

mediate cessation of such attacks." The condemnation continued with the remark that "these most recent deplorable incidents, along with the escalation of Soviet and Afghan military activity within Afghanistan, are another tragic dimension of the occupation of Afghanistan by Soviet forces. Canada, said Mr. Chrétien, would continue to provide humanitarian assistance to Pakistan in its efforts to aid the growing number of Afghan refugees crossing its borders. Canada would also continue to support UN efforts to settle the ongoing conflict through "a restoration of the independence, sovereignty and genuine non-alignment of Afghanistan" (External Affairs statement, August 29).

POLAND

Prisoner Amnesty

On August 2, then External Affairs Minister Jean Chrétien issued a statement welcoming the Polish Parliament's July 21 decision to grant political prisoners an amnesty. The amnesty included four KOR [Committee for Social Self Defence] activists who, according to an External Affairs communiqué of August 2, had had their trial recently suspended. The Minister was encouraged to see the amnesty as a "positive step" in establishing a dialogue between the Polish government and the people. He concluded by calling for a resumption of "full civil and trade union rights" and the pursuance of a reform process.

Travel Sanctions Lifted

It was announced August 17 that restrictions on the number of scheduled and charter flights by Poland's LOT airline, imposed in February 1982, had been lifted in response to the amnesty for political prisoners granted by the Polish government in late July. This "goodwill gesture" would provide in future for the allocation of flights to be handled by the "appropriate Canadian authorities under the laws and regulations in effect" (External Affairs communiqué, August 17).

SOUTH KOREA

Business Conference

A conference between Canadian and South Korean businessmen was held in Seoul, South Korea September 17-19, the third joint meeting of the Canada-Korea Business Council (Canada-based) and its Korean counterpart. A group of more than fifty Canadian business executives, led by Council Chairman Bruce Howe, met to confer with an even larger Korean delegation on several trade issues, including the growing trade imbalance (now nearing \$400 million in Korea's favor for 1984). Two-way trade between the two nations has increased 25 percent over 1983, and is estimated to reach \$1.7 billion for the current year. In tandem with the general discussions on trade and economics, groups met to discuss the possibility for increased trade in several sectors, including "energy, resources, manufactur-

ing and services" (Canada-Korea Business Council press release, September 6).

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Financing Assistance

Designated for support of the third phase of Trinidad and Tobago Telephone Company's (TELCO) modernization program, \$US 228.2 million in financing agreements was arranged between Canada's EDC and a group of Canadian and foreign banks. Acting as agent for the agreement is the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. The loans will support sales to TELCO (responsible for domestic communications) by several Canadian exporters, including Northern Telecom, Bell Canada International and G.M. Best Group. The new agreement for the third phase follows previous (August 1983) sales support strategies by EDC, and will be guaranteed by the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. While assisting the export of Canadian goods and services in the telecommunications field, the agreement will also finance "local costs associated with TELCO's" proposed modernization program (EDC news release, September 10).

UNITED KINGDOM

Export Market Report

Part of a series of government market studies designed to assist Canadian exporters in identifying overseas sales opportunities, the *Export Market Report on the United Kingdom* was announced August 16 by then International Trade Minister Francis Fox. Being Canada's largest European trading partner (and third largest export market), the United Kingdom maintains a two-way trade with Canada of \$4.3 billion. The figures for 1984 (in the first six months) are already running ahead of those for the same period in 1983, despite "depressed levels of demand and a high priced Canadian dollar," according to an External Affairs communiqué of August 16.

Mentioned in the report as areas for potential increases in sales of goods and services were: "high technology products; general building products; primary and semi-fabricated products in the non-ferrous sectors; secondary manufactured products; secondary and service industries equipment; and agricultural, fish and food products." Also expected is a continuation of British investment in various aspects of Canadian development, as well as licensing agreements and joint venture manufacturing opportunities. Tourism was also mentioned in the report as a significant aspect of two-way trade. Mr. Fox advocated effort on the part of Canadian exporters to successfully take advantage of the marketing opportunities available in the United Kingdom, and the assistance services offered by the Canadian government.