

In a speech to a conference of communist parties of Latin America held in Havana in June 1975, and reported in Communist Viewpoint, September-October 1975, William Kashtan said:

"...Latin America and Canada are among U.S. imperialism's last reserves. Let us make them U.S. imperialism's lost reserves..."

Since 1962, the Canadian Labour Congress, in its annual memoranda to the Government, has frequently advocated closer relations with Latin America and the entry of Canada into OAS, largely on the grounds that geography places Canada in a position to develop closer relationships, or that Canada should end its "isolation...in the Western hemisphere of which we are an integral and inseparable part". On one occasion the CLC mentioned its close ties with Latin American trade union organizations. In 1973 the Congress welcomed CIDA's growing involvement; but in 1974, after expressing disagreement with the policy followed vis-à-vis Chile, it expressed the opinion that "our aid could be more effectively used in the few democratic countries still existent in Latin America".

- Comments related to events

In addition to the foregoing comments, which for the most part do not appear to have been prompted by specific events, there were a good many expressions of opinion on Canada's relations with Latin America that were provoked by statements or actions of the Canadian government, or by events occurring in Latin America.

A) Prime Minister's foreign policy statement, 1968
and the Ministerial Mission

On May 29, 1968, shortly after taking office, Prime Minister Trudeau issued a statement on foreign policy in which