

inspired or encouraged by the Canadian Government. I pointed out that Canada is a free country and that the Government is not in control of the news media. I also urged Prime Minister Kosygin, on humanitarian grounds, to continue to facilitate the movement of close relatives from the U.S.S.R. to Canada in order to assist the reunification of families. I have every hope that there will be an amelioration in the reunification of families as a result of what Mr. Kosygin said to me. I sought to impress on him how much this means to Canadians who come from that part of the world.

ITALY

In Italy, needless to say, my talks took place in the very easy and open atmosphere to which we have long been accustomed in our relations with Italy, our friend and ally. We were readily able to reach agreement on some bilateral matters and, in large measure, we found ourselves in agreement on the international issues.

I was happy to explain to Italian Government leaders the implications for immigration from Italy of the recent White Paper, and to assure them both of our great appreciation of the contribution made by the Italians who have already come to Canada and our hope and desire that the flow should continue. I signed with Mr. Fanfani an exchange of letters providing for the creation of a Canadian Institute in Rome. This, and the cultural agreement, on which we agreed to open negotiations soon will help greatly to enhance cultural and academic exchanges between Canada and Italy.

UN PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

In all three capitals, I held useful discussions on the current problems before the United Nations and on the efforts being made at the ENDC and elsewhere to achieve certain partial measures of disarmament as tangible steps towards our objective of general and complete disarmament. I do not intend to report, of course, on the policy positions of the countries I visited with respect to these several questions. That is for them to do. But I did find everywhere a recognition of the importance of the further strengthening of the United Nations. I explained the Canadian stand on some of the current subjects before the organization, particularly our hope that this Assembly will be able to come to some agreement on peace keeping. Mr. Gromyko raised with me his Government's interest in the item on non-intervention in the internal affairs of other countries, and I assured him of our general agreement with this standard of international conduct as well as our support for the principle of the self-determination of peoples.

The Polish and Soviet Governments, I conclude, are anxious, as we and the Italians are, about the possible further proliferation of nuclear weapons in the world. There have been recent bilateral discussions between the United States and the U.S.S.R. on the subject of non-proliferation, and the Soviet side assured me that they are anxious to arrive at a treaty

in this respect. I already know from my talks with Mr. Rusk that this continues to be the wish of the United States. If this were achieved, it would be a very important step which would undoubtedly contribute towards the reduction of tensions in Europe and other parts of the world.

I confirmed by my talks in Poland and the Soviet Union that there is in those countries a desire to work for a further *détente* in Europe and an improvement in the atmosphere there in order to create conditions for a satisfactory settlement of the outstanding European problems. I pointed out that, as a NATO member, this was very much the Canadian view. It would not be realistic to expect such a settlement to come quickly, but increasing contacts between East and West, such as the official visits which I have just made, will certainly help. I emphasized the Canadian conviction that our friend and ally the Federal German Republic was genuinely anxious to improve its relations with the Eastern European countries and to make its contribution to the *détente*.

NO MAGIC FORMULA FOR VIETNAM

I know that members will expect me to speak particularly about my discussions on Vietnam. Let me make it quite clear that I took with me to Warsaw and Moscow no simple, magic formula to bring about an end to the war. This is an infinitely complicated situation. There is no magic formula, and I made that very clear to the people with whom I spoke. I put forward Canadian views repeatedly, in great detail, and I explained forcefully, on the basis of our very intimate knowledge of the United States and its policies and on the basis of our abiding friendship for that country, why certain over-simplified suggestions which have been put forward from time to time for ending the war were not the most realistic way of moving towards a settlement, quite apart from the view one might hold of the merits of the case. I refer, of course, to the proposal for a unilateral decision to stop the bombing of North Vietnam unconditionally and for good, without any indication as to what the other side might do in return to start towards de-escalation of the conflict or towards negotiations.

I put forward in considerable detail to the Polish and Soviet leaders Canadian views on the possible future role of the Vietnam Commission and certain suggestions as to steps which might be taken to lead us away from a military towards a political settlement. Our views were listened to most carefully. I am sure that they will be studied attentively in Warsaw and Moscow, just as we will seriously study the positions they took, and I hope that this in itself will be a modest contribution towards a solution. I cannot say that I detected the prospect of any immediate change in the views of these two Communist powers whose interests are so deeply engaged in the Vietnam question. But I am convinced that they are desirous of reaching a peaceful settlement, amongst other reasons for the beneficial effect this