

Eastern Europe

Turkey

Canada and Turkey continued in 1975 to maintain cordial bilateral relations and to co-operate in multilateral forums such as NATO and the UN.

Canada continued to be concerned about the Cyprus question and to engage in exchanges of views with the Turkish authorities on this matter.

Two-way trade between Canada and Turkey, after its considerable increase in 1974, reached a figure of some \$45 million in 1975.

Because of the centralized nature of the system of government in Eastern Europe, exchanges of high-level visits assume special importance in developing bilateral relations with the countries of this region. Such visits therefore figured prominently in the efforts made to promote Canadian interests in the area during 1975. The year's activities were highlighted by the official visit of Mr. MacEachen to Warsaw and other cities in Poland from September 30 to October 4. The Minister of Public Works and Minister of State for Science and Technology, Charles M. Drury, made an 11-day official visit to the Soviet Union in September, which took him across the whole of the U.S.S.R. from Moscow to Vladivostok. The Secretary of State, Hugh Faulkner, visited Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia in late summer, and the Minister of Agriculture, Eugene Whelan, later visited Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

A 17-man Parliamentary delegation led by the Speaker of the House of Commons, James Jerome, and including Senator Raymond Perrault, the Leader of the Government in the Senate, made an official eight-day visit to the Soviet Union in September. This was the first such Canadian visit to the U.S.S.R. since 1970. Earlier, in April, a Canadian Parliamentary delegation of nine members had toured Poland as guests of the *Sejm* (Parliament).

Premier Gerald Regan of Nova Scotia was the guest in September of the Chairman of the Executive Council of Croatia, and during his stay in Yugoslavia he was received by President Tito.

In the spring, a trade-development mission, led by the Senior Assistant Deputy Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, T. M. Burns, carried out consultations in Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Poland. A similar high-level trade mission, led by Assistant Deputy Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce C. T. Charland, visited Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia in the fall. The Canadian Government and business firms participated for the first time in the annual Plovdiv International Trade Fair in Bulgaria in September.

In the cultural field, the National Arts Centre Orchestra Association visited the Prague Festival in the spring. Canada Council Director André Fortier journeyed to Prague in June. Charles Lussier, Vice-Chairman of the Public Service Commission, visited Sofia and, with the Bulgarian Minister of Education, signed an