

so-called high cost of Western informational material is an argument not to be taken seriously. Also, why is the demand for films in our embassy *cinéma-thèques* so low in some Eastern European countries compared to other areas, and why are individuals apparently constrained from borrowing our films?

... Regarding an increase in the number of correspondents exchanged between Canada and the U.S.S.R., there is a distinct imbalance, with four Soviet journalists accredited in Canada and only one permanently-accredited and resident Canadian journalist in the Soviet Union. But, frankly, the working conditions in the Soviet Union for journalists are such as to discourage Canadians from exercising that profession there. Despite improvements recently announced by the Soviet authorities, access for Canadian journalists to their sources — both official and private — is still too restricted and so is travel in the Soviet Union. Moreover our experience with short exchanges of groups of journalists has been disappointing because of bureaucratic delays in the Soviet Union which have discouraged us from continuing what should be a useful activity. Canadian journalists have encountered difficult working conditions elsewhere in Eastern Europe. In one recent case, notes, tapes and films of a Canadian correspondent were confiscated at the Prague airport on departure by the local authorities, who accused him of contacting a political dissident. He had not done this, but it required several days and strong representations by the Canadian Government before these materials were returned.

Finally, I wish to associate my delegation with the concern just expressed by the distinguished representative of the United Kingdom about the confiscation of mail in some Eastern European countries. This is a matter of anxiety for Canada because of the large correspondence between Canadians and their relatives in these countries.

I have tried, then, Mr. Chairman, in these brief remarks, to identify some of the major obstacles encountered by Canada in implementing the provisions of the Final Act in the field of information. We believe that these impediments, as well as others noted by various delegations during this debate, should be taken into consideration when we set to drafting the relevant section of our final document