

ment he said, should give more attention to this subject with the aim of achieving the same security at a lower level of armaments, introducing restraints on production as well as on transfers.

Pending a joint U.S./U.S.S.R. submission to the Disarmament Committee, on a chemical weapons treaty, Mr. Pearson repeated Canada's hope that, when the Committee convened early in the new year, it would start work on areas where there was already a large measure of agreement, such as the scope of a future treaty.

Cancer inoculation hope

Dr. Thomas Stewart, medical professor at the University of Ottawa and chief of nuclear medicine at the Ottawa General Hospital, says that immunization against cancer may someday be possible, reports the Canadian Press.

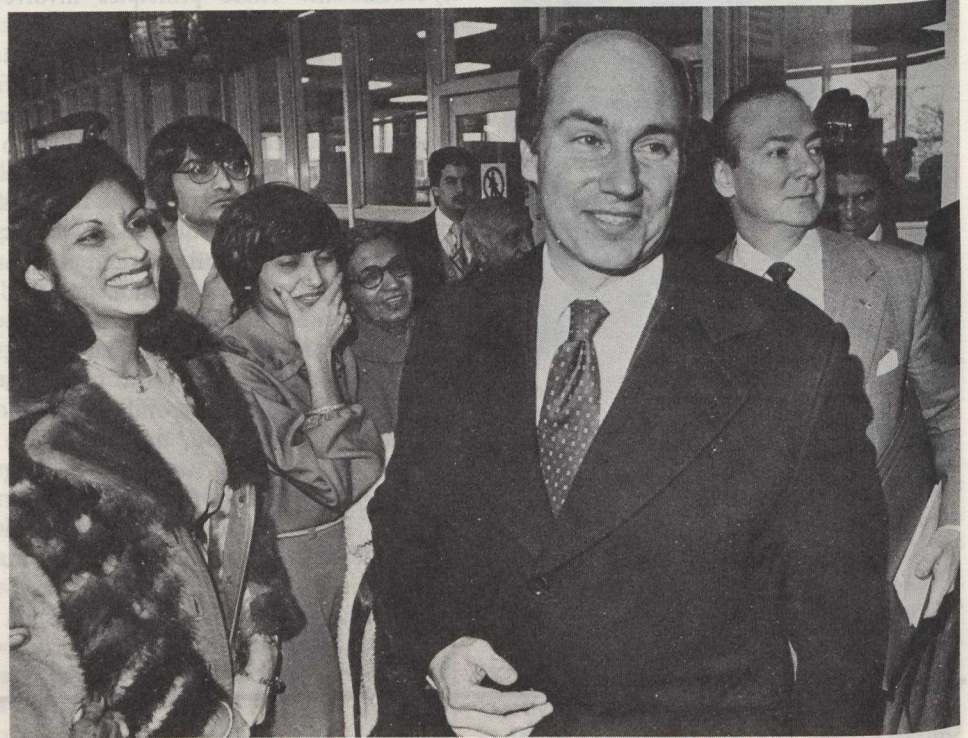
Early test results are encouraging: out of 28 lung cancer patients immunized following surgery in 1973, 25 are alive, although the disease has re-appeared in one patient. In a second group of 24 patients who underwent surgery at the same time but were not immunized, only 14 are living. A similar experiment has been conducted in Buffalo, New York. "These are highly significant results," reports Dr. Stewart, when compared to statistics indicating that one-third of lung cancer patients die two years following surgery.

Dr. Stewart's research on cancer antigens (immunological compounds) began about ten years ago, in co-operation with a medical professor at George Washington University in the U.S. The antigens, extracted from the surface of cancer cells, differ from the protein substance of healthy cells. Injection of the antigens with a patent booster to the body's natural immune system creates an immunity to the growth of new cancer cells. However, Dr. Stewart cautions "there are limitations to the approach in that we have to have patients with an early diagnosis. Perhaps 10 per cent of those who are diagnosed early with lung cancer can be immunized".

Cross-Canada study

Researchers are planning a long-term study of 300 cancer patients in a number of cities, including Ottawa, Halifax, Sherbrooke, Winnipeg, Toronto and Victoria. In addition to surgery, which all patients

The Aga Khan on a three-week tour of Canada



On arrival at Ottawa International Airport last month, the Aga Khan (front) was met by Deputy Chief of Protocol Richard Noyes Roberts (behind), who accompanied the spiritual leader of the Ismaili Moslem sect to Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau's residence at Harrington Lake for a brief stay. Following discussions with Government officials at a lunch given by the Prime Minister, the Aga Khan left for a three-week tour of major centres to speak, he said, to "my people in Canada".

will undergo as part of their treatment, half will be immunized. Dr. Stewart is sensitive to the ethical dilemma posed by the experimental method. "It may sound callous," he says, "but such controlled procedures are the only way of proving whether the treatment does, in fact, work." The extensive study, to cost about \$240,000, is supported by the National Cancer Institute and the Medical Research Council. The results will be known only in three or four years, the period it takes for the disease to recur.

If successful, immunization could be used to protect individuals with a high risk of developing lung cancer, such as asbestos and uranium miners who smoke. While Dr. Stewart's own work has dealt with lung cancer, he predicts that immunological procedures may be applicable to all forms of cancer in the foreseeable future. But, it will be another ten years before researchers will know for certain, he said.

Immigration level set for 1979

The Federal Government has established an immigration level of 100,000 for 1979, announced Employment and Immigration Minister Bud Cullen recently. The figure, which was reached following consultation with the provinces, is a small increase over the number of immigrants expected to arrive in 1978. It is the minimum specified by a Parliamentary committee.

Last year, Canada admitted 109,274 immigrants, a decrease of 23 per cent from figures for the previous fiscal year. Of these, some 45,045 joined the labour force, compared with 58,312 in 1976-77.

The announcement, made in conjunction with the minister's tabling of the first annual report to Parliament on immigration levels, is in accordance with the Immigration Act 1976, proclaimed last April 10.

The Government will try to select entrepreneurs who can create or maintain