

In an editorial on February 3, the Montreal Gazette said that the Prime Minister's tour offered strong evidence that the moment was ripe for a surge of Canadian interest in Latin America. Important trading opportunities were opening up. A prime ministerial tour was an excellent means of focusing national attention - always too inward looking - on Canada's world role. Noting that a move by Canada to full membership in OAS "would oblige Venezuela, disoblige Cuba and leave Mexico indifferent", the paper concluded that Canada could "probably get a better grip on relations with Latin America by continuing to improve ties with individual countries..."

On the same day James Ferrabee reported to the Gazette, for Southam News Services, that the Prime Minister's first venture into Latin America in pursuit of the "Third Option" foreign policy was producing some flak from the countries he was trying to woo: in particular, the "visit to Cuba was not appreciated by the Venezuelan government and perhaps other countries in Latin America.."

The Toronto Star in an editorial on February 4, said that, for all the controversy it had generated the visit accomplished one important purpose, the opening of trade doors.

On February 5, Jean Pellerin, in La Presse (Montreal) said that the Prime Minister "n'avait aucunement pour objectif d'ennuyer les Américains, mais bien plutôt de promouvoir les intérêts canadiens". He concluded:

"Il se peut (que) ... M. Trudeau n'ait pas obtenu tous les résultats concrets qu'il espérait. Mais on peut convenir avec lui que les relations du