

guez, visited Ottawa.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, attended the Third Law of the Sea Conference in Caracas in 1974 and in his meetings with the President and ministers of Venezuela, the basis was laid for greatly increased exchanges with that country. In the new year Mexican parliamentarians will visit Ottawa in February and Canadian parliamentarians are planning a visit to Caracas.

The Canadian Association for Latin America (CALA), in co-operation with the Canadian Government, has held several conferences and meetings between Canadian and Latin American industrialists and businessmen. The fifth annual conference (CALA V) will take place in Caracas at the time of Prime Minister Trudeau's visit there.

There are also *ad hoc* exchanges between universities. About 500 Latin American students are studying in Canada, some on postdoctoral scholarships arranged by the National Research Council (NRC). At the same time, NRC provides funds for 25 Canadian students annually to continue studies in Latin America.

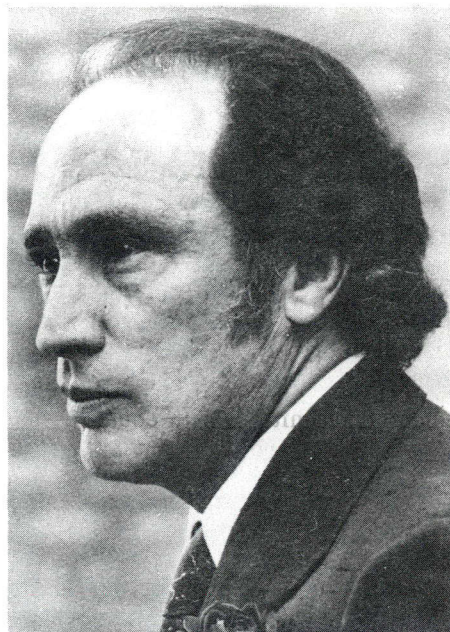
Trade

Canadian exports to Latin America grew in 1974 to reach \$1,260 million, twice the figure of the previous year. Imports from Latin America (including oil) for 1974 more than doubled, reaching \$1,830 million. Latin America as a whole accounted for 4.8 per cent of Canada's foreign trade in the same year, a moderate but growing percentage, while an estimated 13.9 per cent of total direct Canadian investment overseas was in Latin America in the same year. Brazil, Venezuela, Mexico and Cuba are among Canada's 20 leading trade partners.

Development assistance

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) works in multi-lateral and bilateral areas as well as with non-governmental aid organizations, business and industry to provide technical and capital assistance to some 70 countries, including Latin America.

Canada's development assistance program has been aimed at specific needs of the various Latin American countries involved. Emphasis is on



Prime Minister P.E. Trudeau.

projects in such fields as health, education, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and public administration, areas where Canadian technical knowledge is most applicable to needs of the region.

CIDA commitments made since the inception of its Latin American program total \$57 million. Eight projects have been completed, 83 are in operation and 252 are in the planning stages. Examples of projects in operation include a five-year program of mineral exploration education at the Federal University of Bahia, Brazil, at a cost to Canada of \$1.2 million; extensive assistance to the National Institute of Navigation and Fishing at La Union, El Salvador (\$3.3 million); assistance in establishing a department of food technology at the National University of Bogotá, Colombia (\$710,000); a \$10-million loan to Cuba for the purchase of materials in public and animal health; a \$1.8-million multi-sectoral study of the integrated development of the Petit Groave - Petit Trou de Nippes region in Haiti; participation in a rural electrification program in Peru (\$1.7 million) and a series of feasibility studies for the Andean Group (\$640,000).

The strongest cultural and personal links between Canada and Latin America have been forged over the years by the work of religious orders, voluntary agencies and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs). To encourage such Canadian groups, in Latin America and elsewhere, CIDA subsidizes selected NGO projects, usually up to 50

per cent of their cost. Some 40 of these Canadian agencies are active in Central and South America.

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC), created in 1970, adds an important dimension to Canada's development assistance. The IDRC's major concern is to use its funds to build up the capacity of scientists and technicians in developing countries to solve their own problems. It is funded by the Canadian Government and has an international board of governors.

The Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO) has hundreds of volunteer specialists in Latin America. Its focus is in areas such as nursing, agriculture, engineering and education. The Canadian Executive Services Overseas (CESO) provides voluntary services of retired business and industrial executives in a number of countries.

Prime Minister Trudeau's trip in the new year to Mexico, Cuba and Venezuela will serve to consolidate the already growing ties with the countries of Latin America.

United States supplies long-range patrol aircraft

Supply and Services Minister Jean-Pierre Goyer announced this month the formal acceptance of the proposal by Lockheed Aircraft Corporation of Burbank, California, to supply Canada with 18 long-range patrol aircraft at a cost of \$614 million.

Lockheed was selected for various reasons, including operational performance, technical merit, cost and Canadian industrial benefits.

The price of the program, which also covers ground operational support facilities, spares and training, also includes estimated escalation over the full period of the agreement that extends to 1980.

The contract will be of the "firm fixed-price type" and provides for ownership by the Canadian Government of the data rights for new design and development involved in the program.

Lockheed Aircraft Corporation is committed to provide approximately \$568 million in Canadian industrial benefits.

Delivery is expected in about three and a half years.