

said that the six Soviet officials on the panel spoke of growing cooperation between the two countries on northern affairs, but some said it still was insufficient. One Soviet panel member said that "the two economies have become mixable . . . [Soviet economic reforms] now are allowing us to introduce [economic] stimuli."

Later in June, the *Globe and Mail* reported that the Canadian government had approved a joint Soviet-Canadian ski journey across the Arctic Ocean. Expedition leader Dmitri Shparo of Moscow said the effort would enhance relations between the two countries. Seven Soviets and four Canadians would travel 1,800 kilometres from the Severnaya Zemlya Islands to Cape Columbia on Ellesmere Island to collect scientific data, the report said.

Bilateral Agricultural Talks

On June 16 a meeting of the Canada-USSR Mixed Agricultural Commission concluded in Ottawa with agreement to continue to foster the spirit of scientific and technical cooperation between the two nations, an Agriculture Canada communiqué said. Agriculture Minister John Wise met with his Soviet counterpart, and he said, "We have agreed that economic and trade relations between our countries are best fostered through direct contacts between the provinces and the Soviet republics and between interested Canadian firms and Soviet organizations." The establishment of direct contact between Alberta Agriculture and

one of the Soviet republics was praised at the meeting as a positive development in Canada-USSR agricultural cooperation. Saskatchewan, Ontario and Quebec had also expressed interest in direct cooperation with some of the Soviet republics, the communiqué said.

The Mixed Commission would next meet in 1989 in the USSR.

Glasnost and Soviet-Canadian Relations

In a speech to the Slovak World Congress in Toronto on July 4, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said that Canada should take advantage of the Soviet policy of glasnost to engage the USSR in "the constructive management of important international problems . . . Canada shall be ready to respond to genuine initiatives designed to enhance mutual security, strengthen economic growth and reduce the threats that give rise to the possibilities of war," the Prime Minister said. He added that Canada invited "the Soviet Union to release more dissidents, to renew family reunification and to relax their iron grip on their client states in Eastern and Central Europe. These would be sincere gestures of openness and change which would invite a constructive response from the West" (*Ottawa Citizen*, July 6).

Multilateral Relations

ASEAN

Singapore Conference

External Affairs Minister Joe Clark attended the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference in Singapore from June 18-20. The annual conference, which followed ASEAN's ministerial conference, was attended by the foreign ministers of ASEAN member countries and their "dialogue partners" from Canada, Australia, the EC, Japan, New Zealand and the US. On the agenda were trade, industrial and development cooperation, and items from the agendas of the Venice Group of Seven summit and the NATO ministerial meeting (External Affairs communiqué, June 15).

Prior to the meeting Mr. Clark told the Canadian Business Association of Singapore on June 17 that "If Canadian business wants to succeed in southeast Asia it will have to send investors as well as salesmen . . . I want to emphasize that our theme is two-way trade and investment." Mr. Clark also denounced protectionist forces throughout the world and praised US President Ronald Reagan for his consistent stand against protectionist measures in the US

congress. "President Reagan has his critics in the world, but one undeniable reality about his administration is that he is trying to make Americans look outward rather than inward," he said (*Ottawa Citizen*, June 18 and External Affairs communiqué, June 19).

On June 18 Mr. Clark announced a \$10 million development assistance program which effectively tripled Canada's bilateral assistance to the developing nations of the South Pacific. The program would be implemented by the International Centre for Ocean Development in close cooperation with the major South Pacific regional organizations. Mr. Clark told the ASEAN conference, "We recognize the important role regional cooperation has played in promoting stability and economic growth in the South Pacific. Accordingly, Canada will expand cooperation with the countries of the South Pacific in fisheries development and ocean resources management . . . The essential objective of this initiative is to strengthen the independent capabilities of all nations in the South Pacific to develop, manage and exploit their ocean resources in a manner