

## Bulgaria

### **Expulsion of Diplomat**

The Department of External Affairs requested in late July that the Bulgarian Embassy make arrangements for the cancellation of the return of Raikov Ivan Delibaltov, on home-leave at the time of the announcement. The Canadian government had determined that Mr. Delibaltov, who had served as the Assistant Trade Commissioner at the Bulgarian Consulate in Toronto, Ontario, had "engaged in activities which were incompatible with his consular status" — in this particular case referring to the collection of information beyond the scope of Mr. Delibaltov's authorization. Declared *persona non grata* because of the alleged espionage activities, he was prohibited from returning to Canada (External Affairs communiqué, July 22, *Globe and Mail*, July 23). A spokesman for the Bulgarian Embassy, while acknowledging that under diplomatic rules no reason need be given for expulsions, stated that his Embassy had "no information about any unlawful activities of any Bulgarian diplomat in Canada" (*Globe and Mail*, July 24).

## Chile

### **Controversial Exports**

Speaking in the Commons June 18, Nelson Riis (NDP, Kamloops-Shuswap) questioned External Affairs Minister Joe Clark on the granting of a departmental permit for a Canadian exporter to ship para-military equipment to the Chilean National Police (charged by Amnesty International as guilty of human rights abuses). Mr. Riis criticized the approval as contrary to the stated aims of Mr. Clark's earlier Green Paper on human rights abuses. (The equipment involved pertained to explosives disposal.) In a written rejoinder to Mr. Riis' allegations, Mr. Clark stated that permission had been given after interdepartmental consultations had concluded that there were not "significant national security or foreign policy concerns which would preclude" the permit. While the material was officially classified as "military equipment," it was not viewed as posing a "threat to civilian populations." Mr. Clark reiterated his concern over maintaining export controls "consistent with the basic principles" of Canadian foreign policy (External Affairs communiqué, June 19).

Mr. Riis again raised the issue June 20, mentioning further instances of Canadian sales to Chile which involved material for possible military use, including tank parts and engine overhauls for armed forces aircraft. He concluded with a suggestion that Canada consider banning all sales which would support either the Chilean police or armed forces in view of repeated human rights abuses. Mr. Clark responded that instituting in practice what might be advisable in principle would require the implementation of specific trade guidelines designed to prevent the shipment of such products to those regimes under scrutiny. In a scrum that same day, Mr. Clark added that he had instituted a review of the issue within his department which would attempt to firmly define those categories of exports

deemed of use for oppressive purposes. "Quite precise guidelines" would, he said, be formulated (External Affairs transcript, June 20, *Globe and Mail*, June 21).

## China

### **Presidential Visit**

Chinese President Li Xiannian, accompanied by vice-premier Li Peng and a delegation of government officials, arrived in Ottawa July 14 during a cross-Canada tour for meetings with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and International Trade Minister James Kelleher. Primary focus was on bilateral trade and energy issues and a further strengthening of Canada/China ties (*The Citizen*, July 15, 16). The President stated that the visit could further "mutual understanding" and "promote economic and technological cooperation and trade." An invitation issued by President Li for a visit to China was accepted by both the Prime Minister and Mr. Kelleher following the discussions. The President spoke of the progress achieved in the spirit of cooperation between Canada and China, two countries with different social systems that still "share similar views on major international issues."

As well, two exchanges of notes were announced. One dealt with the renewal of the Canada-China Trade Agreement. The other involved the establishment of a consultative committee on agriculture. In announcing the notes, the International Trade Minister stated that Canada would "actively pursue" those opportunities offered by the current Chinese program of modernization, particularly in the fields of energy, agriculture, mineral resources and telecommunications. Because of rapidly increasing bilateral trade, Mr. Kelleher added that additional Canadian trade representatives would be stationed in China (External Affairs communiqué, July 16). Despite the heavy trade imbalance (operating in Canada's favor), President Li characterized the deficit as a "minor problem" in bilateral relations, while emphasizing the need for Canadian exports to increase their "competitiveness" (*Globe and Mail*, July 17).

## Japan

### **Automotive Imports**

With the release of import figures from Japanese auto exporters in early June revealing an 18 percent increase over the previous month, questions were raised in the Commons with regard to the ongoing bilateral negotiations on possible voluntary restraints and Canadian content commitments. Regional Industrial Expansion Minister Sinclair Stevens stated on June 10 that the increase had been noted, and an explanation had been requested of Japanese authorities as to whether the rise was merely a monthly "adjustment" or indicative of an increase in their traditional 18 percent market penetration.