



U.S. Information Service

*Secretary of State for External Affairs Mitchell Sharp (left) had a "most cordial and satisfactory meeting" with*

*U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger when they met in New York on September 26.*

1972] of the United States GNP. The countries of the European Economic Community together constitute our second most important trading partner — after the United States.

Now, the second reason for being cautious in welcoming the Year of Europe was my concern that a declaration or even a series of declarations should not be regarded as a substitute for the hard work in many forums required to find solutions to the substantive political, military and economic problems facing the transatlantic community. From the Canadian point of view, moreover, we would not want a declaration to divert us or the Europeans from developing the sort of meaningful long-term relation we have been pursuing with the enlarged European Economic Community.

Thirdly, we are anxious that the discussions now going forward between the Community and the United States do not in any way pre-empt the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) forum from performing its role as a diplomatic instrument in reinforcing the basic solidarity of the Atlantic nations. Without trespassing on the existing universal and regional forums for economic negotiation, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has, under Article 2, another task in avoiding serious conflict and disarray between member states in their economic policies.

We should be addressing ourselves to the equally vital issues of spiralling inflation, rising deficits from energy and defence expenditures and the capricious movements of world finance.

#### Meeting with Dr. Kissinger

You will understand that questions such as these were very much on my mind when I met with Dr. Kissinger in New York for the first time in his new capacity as Secretary of State. While we did not have an opportunity for detailed discussion, it was a most cordial and satisfactory meeting. Dr. Kissinger expressed interest in — and an awareness of — the Canadian perspective on many of these and other bilateral questions. I believe we are on common ground with respect to the development of the Atlantic relationship within appropriate multilateral forums such as NATO and the Organization for Economic Development.

While there is much common ground, you will appreciate that the Canadian approach to the Atlantic relationship is by no means always identical with the American. There are distinctive Canadian views on the European Security Conference, on the development of relations with the enlarged Community and on such issues as trade and monetary policies.

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#### Sharp rise in trade with Japan

In the first nine months of 1973, exports to Japan rose 75 per cent in value to \$1.174 billion, compared to that of the same period last year. As a result, the trade balance between the two countries has moved strongly in Canada's favour. However, in the first two quarters of this year, less than 2 per cent of total Canadian exports to Japan consisted of manufactured goods. In the same period, manufactured end-products made up 75 per cent of Japanese sales to Canada.

Manufactured goods have been accounting for about 34 per cent of worldwide Canadian exports this year. In the case of the United States, finished manufactured goods comprise 45 per cent of all exports.

#### Canadians could be fitter

A recent research project has produced evidence in support of the theory that Canadians are not as fit as people in other countries where comparable studies were made.

Announcing the results of a project carried out at the University of Saskatchewan, Health and Welfare Minister Marc Lalonde stated that the findings had major implications on the health of Canadians.

Results of tests on Saskatoon residents indicate that while the level of fitness for both men and women is low, the situation appears worse for women, 47 per cent of whom scored in the "low-fair" category, compared to 40 per cent of the men. The lowest fitness rating of all those tested was for women from 20 to 29 years, with 54 per cent scoring in the low-fair category.

The project, directed by Dr. Don Bailey, and carried out with the assistance of a grant from the Department of National Health and Welfare, involved 1,544 persons in a broad cross-section of Saskatchewan. It included 845 females and 699 males, ranging in age from 15 to 69 years.

Results were compared with Scandinavian norms and American Heart Association cardio-respiratory fitness classifications of 1972. Those who were inactive or sedentary scored lower in cardio-respiratory fitness than those who indicated they were physically active, the project confirmed.