

Pipeline, major bilateral studies on a strategic petroleum reserve and bulk electricity exchanges; agreement by special negotiators on the management of east coast fisheries; record levels of bilateral trade. We look forward in 1979 to enhanced energy coordination, an improved trading environment following conclusion of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations, progress towards resolution of the remaining boundary disputes in the Pacific and Arctic Oceans and conclusion of a west coast fisheries agreement. Close consultations on international matters will be certain to continue on such subjects as Namibia, the Middle East and Cyprus; human rights and refugees; nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.

11. Bridges to Western Europe and Japan

In 1978 we pursued further our efforts to give substance to Canada's economic relations with the European Community and the key countries of Western Europe. The visit of Mr. Roy Jenkins, President of the European Commission, provided a good opportunity to assess the industrial cooperation activities undertaken under the Framework Agreement and to provide guidance and direction to future work. The Government reiterated its support for the economic and political integration of Europe while underlining the importance of having Canada's basic interests taken fully into account by the EC Nine. We have worked to give economic stimulus to our bilateral relationships with the FRG and France in particular, but also with Italy. The Prime Minister's visits to several European countries, and the visit to Canada of Prime Minister Barre of France, reflected Canada's determination to strengthen its relations with Europe. We are particularly determined to achieve a level of economic exchanges commensurate with the importance of the Canadian and European economies and with the quality of our political dialogue.

Our efforts last year to expand and diversify economic and political relations with Japan resulted in agreements on upgraded nuclear safeguards and fisheries as well as in a gratifying increase of contacts at the political level. Canada's economic relations with Japan grew further during 1978 and the Second Meeting of the Joint Economic Committee next week in Tokyo should help to maintain the momentum. The 50th Anniversary this year of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Canada and Japan will be an occasion for increased political and cultural contacts and activity.