

Soviet trade representative expelled

Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan recently asked the Soviet embassy in Ottawa to recall from Ottawa Mikhail N. Abramov, a trade representative with the Soviet Commercial Office.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police security service, under the direction of Solicitor General Robert Kaplan, with the assistance of a Canadian businessman, had effectively thwarted Mr. Abramov's attempts to purchase certain forms of high technology.

After a careful review of the evidence, which included offers of large sums of money to buy and illegally export fibre optic and other restricted high technology products, the Canadian government decided that Mr. Abramov, having clearly engaged in activities which were incompatible with his status, should leave Canada within ten days.

Dr. MacGuigan pointed out to the embassy that this is the third such incident in the last four years. These incidents only serve to raise questions as to the sincerity of Soviet government officials in their repeated statements that they wish to improve relations with Canada and develop a useful and mutually profitable working relationship, he said. Such activity will not be tolerated by the Canadian government and the consequences of these activities are entirely the responsibility of the Soviet government, the External Affairs minister added.

Canada-Israel health co-operation

Canada and Israel have signed an agreement under which the two countries will co-operate in the health field.

The agreement was signed in Ottawa by Canadian Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin and Israeli Minister of Health Eliezer Shostak, who was on a three-day visit to Canada.

The two countries have agreed to share the results of their experience in health services, administration and biomedical research. Under the agreement, exchanges on matters such as primary health care, care of the elderly, mental health, quality control programs and production of drugs, biologicals and pharmaceuticals are subject to the availability of funds.

Falkland/Malvina Islands dispute

Minister of State for External Relations Pierre De Bané announced April 12 that the Canadian government had decided to ban all imports from Argentina until further notice.

The announcement came following an embargo by the Canadian government on all military equipment to Argentina. In addition, the government decided not to provide export credit for new transactions with Argentina.

Francophone agency head visits Canada

François Owono-Nguema, Secretary General of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (ACTC), visited Canada recently for meetings with Canadian officials.

In Ottawa, Mr. Owono-Nguema, who is beginning his four-year term as Secretary-General of the ACTC, was received by Governor General Edward Schreyer and later met with Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

The Secretary-General also discussed with External Relations Minister Pierre De Bané future perspectives and organizational programs of the agency. Mr. Owono-Nguema called on other members of the Cabinet as well as on the President of the Canadian International Development Agency Marcel Massé. He then travelled to New Brunswick and Quebec for talks with officials in these provinces, which have the status of participating governments in the agency.

The Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation is a grouping of coun-

In taking this course, External Relations Minister De Bané explained the government's principal concern is to contribute to ensuring respect for the United Nation's Charter and for the rule of international law, consistent with its conviction that force should not be used to settle territorial disputes.

He added that the government was anxious to encourage measures designed to end the crisis over the Falkland/Malvinas Islands through a negotiated peaceful solution.

tries which use French as a common language. Its present membership includes 30 member states, six associate states and two participating governments. Its purpose is to promote the national languages and cultures of the participants and to increase cultural and technical co-operation among them.

The agency's programs have been set up to achieve this objective; they focus on the promotion of national languages and cultures, the development of national cultures and modern educational techniques, scientific and technical co-operation contributing to the pooling of research adapted to the needs and resources of each country, and, finally, mobilization of populations for their economic and social development.

The agency's total budget for fiscal year 1982 is \$18.3 million. Canada's share of the ordinary budget is 34.7 per cent, which includes 3 per cent from the government of Quebec and 0.3 per cent from the government of New Brunswick.



External Affairs Minister MacGuigan meets with Secretary-General Owono-Nguema.