

control agreement were essential to the operation of an effective verification regime. He noted also that on-site inspections were a necessary part of an effective verification regime, the communiqué said.

## Group of Seven

### **Venice Summit**

On June 7 Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, External Affairs Minister Joe Clark and Finance Minister Michael Wilson arrived in Venice to take part in the annual economic summit of leaders from the Group of Seven nations (Canada, the US, Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan). One of the first topics to be discussed was the need to reduce agricultural subsidies, as Canada and the US urged that GATT agricultural talks, scheduled to begin in Geneva in July, be given new impetus. At the end of the summit's first day of meetings, the groundwork for a statement that could speed up discussions on agricultural reform was laid down, according to a Canadian spokesman. Finance ministers agreed that the summit countries should reaffirm an agreement by the general OECD membership calling for a reduction in agricultural subsidies. Meanwhile, Canada, the US and Britain were pressuring other summit leaders to call for a review of GATT negotiations by the fall of 1988 and the possible implementation of

interim reform measures by early 1989 (*Winnipeg Free Press*, June 9).

The first communiqué issued by the summit after its first official bargaining session on June 9 was a disappointment for Mr. Mulroney and Mr. Clark, who had asked that it contain a statement condemning the apartheid policies of South Africa. The *Ottawa Citizen* reported on June 10 that only the US, France and Japan had supported the Canadian request, and West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl had objected to any mention of South Africa in the communiqué. However, at the close of the summit on June 10, Mr. Mulroney told a news conference that he had succeeded in wringing a demand from Italian prime minister Amintore Fanfani, on behalf of the other leaders, that "apartheid be dismantled," despite the absence of such a statement in the official communiqué. "This is a signal to Africans listening to radios somewhere not to abandon democratic values for violence," Mr. Mulroney said, adding that the Canadian delegation's "persistence paid off" (*Toronto Star*, June 11).

The final communiqué included statements expressing concern at high unemployment, trade restrictions and protectionism, reduced growth prospects for developing countries, stratospheric ozone depletion, acid rain and other forms of pollution, and safety in the management of nuclear energy (*New York Times*, June 11).

The next Group of Seven economic summit was scheduled for 1988 in Canada.

# Policy

## Citizenship

### **Citizenships Revoked**

The *Globe and Mail* reported on June 27 that the Canadian government had begun proceedings against seven naturalized Canadians to revoke their citizenship, as they had made fraudulent claims when they took their citizenship. Secretary of State David Crombie said that he had asked for a report nearly one year previously on all naturalized Canadians who had been convicted of fraudulent claims, and had then asked that proceedings begin against the seven, who were not named.

Mr. Crombie said on June 26, on releasing a discussion paper which suggested a complete overhaul of the Citizenship Act, that rules governing Canadian citizenship had been too lenient. "What we're talking about is Canadian citizenship. We have been blasé about our citizenship, taken it for granted." Among the changes considered in the paper were:

— Revoking the Canadian citizenship of those who applied for citizenship in another country (Dual citizenship was held by thousands of Canadians living abroad).

— Requiring that immigrants who wanted Canadian citizenship renounce their "prior status." (Applicants could currently retain citizenship of their native lands and still get Canadian citizenship).

— Changing the residency requirement for citizenship, perhaps lengthening it from three years, and banning applicants from claiming residency credit for time spent in Canada as illegal immigrants.

— Barring people who had been convicted of major crimes in other countries from becoming Canadian citizens.

— Waiving the French or English proficiency requirement for people over the age of sixty who wished to become citizens (*Toronto Star*, June 27).

The *Ottawa Citizen* reported on June 30 that some immigrant services groups welcomed the proposal to end dual citizenship. Rajinder Paul Sehgal, president of the Indo-Canadian Forum, said that the proposal would force people to make a conscious choice about their lives. "A sense of Canadianism hasn't evolved yet," he said. Mira