On the Soviet side: Deputy Chairmen of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., N.K. Baibakov, V.A. Kirillin, V.N. Novikov; U.S.S.R. Minister of Foreign Affairs, A.A. Gromyko; U.S.S.R. Minister of Foreign Trade, N.S. Patolichev; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the U.S.S.R., S.P. Kosyrev; U.S.S.R. Ambassador to Canada, B.P. Miroshnichenko; and also Heads of Departments of the U.S.S.R. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, E.N. Makeev, O.N. Khlestov, Y.N. Cherniakov, and other officials.

The discussions were held in an atmosphere of frankness and cordiality and provided the opportunity for a useful exchange of views on the present state and future prospects of Canadian-Soviet relations, as well as on major international problems of common interest. The Canadian side outlined the basic aims of Canadian foreign policy, while the Soviet side outlined the decisions of the twenty-fourth Congress of the CPSU on questions of foreign policy. They agreed that all countries, regardless of their social systems, should seek to develop relations based on reciprocity and mutual confidence and should resolve any problems by negotiations.

The two sides expressed satisfaction with the general trend towards improvement of Canadian-Soviet relations. They are convinced that the further development of good-neighbourly relations corresponds to the national interests of the peoples of Canada and the Soviet Union and promotes the relaxation of international tension and the safeguarding of universal peace. With this in mind the Prime Minister of Canada and the Chairman of the U.S.S.R. Council of Ministers signed a protocol designed to enlarge and deepen consultations on important international problems of mutual interest and on questions of bilateral relations by means of periodic meetings.

The two sides emphasized the importance of contacts at all levels and expressed their mutual desire to develop exchanges of visits of government and political leaders, representatives of commerce, science and technology, culture, non-governmental organizations and tourists.

The two sides reviewed the present state and future prospects of economic, scientific and technological co-operation between the two countries. The two governments agreed that there are favourable opportunities for increasing and diversifying trade in both directions to mutual advantage. They noted that Canadian-Soviet trade over the years has been fruitful and that the deliveries of Canadian wheat play an important part in this trade. They instructed the appropriate agencies to work out proposals on ways of further developing trade relations between the two countries. It was agreed that negotiations for the renewal of the current trade agreement should begin in November or December this year in Moscow.

They also agreed to instruct the appropriate agencies to study the possibilities of further expanding co-operation in the field of air transport.

It was noted that the expansion of mutually advantageous economic, scientific and technological relations has been promoted by the Agreement between the Governments of Canada and the U.S.S.R. on Co-operation in the