

# Western Europe

The year 1977 was one of marked activity in Canada's relations with the countries of Western Europe. An agreement with the same purpose as the "contractual link" established with the European Economic Community in 1976 was reached with the European Atomic Energy Agency to update the existing agreement on the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. Canadian contacts with Western Europe were reinforced by international conferences (including semi-annual talks with the EEC), NATO ministerial meetings (held every six months), the UN General Assembly in New York, and also the "economic summit", in which, for the first time, the President of the Commission of the European Communities participated. These conferences gave rise to meetings and discussion, especially at the ministerial level, of bilateral and multilateral questions.

In addition, several foreign leaders visited Canada to discuss matters of mutual interest. These included: West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, in July; the King of Belgium and Queen Fabiola, accompanied by the Deputy Prime Minister, Léon Hurez, in September; French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Louis de Guiringaud, in October; and the Italian Prime Minister, Giulio Andreotti, in November. The Secretary of State for External Affairs made an important visit to Western Europe in October. He went to Spain for talks with King Juan Carlos, Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez and Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja. Mr Jamieson also went to Greece, where he met with President Constantine Tsatsos, Prime Minister Constantine Karamanlis and Foreign Minister Dimitrios Bitsios. He also attended the NATO ministerial meeting in Brussels in December and, while there, met with EEC energy authorities. Prime Minister Trudeau, in addition to attending the London economic summit meeting in May, participated in the NATO summit meetings in London the same month, and made a brief visit to France to meet President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing.

Bilateral ties between Canada and various countries of Western Europe were similarly strengthened by visits to Ottawa by: the Secretary of State for Immigration of Portugal, João Lima, in March; the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Italy, Franco Foschi, also in March; the Minister of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany, Georg Leber, in June; the French Secretary of State for Consumer Affairs, Christiane Scrivener, in August; the Belgian Minister of Employment, Guy Spitaels, in September; the French Minister of Justice, Alain Peyrefitte, in September; the French Minister of Industry, Trade and Handicrafts, René Monory, in October; the First Vice-President of the West German *Bundesrat* and the Minister-President of the Rhineland-Palatinate, Bernard Bogel, in October; and a member of the Energy Commission of the European Community, Guido Brunner, in November.

The Canadian Minister of Manpower and Immigration, Bud Cullen, visited Rome and Milan in April, and Marc Lalonde, then Minister of National Health and Welfare, visited Paris in May and Rome and Sicily in September. Mr Lalonde was accompanied by Senators Pietro Rizzuto and Maurice Lamontagne, as well as by Members of Parliament Jacques Trudel and Marc Prud'homme. The Minister of Fisheries and the Environment, Roméo LeBlanc, visited Brussels in September and the Minister of Communications, Jeanne Sauvé, went to Paris in February and to Geneva in June, and in September visited Luxembourg and the F.R.G. Visits to Paris were made by André Ouellet, Minister of State for Urban Affairs, in June and by Hugh Faulkner, then Secretary of State, and Alastair Gillespie, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, in September. In April, Iona Campagnolo, Minister of Fitness and Amateur Sports, went to Frankfurt and Rome and Anthony Abbott, the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, visited Bonn. The Minister of National Defence, Barney Danson, visited Bonn in May and Italy in December. The Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Jack Horner, went to Brussels, Bonn, Berlin and Geneva in November; in Brussels, Mr Horner was accompanied by a large delegation of businessmen who were making the visit within the framework agreement with the European Community.