

vestigated.

"It was agreed that development aid constitutes an important element in the current relations between Canada and Cuba. There was also broad agreement on the importance of providing aid to the poorer developing countries where such assistance could be effective.

"Both sides noted with satisfaction the activities already undertaken under the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding on bilateral co-operation and exchanges in the field of health which were signed during the visit to Cuba in April 1975 of Mr. Marc Lalonde, Minister of National Health and Welfare, and expressed their confidence that such exchanges would be further expanded in future to the benefit of both countries. Both sides also welcomed the recent signing of a memorandum outlining principles of co-operation in sports between Canada and Cuba and providing for the further development of joint sports activities between the two countries. Canadian and Cuban Olympic teams have exchanged training visits in the past two years and Cuban participation in the 1976 Olympics in Montreal is expected to be substantial.

"The two Prime Ministers acknowledged the impact on the bilateral trade of Canada and Cuba of the world trade in sugar. They agreed that the two governments should combine their efforts toward achieving a new international sugar agreement that would take into account the changes which have characterized the international marketing of this basic commodity.

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"In their talks concerning the expansion of trade between developed and developing countries, the two sides stressed the importance of the general preferential system in support of the growth and diversification of exports from developing countries. The Cuban side pressed for the inclusion in the Canadian general preferential system of a greater number of commodities and also for a more favourable treatment of the commodities already covered in order to allow for an increase in Cuban exports to the Canadian market.

"The two Prime Ministers held a frank exchange of views on recent international issues and situations with particular reference to important cur-



UPI photo

Prime Minister Castro holds Michel Charles-Émile Trudeau, as Mrs. Tru-

deau looks on, at the end of a four-day visit to Cuba, January 29.

rent problems in Africa and the Middle East. They welcomed the results of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and stressed the significance of the agreements reached at that conference for the peace and security not only of Europe but also of the other regions of the world.

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"They also viewed it as crucial that the Third Conference on the Law of the Sea should lead to agreement on a legal system to regulate the exploitation of resources of the sea and the sea-bed. Both Prime Ministers endorsed the concept of an economic zone up to 200 miles in which the coastal state will have sovereign rights over the exploration and exploitation of renewable and mineral resources while respecting the freedom of navigation and overflight. They both supported the right of unimpeded passage through straits used in international navigation. With respect to anadromous species, such as salmon in the case of Canada, they recognized the prime interest and main responsibility for the preservation of such species of the coastal state in whose rivers they originate. Given Cuba's interest in sharing in Northwest Atlantic

fisheries, it was agreed that the two countries would negotiate a bilateral fisheries agreement.

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Invitation to visit Canada

"The two Prime Ministers were gratified by the results of the visit and its positive effect on the further development of bilateral relations.

"Noting that a group of Canadian Parliamentarians had visited Cuba in 1974 at the invitation of the Cuban Government, the Prime Minister discussed the possibility of an early visit to Canada by representatives of the National Assembly to be elected this year under the new Constitution of Cuba.

"Prime Minister Trudeau expressed to Prime Minister Castro his deep appreciation for the warm reception given to himself and Mrs. Trudeau by the Revolutionary Government of Cuba and the Cuban people. He invited Prime Minister Castro to visit Canada at a time to be mutually agreed upon. Prime Minister Castro accepted this invitation with heartfelt gratitude."

Venezuela visit

In Caracas, where the Prime Minister and his delegation arrived on January