

ister on issues bearing on the clothing and textile industry in Canada. The Committee submitted for consideration a series of consensus recommendations on proposals for both the global imposition of quotas and the continued reliance upon bilaterally negotiated restraint measures.

Strong opposition to the imposition of trade barriers in the clothing and textile industry came from the Consumers' Association of Canada in mid-July when the Association presented a submission to the Private Sector Task Force on Clothing and Textile Industries. The submission criticized strongly the implementation of tariff and non-tariff barriers for the protection of the domestic industry. The Association held that such barriers are of a level of protection that is higher than for most other consumer goods. It was pointed out in the submission that barriers in this sector would be borne disproportionately by low income consumers, since this group spends a larger income percentage on necessities (such as clothing). The Association regarded import quotas as "an incredibly expensive and inefficient means of helping" the Canadian industry. Such quotas lead to an increase in prices and provide foreign exporters with an incentive to ship higher-priced goods, thus depriving consumers of the widest possible selection of low-priced products. They urged the Task Force to take into consideration price and availability of clothing and

textiles in forming their recommendations for submission to the federal government (CAC press release, July 13).

TRANSPORT

Transborder Carriers

On June 29, Transport Minister Lloyd Axworthy announced the designation of five Canadian air carriers to serve newly-established routes derived under recent air agreements. Mr. Axworthy, while noting that the new designations would increase opportunities for Canadian carriers, expressed the hope that the smaller carriers would be encouraged to "be imaginative and innovative in developing new services for direct air links between Canada and the US." He stated that both the Canadian Transport Commission and the Civil Aeronautics Board would be requested to issue carriers with the appropriate licences for the commencement of services. Mr. Axworthy stressed that approval procedures for future applications would be kept simple, pending the fulfillment of "automatic approval criteria," in order to expedite route start-ups (Minister of Transport press release, June 29).

The carriers designated in the announcement to establish new routes between Canada and the US included Wardair, Air BC, Norcanair, Air Atonabee, and First Air.

For the Record

(supplied by External Affairs Canada)

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