

be made in order to bring about freer trade in the area of mass transit (*The Citizen*, June 29).

### **Garrison Diversion Project**

On June 26, a joint US Senate-House of Representatives committee approved a plan to halt temporarily spending earmarked for the controversial Garrison diversion project in North Dakota (see "International Canada" for April and May 1984). Canada has strenuously opposed the water diversion project as presently planned for its possibly harmful effects on the environment of Manitoba. The current decision to halt spending until less damaging alternatives to the proposed plan have been examined met with an encouraged response on the part of the Canadian government which had launched an intense lobbying effort to avert Phase II of the project as it now stands. The plan for a temporary halt was included in a budget bill appropriating \$15.4 billion for energy and water developments for the 1985 fiscal year. The Garrison project received \$53.6 million in development funds, but the halt extends for three months from October through December for the study of less objectionable alternatives in the construction process. A commission, to be appointed by Interior Secretary William Clark, will decide whether the Garrison project might be "redesigned or reformulated" to both reduce costs and potential risks to the environment (both of North Dakota and Manitoba). Because the halt plan was easily approved by the joint committee, reports indicated that final approval from the Senate and the House of Representatives would most likely be forthcoming, according to a *Citizen* report June 27.

### **Visit of Opposition Leader**

Conservative Opposition Leader Brian Mulroney, paying his first foreign visit as leader of his Party, met with US President Ronald Reagan, various advisers, and several key Senators and Congressmen, during a three-day visit to the US in mid-June. Mr. Mulroney, while engaged with the President in discussions on various bilateral issues of interest to both nations, raised the issues of acid emissions and the problem of East-West relations. On the topic of acid rain, Mr. Mulroney spoke to the President of Canada's readiness to see the US join other nations in committing itself to reduce by 50 percent acid rain emissions by 1994. In a later interview, the Opposition Leader stated that the President, while "quite taken" with Mr. Mulroney's enthusiasm for the proposal, felt that further research was needed before such an undertaking might be considered. Mr. Mulroney added that Canada would welcome the opportunity to join the US in a continuing examination of the problem, but considered such research as in no way hindering the setting of such positive objectives as the 50 percent cut (*The Citizen*, June 22).

On the topic of economic cooperation between Canada and the US, Mr. Mulroney suggested to the President that Canada not be taken for granted in attempting to formulate a "firm and productive relationship," the press report continued. Both men spoke of the need to improve further the mutual understanding between the US and Canada. Touching on proposed US legislation concerning restrictions on the importation of steel (including Canadian exports) and the possibility of a loss in Canadian jobs, Mr.

Mulroney pressed upon the President the dangers inherent in protectionist measures. (The Reagan administration had previously expressed its opposition to the restrictive legislation.)

On East-West relations, the Conservative Leader supported President Reagan's recent offer to hold summit talks to improve Soviet-US relations. Any initiative by the President, however slim the hope of a successful conclusion, was justified in the hope of world peace, said Mr. Mulroney. "Risks should be taken to achieve that noble objective," he added.

Mr. Mulroney also expressed to the President his opinion that increased talks between American and Canadian cabinet members, such as those between then-External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen and US Secretary of State George Shultz, would be of benefit to both nations. An increased awareness of the importance of Canada as ally and trading partner on the part of the US media would also help to improve bilateral relations. "The greatest trading partner of the United States is [Canada] . . . But some people don't know it and when they don't know it, we don't get the kind of treatment we deserve," said Mr. Mulroney. Progress in developing a successful relationship would result from "straight talk and straight-forward action," concluded the Opposition Leader (*The Citizen*, June 23).

### **Shelling of Hawaiian Island**

Controversy over the shelling of the Hawaiian island of Kaho'olawe during military exercises conducted by Rimpac, a joint defence agreement between Pacific Rim nations (including Canada), received media attention in June as a result of protest action on the part of a native Hawaiian group. As part of naval exercises involving a six-week training program held every two years, Canada participates in the shelling of the island along with other Rimpac countries. At present, the island is the object of contention between the US Navy and the native Hawaiian group — Protect Kaho'olawe Ohano — who are attempting to reclaim possession of the island from the US Navy. The group, meeting with and presenting information to representatives from the Canadian Departments of External Affairs and National Defence, and the Prime Minister's Office, advocated a cessation of Canadian participation in the shelling exercises (*Globe and Mail*, June 6).

The Canadian government decided to re-examine Canada's role in the training manoeuvres. Reports indicated that the federal government would take into consideration the decisions of other Rimpac nations to withdraw from the shelling exercises — including Japan, New Zealand and Australia. It was noted, however, that each Rimpac nation had different defence requirements and thus different training procedures.

Making a statement in the House of Commons June 4, Terry Sargeant (NDP, Selkirk-Interlake) called upon the Government to discontinue its participation in the exercises. Mr. Sargeant noted that the shelling, continuing despite the fact that the island had been added in 1981 to the US National Register of Historic Places, posed "an immediate threat to some of the archeological sites." Mr. Sargeant added that several other Rimpac nations had withdrawn in respect of expressed Hawaiian concerns (in-