External Affairs Canada Affaires extérieures Canada

Statements and Speeches

No. 73/19

THE VALUE OF BILATERAL CONSULTATION AND CULTURAL RELATIONS

An Exchange of Letters between His Excellency Walter Scheel, Vice-Chancellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, and the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada, September 28, 1973.

* * * *

The following letters were sent on September 28, 1973, by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany:

> Ottawa, CANADA September 28, 1973

Excellency,

During our exchanges on the occasion of your current visit to Ottawa, we had the opportunity to review the pattern and extent of the bilateral consultations in many forms and in various fields which take place between the Federal Republic of Germany and Canada. We noted with satisfaction that many of our common interests are already reflected in various agreements on Science and Technology, Defence Research and Production, Social Security and other areas.

We also noted that bilateral discussions on matters of common concern provide an effective method of improving the scope and quality of our relations. To this end, we agree that, without prescribing any particular form, bilateral consultations should be held, normally at the senior official level, or at the ministerial level, as circumstances warrant and allow. The time, place and topics for any such meeting may be proposed by either side.

Irrespective of such meetings, we expressed our desire to continue to encourage a greater exchange of visits between the Federal Republic of Germany and Canada.