

July 30). (See this issue, BILATERAL — El Salvador, Honduras.)

Diplomatic Corps

The Soviet Union's ambassador to Canada, Alexander Yakovlev, became the dean of Ottawa's diplomatic corps in June. The position of "first diplomat," based on seniority of number of years in the capital, involves a high profile in Ottawa's diplomatic community, including acting as spokesman for the corps of more than one hundred missions. Mr. Yakovlev has been Ambassador to Canada for nine years (*The Citizen*, June 16).

DEFENCE

Cruise Missile Testing

Canada's position concerning nuclear armaments was discussed and debated throughout June and July. Prime Minister Trudeau addressed the UN Special Session on Disarmament in New York June 18, outlining Canada's support for arms reduction negotiations, while supporting the deployment of land-based intermediate range Cruise and Pershing II missiles in Europe, to counter already-existing Soviet counterparts. (See this issue, MULTILATERAL — United Nations.)

This "two-track" policy, adhered to by NATO allies, was explained to reporters by Mr. Trudeau at a press conference in Madrid June 8. He said, "What I hope would actually happen is that before our Cruise or Pershing missiles are actually deployed that there would be enough progress in the disarmament talks, both at the strategic level and at the tactical level so that we would never have to deploy our Pershings or our Cruises."

Canada's commitment to allow the testing of Cruise missiles in Alberta had been under attack for months by MPs and by citizens and groups. During June and July, the government received more petitions calling on it to refuse to allow the Cruise missile testing on Canadian soil, and to support a worldwide disarmament program. The Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop E.W. Scott, wrote to the Prime Minister, expressing "dismay at the news about the Cruise missile coming to Canada" (*Globe and Mail*, June 12).

In the House of Commons July 23, Douglas Roche (PC, Edmonton South) asked the government what developments had taken place on the "controversial subject." External Affairs Minister Mark MacGuigan reiterated that the decision in principle to test the missiles remained, but that neither the "over-all umbrella agreement" nor specific negotiations had been completed. Pauline Jewett (NDP, New Westminster-Coquitlam) asked the Prime Minister on July 30 to "consider our not becoming involved in testing the air-launched Cruise missile, in line with his own suggestion at UNSOD II that the real problem is that technological advances are going on ahead of reduction talks."

The idea was rejected by Mr. Trudeau, who stated that "until some progress has been made at the START talks or the INF talks we have no cause to change our policy."

Canada's involvement in the development of the MX missile was also questioned in the House of Commons. On

June 14 Pauline Jewett claimed that "the government is furthering the production of new nuclear weapons" by discussing the possibility of federal assistance to Boeing's Winnipeg branch for a "potential contract of components of the MX missile." The NDP foreign affairs critic repeated her charge to reporters the next week (*Toronto Star*, June 21).

Arms Control Proposals

Initiatives which "underline the continuity of Canadian arms control and disarmament policy and reinforce the government's commitment to the pursuit of verifiable agreements to limit and reduce forces" were announced July 7 by External Affairs Minister Mark MacGuigan. The new initiatives were "directly related to two specific Canadian priorities: to promote the realization of a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty; and to assist in the preparation of a chemical weapons convention." (See this issue, MULTILATERAL — United Nations.) In addition, the government announced a "substantial" increase in the Disarmament Fund of the Department of External Affairs (External Affairs press release, June 7).

Budget Cuts

Canada will not live up to its NATO commitments because of a \$100 million reduction in defence spending announced June 28. Allan B. McKinnon (PC, Victoria) charged in the House of Commons July 12. Defence Minister Gilles Lamontagne replied that the savings were based on a change in the projected increase in remuneration paid to the armed forces, and would not affect Canada's objectives regarding its NATO commitments.

TRADE/ECONOMIC

FIRA

The Foreign Investment Review Agency (FIRA) was blamed in June by Progressive Conservative MPs for being too rigid, and by New Democrat MPs for not being rigid enough. During the weeks leading up to the June 28 budget announced by Finance Minister Allan MacEachen, these opposite opinions were expressed in the House of Commons.

On June 8, Thomas Siddon (PC, Richmond-South Delta) presented a motion that "the government be directed to restore economic confidence by reversing immediately its anti-investment policies embodied in FIRA, the NEP, and the illegitimate November 12 budget or, barring such a reversal, the government is hereby instructed to resign." John Crosbie (PC, St. John's West) also requested that the policies be reversed, to "welcome foreign investors into this country." Derek Blackburn (NDP, Brant) made contrary representations, presenting motions on June 17 and 21 that "this House oppose any attempt by the Liberal government to abandon the interests of Canadians by weakening FIRA," and that "this House call on the government to strengthen FIRA and to start repatriating our manufacturing industry."

Speculation about changes to FIRA ended when the budget was announced June 28, and speculation about the impact of the changes began. The budget provided for