

I explained to Mr. Schumann what I consider to be the three basic elements on which good relations between France and Canada should rest: first, that co-operation between France and Quebec, which we regard as being of first importance, must be carried out in consultation with the Canadian Government; second, that co-operation between France and Canada must be practical in nature and not confined to expressions of goodwill; third, that France must avoid taking positions contrary to the Canadian constitution.

As a result of this frank exchange, I feel we have laid a foundation for avoiding in future some of the incidents which have in the past caused unnecessary strain and tension between us.

In Bonn my objective was to establish a better mutual understanding of our respective policies on international problems of common concern, and to prepare the way for more intensive bilateral co-operation between our two countries.

I got a firsthand account from the German Foreign Minister, Mr. Walter Scheel, of the Federal Government's efforts to improve relations with their Eastern neighbours and to develop a more integrated community in Western Europe, efforts which naturally form an overwhelming part of German preoccupations at the moment. I expressed the admiration of the Canadian Government for the courage, imagination and realism of the Federal Government in these efforts.

The Germans expressed their appreciation for Canadian understanding and support. They also stressed the importance they attached to the maintenance of an active Canadian role in both the defence and détente efforts of NATO. I reaffirmed the importance for Canada of our ties with Europe, not only from the security point of view but also as a means of diversifying our external relations.

I discussed with several members of the German Federal Government ways of strengthening the functional co-operation between our two countries, particularly in the fields of science and technology, where both countries have something to contribute and something to gain from more intensive and systematic exchanges. We agreed to proceed in a pragmatic way to identify specific areas where the prospects for such exchanges are most promising. I hope it will be possible to send a mission to the German Federal Republic within the year to follow up these initiatives in greater detail.

I took the opportunity of these visits to let both the French and German Governments know of the Canadian Government's concerns about the repercussions of certain commercial and agricultural policies of the European Economic Community, particularly in relation to grain production and trade. Our desire is to increase consultations with the EEC on these matters so that the transatlantic co-operation to which we attach so much importance will be strengthened rather than weakened.