

request of the Chinese government, Canada will participate in the Asian Pacific trade fair to be held in Beijing in November of this year.

This major exercise will involve approximately 100 Canadian companies, mainly from the energy, transportation, communication and agriculture areas. Our main focus will be trade promotion....

As a means of strengthening our economic relations with China and as part of the Export 85 program, I myself and many of my fellow ministers hope to lead trade missions to the Pacific Rim countries in the coming year. In addition the Chinese minister for foreign economic relations and trade, Madame Chen Mu Hua, and her colleague the minister responsible for water resources and electrical power, Madame Quian Zheng Ying, have accepted our invitation to visit Canada in 1985.

One of the issues that we will be studying is the financing of Chinese technology imports. Chinese foreign exchange reserves are now estimated at approximately \$10 billion. This is a considerable sum, but it is not enough to meet Chinese development requirements. Concessional financing from other countries will not suffice either. My

government will be taking a very close look at the special conditions facing Canadian companies operating in China....

Additional diversification

Canada has, with China, also been looking at ways and means of diversifying Chinese manufactured goods exports to Canada. In addition, China is seriously considering investing in Canada, so as to secure sources of supply in the food products and potash areas. A substantial part of our export strategy has focused on the joint development of the Chinese energy sector through the supply of expertise and equipment in the exploration, exploitation and transportation of energy. We intend to intensify our efforts in those areas. Another vital aspect of China's development will involve the upgrading of its communications network and we intend to actively pursue our efforts in this area.

...We believe there is a two-way process going on. As we increase our understanding of China and improve our marketing approach, the Chinese are sharpening their understanding of international commercial practices. This process will mean greater opportunities for reward for both sides....

NATO secretary general visits Canada

Lord Carrington, the secretary general of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), made an official visit to Canada January 20-24. It was his first formal visit to Canada since becoming secretary general in 1984.

In Ottawa, Lord Carrington met with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark and Minister of National Defence Robert Coates. He also met with members of the House of Commons and Senate committees dealing with external affairs and defence and addressed a meeting of the Empire Club in Toronto and a meeting of the Canadian Club in Montreal.

Range of talks

Discussions during the visit focused on East/West relations, the state of the North Atlantic alliance, Canada's continuing political and military commitments to NATO, and arms control.

NATO solidarity as new United States-Soviet arms talks progress was stressed by Lord Carrington. He said that only a strong and unified NATO can effectively negotiate with the Soviet Union on arms control.

Arms control and disarmament are also just as important as defence and deterrence added Lord Carrington. "We must make every effort to negotiate with the Soviet Union a stable balance of arms and armed



Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark (left) with NATO Secretary General Lord Carrington in Canada.

forces — and especially of nuclear arms — at levels much lower than present," he said.

Canada's political contributions to NATO in diplomacy and peace-keeping were praised by Lord Carrington but he said there's room for more military efforts, particularly in providing conventional forces to the alliance.

Support for arms control talks

Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark announced that Canada supports the outcome of the two days of talks between the United States Secretary of State George Shultz and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, held in Geneva January 7 and 8.

Mr. Clark said that the agreement to engage in bilateral negotiations on nuclear arms — of both strategic and intermediate range — and space weapons, represents an important step forward in relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. "The negotiating process will have far-reaching and positive implications for East-West relations in general and for negotiations in multilateral arms control fora in which Canada is a direct participant," he said.

The Canadian government is especially encouraged by the agreed objectives for the US-USSR negotiations: the prevention of an arms race in space and its termination on earth; the limitation and reduction of nuclear arms; and the strengthening of strategic stability, leading ultimately to the complete elimination of nuclear weapons.

Mr. Clark said these themes have long been central elements of Canadian foreign policy and that "Canada will continue to play an active and constructive role in the search for the common understanding between East and West needed for the achievement of durable, effective and verifiable arms control agreements".

Additional aid for famine victims

The Canadian Emergency Co-ordinator for the African Famine, David MacDonald, has announced that \$1 million has been allocated from the Special Fund for African Famine Relief to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

"The contribution has been sparked by the increase in refugees generated by the drought and famine conditions in many African countries," said Mr. MacDonald.

The largest increase of refugees has been into Sudan from Ethiopia and Chad. Some 2 000 to 3 000 persons are arriving in Sudan each day creating an urgent need for tents, food, medical supplies and blankets.

In 1984, Sudan absorbed over 600 000 refugees and their numbers continue to increase. The UN high commissioner estimates another 170 000 have recently arrived in Sudan seeking emergency assistance; while in the Central African Republic 40 000 Chadians are receiving emergency assistance.