

General Zia in 1977. At a press conference earlier in the week, Ghulam Hussain called General Zia "a usurper, a dictator, a traitor." He said that by providing aid to Pakistan, Western nations were creating in him another Shah of Iran, upon whose eventual downfall the people of Pakistan would turn against the West for supporting him (*Globe and Mail*, December 18).

Prime Minister Trudeau and President Zia discussed Pakistan's refusal to agree to tighter international safeguards on nuclear non-proliferation. It was reported that although both sides laid out their positions on nuclear cooperation, neither country changed its view and there was no immediate prospect of an agreement. The two leaders also discussed the political situation in Pakistan and the prospects for future political development in that country. Mr. Zia told reporters that he did not foresee holding elections for at least two or three years, but did not intend to perpetuate military rule (*The Citizen; Globe and Mail*, December 18).

PHILIPPINES

Human Rights

Dan Heap (NDP, Spadina) told the House of Commons December 21 that President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines had asked Canada for an extradition treaty "so that he can bring back residents of Canada to the Philippines to be arrested for opposing him." Mr. Heap said that many producers of opposition newspapers, clergy and lay leaders of the Churches, and officers of labor unions, have been intimidated, arrested and held without trial in the Philippines even though martial law was supposedly lifted. He introduced a motion (which did not receive the required unanimous consent of the House): "That the Prime Minister assure this Parliament that when he visits President Marcos [in January] he will refuse to discuss the extradition treaty and will ask President Marcos to release political prisoners and cease intimidation of church leaders, union leaders and opposition leaders."

POLAND

Martial Law

On December 13, on the anniversary of the imposition of martial law in Poland, Ron Stewart (PC, Simcoe South) presented a motion to the House of Commons (which did not receive the required unanimous consent):

That this House urge the Polish authorities to end quickly martial law in that country, to agree to Lech Walesa's demand for a general amnesty of those who have been imprisoned for political reasons, and to resume negotiations with the Solidarity Trade Union and the Roman Catholic Church in Poland on reform which would allow for economic, social and political freedom and progress in Poland.

External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen announced January 31 the Canadian pledge of another

\$200,000 in aid to the Polish people. The money was in response to a joint appeal by the League of Red Cross Societies and the International Committee of the Red Cross. The funds will be used for relief programs (CIDA press release, January 31).

SOUTH AFRICA

Condemnation of Lesotho Massacre

After South African defence forces raided and massacred people in Lesotho, Canada's External Affairs Department advised the South African Ambassador in Ottawa that Canada condemned the raid and consequent loss of life. "Canada deplored such action because it undermined the security of the southern African region as a whole. The Canadian government hoped that South Africa would refrain from further incursions into Lesotho territory and would respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its neighbors," an External Affairs press release December 10 stated.

On December 31, it was reported that nineteen Canadian doctors working in Lesotho had written to External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen regarding the incursion. The doctors asked the press for anonymity because they feared reprisals from South Africa that could endanger Canadian aid programs in the black nation of Lesotho, which is surrounded by South African territory. In the letter, the doctors gave their account of the raid, because they felt that "certain aspects have been inaccurately portrayed to the rest of the world." They outlined the circumstances of the "barbaric action," claiming that the so-called terrorists shot had been South African refugees including men, women and children who were asleep when attacked. The South African soldiers killed forty-two people. The doctors urged a United Nations inquiry into the massacre. They asked the Canadian government to reconsider sanctions against South Africa and to recall its ambassador.

SOVIET UNION

Appeal for Dissident

Avital Shcharansky, wife of imprisoned Soviet dissident Anatoly Shcharansky, was in Ottawa in late January to meet with her husband's legal counsel, Irwin Cotler of Montreal, and with senior Canadian politicians, including Prime Minister Trudeau. Mrs. Shcharansky, who lives in Israel, told a press conference in Ottawa January 27 about her husband's incarceration in Soviet prisons. Mr. Shcharansky's Canadian lawyer said that he had written and sent a forty-six page brief to Soviet leader Yuri Andropov arguing his client's case under Soviet law.

In the House of Commons January 27, David Smith (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Privy Council) called for the release of Mr. Shcharansky. In 1978, he said, Soviet authorities decided to silence the human rights and Jewish activist by sentencing him to thirteen years of imprisonment on a trumped-up charge of espionage. "Since