

PRESS RELEASE



COMMUNIQUE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

CANADA

MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

No. 61

For Immediate Release

Ottawa, November 17, 1966

TITLE OF THE STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE PAUL MARTIN,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS IN THE HOUSE
OF COMMONS REPORTING ON HIS EUROPEAN TOUR NOVEMBER
4 - 16, 1966

I would like to take this opportunity to make a brief report to the House on the talks I had during my recent official visit to Poland, the U.S.S.R. and Italy. When in Rome I concluded my exchanges with a valuable talk with the Pope.

In both Poland and in the Soviet Union, I was cordially received. Their leaders listened to the Canadian views which I presented. We made progress on a number of bilateral matters. On some major international issues there was evidence of common interest. I would not, however, want to hide the fact that there is still a considerable distance between us in many important areas.

In all three countries my most extensive discussions were with the Foreign Ministers, but I also had the opportunity to meet and talk with many other leaders. In Poland I talked with Prime Minister Cyrancjewicz and President Ochab. In the U.S.S.R., I talked with President Podgorny, Prime Minister Kosygin, the First Deputy Prime Minister Mr. Polyansky and General Secretary Brezhnev. Finally in Italy I was able to exchange views with President Saragat, Prime Minister Moro and Deputy Prime Minister Nenni.

The Polish Government is desirous of settling the long outstanding matter of the claims of certain Canadians arising out of post-war nationalization and we expect to enter in the very near future into detailed negotiations to that end.