

fitting that we begin our visit to France here in Vimy honouring those who died for the France of yesterday."

Closer ties

Mr. Mauroy recalled the sacrifice made by Canadians in France during the two world wars and pointed out the growing relationships between the two countries. "Each day happily shows the convergence of views and analysis we have. I am convinced that the exchange of views that you will have with the President of the Republic (François Mitterrand) and myself will indicate a new identity of views," he said.

Later at a reception at Lille City Hall, Mr. Mauroy spoke of the "privileged relations" France has had with Quebec for nearly two centuries, which "flowed from history and the nature of things. Our fraternal friendship is an acknowledged fact no matter what happens and no one should be offended by it. This friendship is equally offered to all francophones spread throughout the breadth of Canada which your government I know is concerned about", Mr. Mauroy said.

Mr. Trudeau reminded his audience that the Canadian federal system allowed the people of Quebec to feel at home in every part of Canada. "As you know, all



Prime Minister Trudeau stands between his son Justin and French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy at the Canadian war memorial in Vimy, France.



West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl (right) greets Mr. and Master Trudeau in Bonn.

my political efforts in Canada are based on the heartfelt conviction that one can be a loyal Newfoundlander, Albertan or a Quebecois and still be a good Canadian," he stated.

In Paris Mr. Trudeau met with President François Mitterrand and other French ministers, and was guest of honour at a lunch hosted by the National Council of French Employers and by the France-Canada Chamber of Commerce.

In an address presented at the lunch, Mr. Trudeau spoke of the advantages of expanded commercial exchanges between the two countries. "Canada," he said, "is perhaps the last great adventure possible in the industrialized world, where investors would not find conflict but the stability of institutions imbued with tolerance and liberty."

"Our potential is indisputable. Not only will we be able to be a most important supplier to France in primary resources and manufactured goods, but our need of investments of technology and of equipment should permit France to take an active part in our development," added Mr. Trudeau.

Canadian participation in the European Airbus construction was also mentioned by Mr. Trudeau. He said that the Canadian government had asked de Havilland Aircraft of Canada to negotiate with the Airbus partners. Negotiations are proceeding with Germany, Britain and France.

Mr. Trudeau later met with Mr. Mauroy and several other French ministers at a work session where fisheries and the delineation of the economic zone be-

tween the French territory of St. Pierre and Miquelon, south of Newfoundland, and the Canadian east coast, were discussed. While solutions were not found to the problems involved, it was agreed that negotiations would continue early in the new year.

Among the other issues discussed at the work session were: French participation in the Melville pilot project (the exploitation of natural gas in the Canadian Arctic); the ministerial meeting of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, over which Canada would preside; and increased scientific co-operation, in particular by increasing the grants awarded by both countries.

Mr. Trudeau also held private talks with Mr. Mitterrand. The two men have met six times and share common views on many subjects. On this occasion they held general discussions on several issues of international politics, especially the US and European countries that had recently changed governments. The question of the North-South dialogue was also touched on by the two leaders.

At the end of their talks, Mr. Trudeau described Canada-France relations as "more than excellent". He observed that progress was being made on economic matters and that President Mitterrand had assured him that the French government would respect the Canadian Constitution. "We ask for nothing more," said Mr. Trudeau, "and if the French government wants to have privileged relations with Quebec, I'm delighted, being a Quebecois myself."

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Bob Cooper photos