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VISIT OF SOVIET PREMIER TO CANADA

Premier Alexei Kosygin of the Soviet Union, accompanied by his daughter Lyudmilla Gvishiani and an official delegation, spent nine days in Canada beginning October 17.

On October 20, Mr. Kosygin and Prime Minister Trudeau signed a four-year agreement between Canada and the U.S.S.R., providing for bilateral exchanges in the scientific, technical, educational, cultural and other fields. The General Exchanges Agreement states that both governments have agreed to undertake to promote and develop exchanges and other forms of co-operation on the basis of mutual benefit and reciprocity, in accordance with the laws in force in the two countries. Canada and the Soviet Union believe, the agreement continues, that co-operation in expanding exchanges will promote the development of good relations and will broaden mutual understanding.

During his stay in Canada, Mr. Kosygin visited Ottawa, Montreal, Vancouver, Edmonton, and Toronto. Among his activities he attended a session of the House of Commons and a meeting of the Standing

Committee on External Affairs and National Defence, answered questions on a televised press conference, was host at a lunch for the Prime Minister and Mrs. Trudeau and Canadian Government officials, addressed members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and attended a performance at the National Arts Centre and a hockey game.

The following is the text of the Canadian-Soviet communiqué issued by the Prime Minister's office on October 26:

In response to the invitation issued by the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau, during his visit to the U.S.S.R. last May, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., Mr. Alexei N. Kosygin, visited Canada officially as a guest of the Canadian Government from October 17 to 26.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and his official party, who received a warm welcome, held discussions in Ottawa and visited Montreal, Vancouver, Edmonton and Toronto. An opportunity was provided for them to see different parts of Canada, to meet Canadians in many walks of life, and to become acquainted with their institutions, their life and achievements in a variety of fields, political, economic, scientific and cultural.

Mr. Kosygin's talks with Mr. Trudeau were carried on in an atmosphere of frankness, cordiality and mutual understanding, appropriate to the friendly, good neighbourly relations between the two countries and to the spirit of the Protocol on Consultations signed in Moscow on May 19, 1971. These conversations provided an opportunity for a useful exchange of opinions on international problems of interest to both sides and on questions affecting Canadian-Soviet relations.

Taking part in the discussions were:

On the Canadian side: the Honourable Paul Martin, Leader of the Government in the Senate; the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs; the Honourable Jean-Luc Pepin,

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