

Prime Minister Trudeau hopes to enlist world leaders in a concerted effort to lessen tensions by bringing a firmer political will to the control of arms and the building of East-West confidence.

The effort has been commended in Canada, the United States and Europe. *The Los Angeles Times* applauded "an ambitious diplomatic effort" and James Reston in *The New York Times* said it was the voice of Canada, "a neighborly and friendly voice Washington cannot easily ignore."

His initiative for easing world tensions was first outlined in a major speech before the Conference on Strategies for Peace and Security in the Nuclear Age, at the University of Guelph, Ontario, on October 27.

Mr. Trudeau said he was deeply troubled by "a widening gap between military strategy and political purpose" and "a superpower relationship which is dangerously confrontational."

In the next few weeks the Prime Minister dis-

cussed his proposals with Pope John Paul II and the leaders of Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands. On November 13, in a speech in Montreal, he expanded on his initiative, and in late November he went to Japan to meet with Prime Minister Nakasone and to New Delhi, where he met with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi of India and other Commonwealth Heads of Government.

Both speeches emphasized Canada's dedication to the Western Alliance and its partnership with the United States in defence of the continent, coupled with a realization that efforts to improve the prospects for peace must be global in scope.

At Guelph the Prime Minister rejected the idea of a nuclear freeze and supported NATO's two-track policy of negotiating arms cuts while modernizing European defences and permitting the testing of the cruise missile in Canadian territory.

The Canadian Initiative To Date

October 27: Prime Minister Trudeau spoke at the University of Guelph before the Conference on Strategies for Peace and Security in the Nuclear Age.

November 8 to 11: The Prime Minister discussed the initiative with **Pope John Paul II** and the leaders of **Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Belgium** and the **Netherlands**.

November 13: The Prime Minister gave specifics of the plan in a speech at Montreal.

November 19 to 27: The Prime Minister discussed the initiative with **Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan** and then went to **New Delhi** to meet with the other **Commonwealth Heads of Government**. The Declaration issued at the conclusion of the meeting supported "in all appropriate ways" the Canadian initiative and Prime Minister Trudeau's "efforts to restore active political contact and communications among all the nuclear weapon powers."

November 28 to 29: The Prime Minister met with China's leaders **Deng Xiaoping** and **Zhaoziyang Ziyang** in **Peking** and then returned to **New Delhi**.

November 29: The Honourable **Allan J. MacEachen**, Canada's Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Exter-

nal Affairs, spoke to the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. He said, in part:

It is important to bear in mind that Canada does not view the superpowers as moral equivalents. The United States is distinguished by values common to its friends and allies, above all the belief in liberty and democracy. But we believe that the world needs a better atmosphere if arms control talks are to have a chance to succeed.

We begin by acknowledging the existence of a mutuality of interest between the superpowers. This is not, in our view, wishful thinking. It is cold political realism. Both the United States and the USSR know that the other holds the key to its security. Both share a mutual interest in being free from the fear of accidental war and surprise attack. Both share a mutual interest in avoiding uncontrolled escalation of a crisis. Both have an interest in avoiding collisions with the other over regional conflicts. Both have an interest in stemming the horizontal proliferation of nuclear weapons, and the costly vertical proliferation of their own weapons, nuclear and otherwise.

The initiative launched by the Prime Minister of Canada is aimed at improving the atmosphere for discourse between the United States and the USSR and more generally between East and West.