

Canada Weekly

Volume 1, No. 3

January 24, 1973



External Affairs
Canada

Affaires extérieures
Canada

- Mr. Sharp reviews international affairs at the close of 1972, 1
- International award for new way to freeze eggs, 3
- Canada Council seeks jobs for Ph.Ds, 3
- Lame duck not so lame any more, 3
- Canadian-made Michelin tires hit by additional U.S. duty, 4
- Consulate General in Atlanta, 4
- World fisheries conference to be held in Vancouver, 4
- Hockey practice puck, 5
- Women's lib comes to the forces, 5
- Amphetamine-use restricted, 5
- Canadian travellers, 6
- Agriculture in 1973, 6
- Trade horizons meeting, 6
- Northwest transportation plan - 1972, 7
- Recent developments in the performing arts, 7

Mr. Sharp reviews international affairs at the close of 1972

In a year-end interview for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Secretary of State for External Affairs Mitchell Sharp discussed a broad range of international affairs, including European security, mutual and balanced force reductions, the two Germanies and their entry into the United Nations, Canada's role in Vietnam, trade with Japan and the Pacific nations of the Commonwealth, Latin America and Canada-U.S. relations:

Part of the discussion follows:

Q. ...Have you been satisfied with the progress made in the Helsinki conference?

A. Well, we don't expect rapid progress in this conference. Canada, as you know, is one of the participants because we have been invited along with the Americans. We have been invited because of our vital interest in Europe and also because we have, of course, been engaged in two world wars in Europe. And we are now a member of the NATO alliance and are contributing troops in Germany in the defence of the West. Our view is that a European Security Conference can be very useful, but only if it is well prepared and only if it deals with issues of substance. We're not interested simply in a declaration that no country is going to commit aggression or is going to invade another country. Those are motherhood questions. We're interested in questions dealing with issues. We would like to see greater freedom of movement of people and of ideas and of information. We believe that this is a way of improving the security of Europe. We're interested in reducing the military confrontation that now takes place in the centre of Europe. So we are not disappointed in what is going on in Helsinki. We expect that the route towards a European Security

Conference that accomplishes something valuable will be a long one and we are quite prepared to participate in it on that basis.

Q. At the same time, parallel approaches have been made toward Eastern Europe for talks on mutual balanced force reductions...has there been an equal amount of progress there?

A. I don't think so, not yet. We have made advances, however, in laying down an agenda for talks on this subject. This was resisted for a long time. The NATO countries, however, have been promoting these talks and the Soviet Union has now agreed to have them. We have not required a link between the Security Conference and the Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction talks. We do believe, however, that there is inevitably a link between them, whether admitted or not. I can hardly believe that we will make progress towards genuine security in Europe unless we do reduce the military confrontation. And these mutual balanced force reductions are intended to reduce the level of confrontation without reducing the security of any of the members.

Q. The treaties between the two Germanies open the way for both of them to be recognized and join the United Nations. Do you feel that's a further step toward more European co-operation, or could it just provide another forum for debate?

A. I believe that it is a very constructive development. The division of Germany at the end of the war and the possible, not only the possible conflict, but the conflicts that have occurred since the end of the war, the difficulties in moving about between the two Germanies are potential dangers to the peace of Europe. The fact that the two Germanies have now initialed a *modus vivendi* and will be signing it very shortly, is to my mind very substantial progress. Indeed, it is of such a character that we are now