

External Affairs Minister MacEachen on the matter but he noted that "we are not seeking to play a role in any monitoring of peace in the area."

The following day Mr. Munro made a Member Statement in which he continued to press his demand that the House should be consulted before any Canadian troops were sent abroad. He called on the External Affairs Minister to have the issue debated fully and approved or disapproved "before any decision is taken to commit Canadians, whether military or civilians, to any such operation."

On October 12, Bob Ogle (NDP, Saskatoon East) in a Member Statement called upon the External Affairs Minister to consider seriously the wide range of recommendations on Canadian policy in Central America which had been made by a high level ecumenical delegation representing the major Canadian churches. Father Ogle outlined the main points made by the delegation: "... that Canada support particularly the Contadora group and the efforts that it is making to bring about peace in that area. Secondly, they asked for a clear and public statement to be made to the United States and Honduran Governments regarding Canada's opposition to the military manoeuvres and to the construction of new military bases, on the grounds that they undermine the spirit and the letter of the Contadora group." He concluded by asking Mr. MacEachen to immediately release the eighteen million dollar line of credit which had been pledged to Nicaragua.

On the other hand, David Kilgour (PC, Edmonton-Strathcona), speaking on October 17, urged the Government not to approve the requested aid package to Nicaragua "unless and until the Sandanistas cease their systematic attacks on Jewish synagogues."

## HAITI

### Assistance Agreement Signed With PCIAC

On October 20, the Chairman of Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation (PCIAC), Peter Towe, and the Haitian Minister of Mines and Energy Resources, Claude Mompont, signed an agreement which set out the terms of a \$3.675 million oil and gas exploration assistance project in Haiti.

Under the terms of the agreement, PCIAC will provide assistance to the Government of Haiti by reevaluating offshore hydrocarbon prospects using existing geophysical data and by acquiring new data. The Canadian seismic vessel *Bernier* will be used for the latter phase and Canadian contractors and consultants have been engaged for additional components of the contract.

The \$3.675 million is in the form of a grant which is part of Canada's overall official development assistance to the Republic of Haiti (PCIAC press release, October 20).

Later in the month a commercial delegation from Haiti led by the Secretary of State for External Trade, Jean Michel Ligondé, visited Canada in order to promote joint Canadian-Haitian private sector cooperation to complement the public sector efforts to develop the Haitian economy.

The group met with representatives of External Affairs, CIDA, the Export Development Corporation and business representatives. The Haitian mission also re-

newed its government's invitation for a Canadian commercial and industrial delegation to visit Haiti in order to increase both joint ventures and exports between the two countries. That mission is planned for early 1984 (External Affairs press release, October 31).

## JAMAICA

### Canada-Jamaica Agreement on Social Security

During the official visit of the Minister of Social Security for Jamaica, Neville Lewis, he and Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin announced that the reciprocal Agreement on Social Security, signed on January 10, 1983 was to come into force on January 1, 1984.

The Agreement coordinates the operation of the Canada Pension Plan and the Old Age Security Act with the Jamaican social security programs which provide old age, survivor and disability benefits. Both countries impose minimum conditions of residence and/or contributions before individuals can qualify for social security benefits. Persons who reside or who have resided in Canada and in Jamaica will be able to combine credits earned in both countries in order to satisfy the minimum eligibility requirements of one or both countries.

The Agreement provides a means of calculating the amount of benefits to be paid by each country and also enables interested provinces to negotiate understandings with Jamaica in order to coordinate their social security programs with the equivalent Jamaican ones.

This is the fifth such social security agreement to come into force. Others have been signed with Italy, France, Portugal and Greece. Under the Canada-Jamaica agreement, approximately 2200 Canadian residents may become eligible for benefits (Health and Welfare press release, October 17).

## JAPAN

### Japanese Investment Sought

Canadian Press reported from Tokyo on October 26 that Canadian auto parts manufacturers were hoping to garner business from Japanese automakers while impressing them with the viability of the industry in Canada. The President of the Automotive Parts Manufacturers Association of Canada, Patrick Lavelle, said that the Japanese must be made aware of the high quality of Canadian industry before they would abandon their "America-first" attitude.

On November 1, United States and Japanese officials agreed to extend for one year the three-year voluntary curb on auto shipments, raising the number of autos shipped to the United States by 170,000 units. The agreement was viewed positively by Canada according to Canadian Press reports from Tokyo. The settlement with the United States would help to strengthen Canada's bargaining position when bilateral negotiations on establishing the level of Japanese exports began again.

The previous day, International Trade Minister Gerald Regan had met with his provincial counterparts. The Minis-