

Singapore

Relations between Canada and Singapore continued to develop during 1971. A highlight was the holding of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference in Singapore in January, attended by Prime Minister Trudeau, who had previously visited Singapore during his Pacific tour in 1970. Relations between Canada and Singapore concern primarily matters of trade and development aid. A bilateral investment-insurance agreement concluded during the year will encourage the expansion of Canada's economic relations with Singapore. Singapore continued during 1971 to receive technical assistance from Canada as well as military-training assistance, particularly in the field of naval training.

South Asia Division

Pakistan

Canada's development assistance to Pakistan, which totalled \$359 million from 1951 to March 1971, was interrupted in 1971 by the serious disruption of the economy caused by the civil strife in East Pakistan. Commitments to continuing projects have been maintained, wherever possible, but since previously-established development priorities must now be re-established, no new development commitments have been concluded. Canada provided \$7 million in relief food aid for the population of East Pakistan and contributed \$500,000 to the United Nations East Pakistan Relief Operation. Further relief assistance was planned following a special mission to the subcontinent in late October and early November by the President of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Prime Minister Trudeau visited Islamabad on his way to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference in January. Since the beginning of the tragic events in East Pakistan, the Prime Minister had been in contact with President Yahya Khan on the main issues of the situation. Foreign Secretary Sultan Khan visited Ottawa in November and held discussions with the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

India

The influx of Pakistani refugees into India placed a tremendous financial and social burden on the Indian Government. Canada, in concert with many other countries, has helped to deal with the humanitarian considerations involved. In addition to Canada's development-assistance program, which has provided a total of \$853 million from 1951 to March 1971, the Canadian Government pledged \$22 million for refugee relief in India. The Canadian public responded to the Combined Appeal for Pakistan Relief and other voluntary agencies by contributing over \$1.9 million. The provinces also directly contributed \$370,000.

In January 1971, Prime Minister Trudeau paid an official visit to India, and he has since maintained correspondence with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi concerning the serious tension between India and Pakistan resulting from the refugee influx and other matters of common interest. Justice Minister Turner