

ters agreed that while closer trading links with the United States, including the pursuit of free trade in some sectors, should be explored, they should also work together to expand export opportunities in the Pacific Rim, especially in such markets as China and Japan (Canadian Press, November 1).

Industry Minister Ed Lumley said on November 10 that Canada would be prepared to extend millions of dollars in loans and grants to Japanese automakers in return for their commitments to establish manufacturing facilities in Canada. Assistance was as available to Japanese automakers as to existing companies in Canada, the Minister said. He added that it would be good business sense for the Japanese to build their cars in Canada as a springboard to the North American market (United Press Canada, November 11).

LEBANON

Outrage at the Bombings in Lebanon

On Sunday, October 23, a series of car-bombings of buildings which housed American and French contingents of the Multi-National Force in Beirut claimed the lives of approximately two hundred soldiers. Prime Minister Trudeau, in a statement to the press, expressed the shock and horror of the Canadian people "at these wanton acts which have caused so much death and injury to those whose only purpose is to work for peace."

After extending sympathies to the United States, France and Lebanon, Mr. Trudeau reiterated the need to find solutions through dialogue and conciliation and pledged Canada's continued support for "the efforts of all those striving through peaceful means for a genuine and lasting national reconciliation."

The next day, in the House, Donald Munro (PC, Esquimalt-Saanich) condemned the attack, calling it "shameless, senseless, and subhuman." He suggested the House send condolences to the families of the victims.

MALI

Canada-Mali Consultations

The fourth session of the Bilateral Consultations between Canada and Mali took place in Ottawa from October 18 to 20. The Canadian delegation was headed by External Relations Minister Jean-Luc Pepin. His Malian counterpart was the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Alioune Blondin Beye.

A CIDA press release (October 20) stated that current development programs were reviewed and agreement was reached on the orientation of future cooperation, principally in the fields of antidesertification efforts (ground cover stabilization), improvement of food equilibrium and energy development. The two Ministers signed a "General Agreement on Development Cooperation." This Agreement provides a "comprehensive framework for future assistance from Canada for development activities in Mali and covers all phases of economic, technical and related assistance." It also reaches agreement on areas common

to all development projects such as taxation, import duties and remittances. These need no longer be negotiated each future project.

The next session of the Bilateral Consultations will take place in Bamako in 1985.

MEXICO

Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Meeting

External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen led the Canadian delegation to the Fifth Meeting of the Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Committee which was held in Ottawa November 1-2. Minister of Mines, Energy and Resources Jean Chrétien, Minister of Agriculture Eugene Whelan and Minister for International Trade Gerald Regan were on the delegation. The Mexican delegation was led by the Secretary for Foreign Relations, Bernardo Sepúlveda Amor and included the Mexican counterparts of the participating Canadian Ministers.

In the Joint Communiqué issued by External Affairs on November 3, the Ministers stated that they had reviewed the state of bilateral trade and the international market; had noted the long history of bilateral cooperation and trade in the agri-food sector and had renewed the arrangement for the supply and purchase of agricultural commodities; had discussed the extradition arrangements between Canada and Mexico and had agreed that existing arrangements were out of date and procedures leading to a new treaty should be implemented as soon as possible. They had discussed the current international economic and financial situation and the North-South dialogue.

The Ministers had reviewed the situation in Central America. Canada gave assurances of its support of the efforts of the Contadora countries of which Mexico is one. The Ministers strongly urged that "the commitments undertaken by Central American governments at the Panama meeting in September be reinforced by more far-reaching cooperation within the spirit of Contadora." They also urged outside governments "to refrain from actions which obstruct the essential process of cooperation, reconciliation and peace in Central America."

The Communiqué also stated that the Ministers had discussed the recent developments in the Caribbean and condemned the events which had culminated in the death of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop of Grenada. "Equally they expressed their serious concern about the invasion of Grenada by foreign troops. The invasion of Grenada has reinforced concerns that such conflict aggravates regional and global tensions."

In conclusion, the Ministers condemned the use of force in international relations. They agreed that the next meeting would take place in Mexico in 1985.

On November 2, at the conclusion of the Meeting International Trade Minister Regan announced that the Export Development Corporation had signed a \$ US 25 million line of credit agreement with Nafinsa, Mexico's national development bank, and a \$ US 10 million line of credit agreement with Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior, the principal Mexican government entity responsible for the promotion, organization and development of foreign trade.

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