

Jean Chrétien and Fidel Castro, Havana, 1998

tions. They also inaugurated the new international terminal. constructed at Havana's Jose Marti International Airport by a Canadian-Cuban joint venture. As Prime Minister Chrétien noted in his remarks at the ribbon cutting, the new terminal - built to handle up to three million air travellers - exemplified Cuba's rapidly expanding links with Canada and with the rest of the world.

Pierre Elliot Trudeau died in Montreal on September 28, 2000. The spontaneous public reaction across Canada to his death reflected Canadians sense of loss of one their greatest public figures of the 20th century. As a mark of his deep personal respect for Pierre Elliot Trudeau, President Castro attended his official funeral in Montreal - the only serving international head of state to do so. This gesture was recognized and appreciated by Canadians, and for older inhabitants of Montreal brought back memories of Castro's exuberant visit four decades earlier.

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