of both governments participated. The Chancellor was also received by Their Excellencies the Governor-General and Madame Vanier. Dr. Schroeder and Mr. Martin continued their discussions begun last month during Mr. Martin's visit to Bonn.

The visit took place in the warm and friendly atmosphere which has characterized the development of relations in every field between Canada and Germany in recent years. The discussions reflected a close harmony of views on all important questions and strengthened the framework for future co-operation between Canada and Germany.

In their review of the international situation, the Prime Minister and Chancellor noted with satisfaction the relaxation of tensions between the Soviet Union and the West in certain areas, including the gradual improvement of relations with Eastern European countries. While hoping that this development would continue, they regretted that it had not yet been accompanied by any progress toward the solution of major problems. It remains, therefore, essential for the free world to maintain its defensive strength, while remaining ready to take advantage of every opportunity to enlarge the areas of agreement with the communist world.

In Europe, it was agreed, the main cause of tension remained the continuing division of Germany. Dr. Erhard took the opportunity to explain his government's policy for achieving German reunification in