

## Soviet spies expelled

Three Soviet Embassy officials have been asked to leave Canada because of their involvement in espionage activities.

Secretary of State for External Affairs Flora MacDonald has requested that the U.S.S.R. Ambassador withdraw from Canada the three in question: Captain 1st Rank Igor A. Bardeev, military, naval and air attaché; Colonel Eduard I. Aleksanja, assistant military attaché; and V.I. Sokolov, chauffeur, all with the military attaché's office.

Miss MacDonald announced that the three Soviets had paid an American, who was employed in a "sensitive position" in his own country, in exchange for classified information on the United States.

During a 16-month period, the Soviet officials met clandestinely with their American contact in the Ottawa area. They used traditional signal arrangements and "dead letter boxes" to exchange information and make payments.

Miss MacDonald noted that the present expulsions follow by less than two years the most serious case of espionage in Canada since the Gouzenko affair of 1946. Despite the expulsion of thirteen members of the Soviet Embassy in February 1978, and the severe warnings of the Government at that time, the Embassy had resumed, within months of the 1978 expulsions, a pattern of activity violating basic standards of diplomatic behaviour, she said.

Miss MacDonald expressed particular concern about the use, in this instance, of Canada by the Soviet Union as a base from which to conduct espionage operations against one of Canada's allies.

## New ties with Ivory Coast

In Abidjan recently, Canada's Minister of State responsible for the Canadian International Development Agency, Martial Asselin, and his counterpart in the Ivory Coast signed a memorandum of understanding on the establishment of a Canada/Ivory Coast bilateral commission.

The commission, whose purpose will be to promote relations between Canada and the Ivory Coast in all fields of mutual interest, will serve as an advisory body on the state of relations between the two countries and will set general objectives for stimulating bilateral relations based

on mutual benefit and interests.

The minister also announced Canadian support for the fourth Ivory Coast/Canada rural electrification program, estimated to cost \$41 million.

The purpose of the fourth program is to link the towns of Odienné and Séguéla with the Ivory Coast electric energy network and supply electricity to the surrounding towns and villages, benefiting an estimated 90,000 people.

Through the electrification program, Canada and the Ivory Coast have sought to reduce regional disparities and promote economic, social and cultural development in these rural areas in order to integrate them into the national economy.

Canada's contribution includes engineering services, equipment and fittings needed to install power lines in the two areas, development of senior managerial staff, training of transportation and distribution technicians and sending line installation and maintenance instructors.

In addition, Senator Asselin stated, CIDA's contribution would call for the participation of other financial institutions. This presented Canada with an opportunity to begin the transition from traditional forms of assistance to industrial and commercial co-operation with the Ivory Coast.

## Emergency energy supplies board

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, Ray Hnatyshyn, has announced the appointment of members to the Energy Supplies Allocation Board, pursuant to the Energy Supplies Emergency Act, 1979.

Mr. Hnatyshyn stressed, as he has previously in the House of Commons, that this does not mean a national petroleum emergency is imminent; rather that the Government intended to anticipate potential problems rather than waiting for them to develop.

The Board's initial role, as provided in the Act, will be to review the plans made by officials of Energy, Mines and Resources, in conjunction with the provinces and industry, to ensure that Canada is fully capable of meeting any petroleum supply emergency.

In the event of a supply emergency being declared by Parliament, the Board is empowered, as required, to allocate crude oil and petroleum supplies and to implement a gasoline rationing system.

The Minister said that in making appointments to the Board, the Government placed great importance on obtaining a wide range of expertise. The Board will consist of the following members: John Bechtold, manager of crude-oil supply for Petro-Canada; Robert Bonner, chairman of British Columbia Hydro; Claude Dumas, a Quebec government official and legal advisor; Philip Gordon, a retired Shell Canada executive from Toronto; Anne MacLellan Malick, a lawyer with Nova Scotia Legal Aid active in energy issues; Gordon MacNabb (Chairman), President of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, and Frank Mink, manager of the economics department of the Alberta Energy Resources Conservation Board.

Mr. Hnatyshyn hoped it would not be necessary for the Board to implement its contingency plans and programs. If Canadians practised more efficient energy consumption, he said, supply allocation measures would likely not be needed.

## Conservationists consulted on migratory caribou agreement

The Canadian Government is consulting with the two territorial governments and with native and conservation groups in preparation for a proposed agreement with the United States on migratory caribou.

A letter is being sent to these groups covering a list of questions on significant issues which may arise in formulating such an agreement. A similar list of questions is being circulated in the United States by the Department of State. Canadian responses are being requested by January 31.

Some of the same groups were involved in a series of discussions last year organized by the Canadian Wildlife Service. Although the letter is being sent to those groups most directly concerned with conservation or use of caribou, comments from other members of the interested public regarding the proposed agreement are also welcome.

The proposed migratory caribou agreement would cover caribou herds which migrate between Canada and the United States across the Yukon-Alaska border. The major migratory herd covered would be the Porcupine herd of some 100,000 animals on which a number of Indian and Inuit communities in both countries depend.