

favor of the election (in El Salvador) and the government in power. There is no military solution to the problem."

HUNGARY

Visit of Canadian Trade Minister

International Trade Minister Gerald Regan met with Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister Marjai and other senior ministers in Hungary during a trip in January which also took him to several countries in the Middle East. "The main objectives of this mission include furthering Canadian trade relations, promoting Canadian products and expertise and developing technical cooperation with various government ministries," an External Affairs press release (December 31) stated. Mr. Regan discussed with the Hungarian ministers Canada's desire to increase the level of trade between the two countries. Negotiations also centred on future trade missions involving the exchange of expertise by Canadian and Hungarian businessmen (External Affairs press release, January 7).

JAPAN

Exports

Canada's exports to Japan continued to increase in the third quarter of 1982, trade figures released by the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo showed. Canada exported \$3.57 billion worth of goods to Japan, while importing \$2.79 billion in goods. The gains were especially notable in sales of manufactured goods, such as industrial machinery and parts, whose sales were up \$39.6 million. Still, the manufactured goods accounted for only about 4.6 percent of the total (*Globe and Mail*, December 15). Canada mainly exports raw and semi-finished material to Japan, and would like to export more manufactured goods. On December 3, International Trade Minister Gerald Regan announced the release of Canada's Export Development Plan for Japan, prepared to assist public and private sectors to expand business to Japan. An External Affairs press release (December 3) pointed out that the resource sectors would probably continue to account for an important portion of Canada's exports to Japan during the 1980s, but that a key priority of the export plan was to increase Canadian exports of fully manufactured goods. (Also see POLICY — FOREIGN — Asia: Prime Minister's Visit.)

Auto Import Quotas

MPs called on the government in December to ensure that the Japanese share of the Canadian car market be limited for 1983. In August, a quota arrangement was negotiated between Canada and Japan for 1982. On December 2, because "despite two years of controls on Japanese cars imported into Canada, their share of our sales market has risen from 22 percent to 30 percent," Neil Young (NDP, Beaches) moved that the House of Commons direct Canada's trade minister to "introduce measures immediately to ensure that Japanese automotive imports be limited to 15 percent."

The matter was brought up again on December 7.

Derek Blackburn (NDP, Brant) asked the government what it was doing to cut back on the car imports, which he said had resulted in unemployment for thousands of Canadians in that sector. International Trade Minister Gerald Regan responded that he recognized that sales of all types of cars had fallen off as a result of the downturn in the economy. He said that discussions were taking place with Japanese officials, and, "As well, representations in relation to the utilization of parts from Canadian parts manufacturers in Japanese cars is another very topical and, in my view, important subject."

Natural Gas Exports

Canada will, for the first time, export natural gas to Japan in liquified form as the result of a National Energy Board (NEB) decision on surplus natural gas. The NEB reported January 27 that Canada had enough surplus to safely double its exports over the next fifteen years. Eighty percent of the surplus will be licenced for export to the US, and the remaining 20 percent of the 11.5 trillion cubic feet will be licenced for sale to Japan (*Globe and Mail*, January 29).

LIBYA

Ambassador to Canada

Canada accepted the accreditation of an ambassador from Libya on December 20. Ali Treiki, the head of Libya's United Nations mission in New York, became Libya's non-resident ambassador to Canada, the first time there has been a Libyan ambassador to Canada. The *Globe and Mail* (December 25) said that trade figures between Canada and Libya suggest the reason for the strengthening of diplomatic ties. Canada has a trade deficit with Libya, whose major exports to this country include crude petroleum and condensates.

NICARAGUA

Canadian Policy

Government ministers were asked in the House of Commons about Canada's policy regarding the situation in Nicaragua by Bob Ogle (NDP, Saskatoon East) in December and January. On December 1, Mr. Ogle questioned External Relations Minister Charles Lapointe about what actions Canada was taking to protest interference in Nicaragua by the US and Honduran governments, which he claimed were aiding supporters of former Nicaraguan Dictator Somoza by trying to destabilize the legitimate government of Nicaragua. Mr. Lapointe replied that Canada had expressed its concern several times about foreign interference in Nicaragua's domestic affairs to the US government through the US Embassy in Ottawa and through Canadian diplomats in Washington. In answer to a further question by Mr. Ogle about Canadian support for an initiative by Mexico and Venezuela to resolve the conflict through peace talks, Mr. Lapointe said that the Canadian Prime Minister had given the Heads of State of Mexico and