



Mr. Trudeau and Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew (centre) stand in front of guard at the welcome ceremony.

million, mainly natural resources, chemicals and aircraft parts.

Mr. Trudeau also met with Canadian businessmen who are negotiating a number of important international contracts, including the estimated \$3-5 billion rapid transit system. In an unexpected gesture, Prime Minister Lee asked for a meeting with Canadian businessmen allowing them to meet senior Singapore officials, including the Industry Minister and the Deputy Chairman of the Mass Rapid Transit authority.

Before his departure, Mr. Trudeau was honoured at an official dinner given by Prime Minister Lee.

Kuala Lumpur

The Prime Minister flew next to Kuala Lumpur. On January 10 he was officially welcomed by Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri, Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, then met with the Prime Minister and his cabinet. Their wide-ranging discussions covered international and regional political issues, minor trade problems and ways to increase business between the two countries.

Malaysian ministers indirectly raised the question of increased fees facing 8 500 Malaysian students in Canada and restrictions on their entry into medical schools. Mr. Trudeau explained that in Canada education was a provincial matter but that he would pass on their concern. He also said federal and provincial officials were considering some redress for about 30 Malaysians who each paid

almost \$5 000 to International College of Toronto, a pre-university prep school for foreigners, which closed down recently.

On trade matters, Malaysia said it wanted to cut its trade deficit with Canada, estimated at between \$25 million and \$60 million last year, and was concerned about Canadian restrictions against some manufactured products such as rubber boots.

Mr. Trudeau asked the Malaysians to take a close look at Canadian expertise in projects involving urban development, communications, transportation and forestry.

After placing a wreath at the national monument, Mr. Trudeau paid a visit to His Majesty Yang di-Pertuan Agaong, Malaysia's head of state and attended a dinner given in his honour by Prime Minister Mahathir.

Jakarta

Mr. Trudeau flew to Jakarta on January 11 and was met at Halim airport by President Suharto who joined him in a motorcade into the capital of the fifth most populous country of the world.

Mr. Trudeau's discussions with the President and later with Indonesian economic ministers focused on an attempt to rescue Canada's \$200-million share in a \$2-billion rail, port and coal-handling project that is being threatened by Indonesia's stiff counter-trade laws.

The year-old Indonesian law says that companies which do not offer concessional financing on deals over \$800 000 must take payment in kind. For example, a company such as Sydney Steel Corp.



Prime Minister Trudeau and Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri, Dr. Mahathir Mohamad.

of Nova Scotia, which hopes to sell steel for the project, must take an equivalent amount of products like rubber, tea or palm oil. The matter is under study.

Canada's investments in Indonesia are well over \$1 billion, ranking third after Japan and Hong Kong. There are 16 major Canadian firms and three Canadian banks in the country.

Brunei

On January 13, Mr. Trudeau flew to Brunei for a one-night stop, becoming the first Western leader to visit this Southeast



Prime Minister Trudeau and Sacha with Indonesian President Suharto and Mrs. Suharto.

Bob Cooper photos