

Also on Wednesday, Minister Abe and I announced that the Ministry of International Trade and Industry of Japan will be sending a mission to Canada later this month to investigate the investment climate in Canada. Some 37 companies and government representatives will travel through much of Canada speaking to both government and industry to get some measure of the investment opportunities Canada offers. We hope that this is the first phase of increased Japanese interest in investing in Canada. At some \$900 million, Japan still represents less than 1 per cent of foreign investment in Canada.

I have tried during the course of the week to be as positive and constructive as I can, but I would be less than honest if I did not indicate to you my profound disappointment concerning the lack of any concrete response to the few requests we made during the week. As a former businessman and as a politician, I am fully aware that everything in life is relative--that Japan also has problems and that their leaders are also under political pressure.

However, we did not come to Tokyo this week with a long shopping list of trade irritants. I only requested that action be taken in a few sensitive areas and even those were rejected.

Canadians do not want special favours. All we desire is equal opportunity to compete. We believe in free trade but we also believe in fair trade.

In closing, please allow me to summarize my key points. On a multilateral basis, Japan, as one of the main beneficiaries of an open world trading system, has a key, yes even critical, role to play in the maintenance of a free world trading environment. On a bilateral basis, there is tremendous potential for increased commercial activity between our two nations. However, in both instances, for these goals common to our two nations to be achieved, concrete measures must be taken--this is no time for more words, studies, discussions. It is time for positive action. As my respected United States counterpart has recently said, according to the Japanese press this week--time is running out.