

On June 13, Mr. Stevens announced that Canada would permit an increase in the volume of Japanese auto imports provided the increase did not exceed the annual 18 percent share of the Canadian market. He noted that while negotiations continued, last year's percentile figure would remain the guideline, but no ceiling for the total number of units would be imposed. The stronger Canadian market would allow a larger overall number of Japanese imports, the Minister added (*The Citizen*, June 14, 19). Mr. Stevens stated that he found acceptable the Japanese explanation for the noted surge in sales, namely a "rebuilding of depleted stocks." He added that Japanese authorities had requested meetings to discuss Canadian concerns over increased sales, in order to avert any possible retaliatory measures.

Following meetings July 3, Mr. Stevens stated in a press conference that Canada had reiterated its intention to ensure that the domestic auto industry was not brought into "difficulty or disruption" through sharply increased Japanese export levels. Japanese representatives agreed to avoid such disruption while seeking an understanding that their exports would be "allowed to grow in a manner consistent with the total growth of the Canadian market." As well, greater investment opportunities for Japanese producers within Canada would be "actively pursued." While further consultations would be held, both in Canada and Japan, in order to determine a definite agreement, the 18 percent share would remain in effect, he concluded (External Affairs transcript, July 4).

Lebanon

Embassy Closure

A provisional withdrawal of all Canadian staff from the embassy in Beirut was announced June 14 by External Affairs Minister Joe Clark. Mr. Clark stated that the embassy staff had been moved to Amman, Jordan (which would handle Canadian interests on an interim basis), following "careful consideration" of the "serious risks" to which Canadian personnel had been exposed because of ongoing civil strife in the Lebanese capital. Speaking in a scrum, the Minister added that the response had arisen from "an accumulating series of tensions and problems." The withdrawal, however, would not affect Canada's continued "strong support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity" of Lebanon (External Affairs communiqué and transcript, June 14). Despite the measure, Canada would remain involved in both humanitarian relief and international efforts to bring about a resolution to the "recurrent violence." Mr. Clark assured those Canadian citizens (most maintaining dual citizenship) deciding to remain in Beirut that consular services would remain available. This was clarified on June 21, when the External Affairs department announced that an embassy would be established in Damascus, Syria, with simultaneous accreditation to Lebanon, to serve the requirements (consular, visa and immigration services) of those Canadians remaining in Lebanon.

South Africa

Anti-apartheid Measures

On July 6 External Affairs Minister Joe Clark announced a series of new measures to be implemented by Canada in a continuing effort toward "the repudiation of *apartheid* as a concept and a policy" in South Africa. The measures, said Mr. Clark, were designed as an "immediate response" to increasing violence and repression and formed part of a larger review of Canada's relationship with South Africa. Growing "revulsion" in Canada toward institutionalized racism called for strong measures which might effect "fundamental change" (External Affairs statement, July 6). *Apartheid's* basic denial of the principles of equality and justice were criticized along with South Africa's "gross violations of other countries' sovereignty and territorial integrity" in that policy's enforcement.

The measures ranged over a wide variety of trade restrictions, arms embargoes, sporting contact bans and increases in funding for the education of blacks. These included:

- a strengthening of the voluntary code for employment practices of Canadian companies operating in South Africa, to be coupled with a stronger monitoring process;
- a curtailment of both the export and import of arms and "sensitive equipment" used in the enforcement of *apartheid*;
- a termination of trade and investment support measures;
- a reaffirming of the Commonwealth sporting boycott;
- an effort to discourage the sale in Canada of South African gold *Kruggerands*;
- a closer monitoring of the South African labor situation;
- an expanded funding program for black education and training.

Speaking in a scrum July 5, the External Affairs Minister had stated that compliance with Canada's voluntary code of conduct would be sought "more vigorously," with a regular publication of that compliance (External Affairs transcript, July 5). The steps outlined, added Mr. Clark, were designed to indicate to the South African regime the seriousness of Western intentions and to influence "their calculation of the consequences of not changing" the policy of *apartheid*. The government had refrained from instituting direct economic sanctions out of consideration for the possible repercussions upon those people the measures were designed to assist. Instead, Canada would continue to work in concert with the international community in order to effect an impact on South Africa through "both substantial and symbolic" steps that formed part of a "process."

While Canadian opponents of *apartheid* criticized the measures as largely symbolic and inadequate to effect the "fundamental change" mentioned by Mr. Clark, the restrictions were recognized as an important "first step" (*Globe and Mail*, July 8). However, most critics called for direct use of economics and a more stringent disconnection between