

- 2) there are opportunities for further substantial increases in trade between the two countries;
- 3) both Canada and Japan are major trading nations and have many common interests and preoccupations with respect to trade and economic arrangements in the world as a whole;
- 4) Canada and Japan assign a high priority to economic assistance to developing nations and they are associated in agencies which coordinate and concert international efforts in this field;
- 5) we have an identity of interests and attitudes with respect to several of the problems creating the greatest political tension in the world today.

Official Relations and General Contacts with Japan

The recent meeting of the Canada-Japan Ministerial Committee in Ottawa proved that these arrangements for contacts and discussions, first agreed upon in 1961, are serving a valuable purpose. They deepen our understanding of one another's viewpoints and strengthen relations in a number of fields.

I am glad that, in addition to attending the meetings in Ottawa, our Japanese visitors were able to develop wider impressions of Canada from visits in Eastern Canada and the West Coast. For our part we appreciated the opportunity, in discussions of international affairs, to arrive at a better appreciation of Asian developments derived from listening to Asian viewpoints.

These meetings reflect the wide range of official contact and common interests between Canada and Japan. In Canada, the Japanese Government is represented by its Embassy and by Consulates-General or Consulates in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg. I understand that Japan intends to open a Consulate in Edmonton on January 1,