

measures on the part of Canada. Mr. Lumley in Parliament March 26, explained the need for careful consideration with regard to reciprocity legislation and protectionist proposals directed against trading aggression. "Canada, being one of the world's largest traders, depends on its export markets for one third of its GNP. . . International negotiations, particularly when considering taking unilateral action, can produce harmful effects in the long term."

Another remaining option would be for Canada to present before the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) a case against Japan, much as U.S. Deputy Trade Representative David MacDonald has threatened to do should trade friction between the U.S. and Japan fail to ease. (*Financial Post*, March 26)

Canada-Japan Trade Mission

Accompanied by a group of Canadian businessmen, the Hon. Ed Lumley *Minister of International Trade* was in Japan 15-19 March for intensive Trade talks with Japanese officials concentrating on three main issues: Japan's recent trade liberalization measures, the auto industry, and the multilateral trading framework. During the meetings, Shintaro Abe, Japan's Minister of International Trade and Industry, agreed to dispatch a mission to Canada to study the Canadian investment environment. Representatives also arrived at a joint Canadian-Japanese third country insurance arrangement according to a departmental release. Canadian exhibitors participated as well in Foodex, Japan's Food Fair, in order to demonstrate Canada's importance as a supplier of quality agricultural and food products, and were encouraged by the response which indicated a possible increase in future sales.

NICARAGUA

Nicaraguan expulsions

The leftist Nicaraguan Government on 15 March declared a 30-day state of emergency, according to news reports perceiving a threat from counter-revolutionary elements purportedly aided by the American Central Intelligence Agency. The expulsion of all foreign members of the Jehovah's Witnesses religious organization in Nicaragua was ordered and carried out soon after the declaration. Six expelled Canadians working as missionaries were

given no official explanation for their expulsion, although there was some indication that the group's stand of neutrality might have been considered counter-revolutionary in light of the Nicaraguan Government's recent drive to press nationals into military duty. Nicaraguan Immigration authorities, following raids on several mission houses in Managua, detained the missionaries for a time before moving them out of the country. Canadian External Affairs duty officer Normand Duern was reported to have said that there was no evidence to suggest that the Jehovah's Witnesses were in any way politically active in Nicaragua. They had previously been expelled for some months immediately following the overthrow of rightist dictator General Somoza by the Sandinista National Liberation Front in 1979. (*Globe and Mail* March 22)

TONGA

Emergency Aid to Tonga

According to a CIDA release (19 March), Canada granted a subsidy of \$100,000 to the League of Red Cross Societies to provide aid to the inhabitants of the Tonga islands, recent victims of a cyclone on March 2 and 3. The funds will be distributed through the agency of CIDA, providing assistance to the most heavily devastated areas. With 95% of the livestock lost, houses destroyed and crops heavily damaged, the roughly 25,000 residents cannot count on food reserves lasting more than two to three weeks. The Red Cross, working in concert with South Pacific national societies, will provide medical supplies, basic commodities and prefabricated shelters and warehouses.

SOMALI

Somali Presidential Visit

The President of the Somali Democratic Republic made a State visit to Canada on March 16 and 17. His Excellency Mohamed Siad Barre met with the Prime Minister, ministers and parliamentarians. Canada's relief assistance to refugees in Somalia and bilateral cooperation between the two countries were discussed.