

which will maximize economic benefits now and in the future" (External Affairs communiqués, June 18 and 22).

Mr. Clark told the conference on June 25 that Canada's development cooperation program with ASEAN would be enlarged and given new focus and direction. "The new program of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in the ASEAN countries will emphasize human resource development, taking advantage of Canadian institutions — both public and private — to provide needed training The essence of this new approach is to provide new human resource development and scholarship funds to finance a number of high-priority ASEAN requests for study and training In addition . . . the Canadian government will establish a Canada-ASEAN center in the region which will provide a stronger Canadian presence and a greater focus for CIDA's regional programs." The center was part of an initiative to decentralize CIDA operations (See "International Canada for April and May 1987) and would work closely with Canada's diplomatic representatives in the region, would provide coordination in the field, particularly for CIDA's ASEAN human resource development programs and counselling on Canadian educational services (External Affairs communiqués, June 24 and 25).

GATT

View of Free Trade Talks

The *Financial Times* of London reported on June 17 that the international community was watching with interest the bilateral free trade negotiations between Canada and the US (See Bilateral Relations — US, above). The talks were the first to cover new areas like services, investment and intellectual property rights (which were to be incorporated into the GATT) since the Uruguay Round began, and the international community was looking to them not only for specific indications of how these issues might be handled by the GATT, but also to assess how strong the US commitment to free trade was in practice, the *Financial Times* said. Within the GATT there was a suspicion of bilateral trade agreements, it added — the hallmark of GATT's philosophy was the multilateral approach — and the GATT was preparing to play down the importance of the negotiations, even though, at US\$125 billion, the bilateral trade last year between Canada and the US was the largest between two countries anywhere. Nevertheless, the GATT viewed talks as important in their reflection of US trade philosophy. And the report quoted Edward Carmichael of the Toronto-based C.D. Howe Institute as saying, "If the US can't make a broad agreement with Canada, then how is the world going to be able to make any progress in the GATT?"

NATO

Reykjavik Meeting

On June 11 and 12 External Affairs Minister Joe Clark led the Canadian delegation to the spring meeting of the North Atlantic Council of NATO in Reykjavik, Iceland. The June 10 External Affairs communiqué said that the meeting

was expected to focus particularly on recent developments concerning proposed reductions in Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces, and conventional arms control. The meeting also marked the fortieth anniversary of the Marshall Plan.

The *New York Times* reported on June 12 that the Council members had formally endorsed that day a proposal to ban American and Soviet short-range missiles in Europe. The foreign ministers' statement called on the USSR to eliminate its medium-range missiles in Asia as well as in Europe, though officials said that this would not be a requirement for a new treaty, the report said. The NATO members also stressed the "prime importance" of making deep cuts in strategic long-range weapons as well as reductions in conventional forces.

NDP Policy

The *Ottawa Citizen* reported on July 27 that NDP leader Ed Broadbent had said on CTV's current affairs program *Question Period* that Canada's defence budget would be better spent defending Canada than in Europe, and that Canadians would accept a withdrawal from the NATO and NORAD alliances if a revamped defence policy were designed to better protect Canadian sovereignty. Mr. Broadbent said that "A number of European countries, on a per capita basis, are richer than we are. They are financially and militarily able to put their defences on the ground. We, in contrast, have neglected the protection of our own territorial integrity — the question of Canadian sovereignty on the east coast, the west coast, Arctic." Many social democrats in Europe understood the NDP's "update of our defence policy," he added, and Canada would continue to have excellent bilateral relations with the US and European countries.

Mandate for New East-West Negotiations

External Affairs Minister Joe Clark announced on July 28 that the sixteen NATO participants in informal consultations in Vienna with members of the Warsaw Pact had circulated that day a detailed proposal for a mandate or terms of reference for a new negotiation on conventional stability in Europe (External Affairs communiqué, July 28). The NATO members proposed that the objectives of the negotiation be to strengthen stability and security in Europe through the reduction of conventional forces, the elimination of disparities prejudicial to security and stability, and the elimination — as a matter of high priority — of the capability for launching surprise attack and for initiating large-scale offensive action.

The Minister noted that Canada had taken an active role in the development of the mandate and would be fully involved in the negotiations, which could have a major effect on lowering tensions between East and West and pave the way for further progress in nuclear arms negotiations, although nuclear and chemical weapons, as well as naval forces, would be excluded from the negotiations. Michael Shenstone, Canada's ambassador in Vienna, stressed that timely exchanges of appropriately detailed information on forces and equipment subjected to an arms