

been given the job of establishing "a bilateral mechanism to chart all possible ways to reduce and eliminate existing barriers to trade". Mr. Kelleher and Mr. Brock are to report in six months.

In addition, the prime minister and the president announced that actions which will involve consultations with the private sector and other levels of government, are to be taken over the next 12 months to resolve what they called "specific impediments to trade".

#### Towards more secure trade

With agreement on giving the highest priority to mutually acceptable means of reducing and eliminating barriers to trade, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and President Ronald Reagan announced at the summit at Quebec City, a number of actions to be taken over the next 12 months on specific trade issues. They will involve:

- national treatment of government purchasing and funding programs;
- the standardization, reduction or simplification of regulations in order to make trade easier;
- improvement of the Canada-United States Air Transport Agreement to reduce obstacles to competition among airlines;
- the reduction of restrictions in the field of energy;
- the reduction of tariff barriers;
- making business and commercial travel between the two countries easier;
- the elimination of barriers to trade in high-technology goods; and
- co-operation to protect against abuses in the area of copyright law and trade in counterfeit goods.

The leaders said that problems resolved between the two countries were:

- an agreement by the president to try to eliminate the effects on Canada of a requirement in the Trade and Tariff Act of 1984 that all iron and steel pipes be marked to identify the country of origin;
- an agreement by the prime minister to take action to exempt US tourist literature from the federal sales tax;
- an agreement by the president that steps will be taken to make it easier to export Canadian specialty steel to the United States;
- an undertaking by the president to exempt certain products containing sugar from import restrictions; and
- an undertaking by the prime minister to accommodate US concerns about the protection of US programming retransmitted in Canada by cable or satellite.



Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and his wife Mila (left) greet US President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy on their arrival in Quebec City.

In the closing ceremony at the Citadel, a historic Quebec City fort, Mr. Mulroney and Mr. Reagan signed an agreement on cross-border legal co-operation, exchanged instruments of ratification for the Pacific Salmon Treaty, and witnessed the signing of a defence agreement.

The defence agreement concerned the modernization of the northern Distant Early Warning (DEW) line system. It includes newer, more sophisticated long- and short-range radar systems. (See article on P. 5, entitled, *Defence agreement signals radar warning system.*)

The Canada-US Pacific Salmon Treaty, which was signed in Ottawa on January 28, provides compensation where one country's salmon stock is intercepted by the other, regulates overfishing and stipulates upkeep of salmon stock. (See *Canada Weekly*, February 27, 1985.)

The cross-border legal co-operation treaty signed by the leaders is a mutual legal assistance treaty which will allow each side to help the other in criminal investigations. Under the treaty, one country can still refuse a request should that country believe it would be against the public interest to comply.

### Youth year enhances Commonwealth Day celebrations

March 11 was observed as Commonwealth Day in Canada and throughout the Commonwealth for the ninth consecutive year. This year, which has been designated as International Youth Year by the United Nations, the importance of Commonwealth Day was increased as the emphasis of the celebrations have traditionally been on young people.

Commonwealth Day was marked in Ottawa by a varied program and events on Parliament Hill organized by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the high commissioners of 26 countries represented in Canada. An interfaith church service was also held.

The Commonwealth secretariat is working closely with the United Nations this year to develop programs and seminars to

bring youth from around the world in closer touch with each other. A major Commonwealth conference of young people will be held in Ottawa in June.

#### An initial member

The Commonwealth is the oldest existing international organization to which Canada belongs. It includes 49 countries of all races, religions and cultures that all recognize the Queen as the symbolic head of the Commonwealth.

The modern Commonwealth is continually evolving to meet the challenges of changing times. It provides many technical assistance and training programs as well as opportunities for discussion on all levels of government and throughout the vast network of over 250 non-governmental organizations.