

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

PRESS RELEASE

NO 3

JANUARY 17/64

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED TODAY IN PARIS ON THE VISIT TO FRANCE OF PRIME MINISTER PEARSON:

AT THE INVITATION OF GEN DEGAULLE THE PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, THE PRIME MINISTER OF CDA, MR LESTER PEARSON, PAID AN OFFICIAL VISITS TO FRANCE FROM JAN 15 TO 17. THE PRIME MINISTER WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MR PAUL MARTIN, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CDA.

2. GEN DE GAULLE AND MR PEARSON, TOGETHER WITH THE PRIME MINISTER OF FRANCE, MR POMPIDOU, AND THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTERS, MR PAUL MARTIN AND MR COUVE DE MURVILLE, HELD EXTENSIVE CONVERSATIONS IN THE CHARACTERISTIC ATMOSPHERE OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONFIDENCE WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

3. THEIR DISCUSSIONS INVOLVED A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON MAJOR INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS, AS WELL AS ON DEFENCE QUESTIONS AFFECTING THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE PRESIDENT AND THE PRIME MINISTER EXAMINED THE PRESENT STATE OF AND LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE WEST AND USSR AND OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES QUESTIONS WHICH ARE ALSO UNDER DISCUSSION IN THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. THEY ALSO REVIEWED DEVELOPMENTS IN ASIA AND THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR THE WEST. THEY CONSIDERED THE SITUATION IN THE COUNTRIES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA, WHERE CDA HAS RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS FOR SUPERVISION AND CONTROL.

4. FRANCO-CDN RELATIONS WERE EXAMINED IN THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION WHICH GUIDES THE TWO GOVTS. IT WAS RECOGNIZED ON BOTH SIDES THAT THE MUTUAL DESIRE TO INCREASE THE EXISTING LEVEL OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WOULD FIND EFFECTIVE EXPRESSION IN THE

PAGE TWO PRESS RELEASE NO 3 JAN 17

REGULAR SERIES OF CONSULTATIONS WHICH IT IS INTENDED TO ORGANIZE.

5. THE SUCCESSFUL RESULTS OF INITIATIVES TAKEN ON BOTH SIDES IN THE CULTURAL FIELD TO DEVELOP EXCHANGES IN THE ARTS, THE HUMANITIES AND THE SCIENCES, AS WELL AS IN TECHNICAL COOPERATION, WERE NOTED WITH SATISFACTION. IN THIS WAY, IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO FACILITATE A RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT IN PARTICULAR THE FACT THAT A LARGE PROPORTION OF CDN POPULATION IS OF FRENCH STOCK AND SHARES WITH FRANCE A COMMON LANGUAGE AND CULTURE. IT WAS THE COMMON DESIRE TO SEEK EVERY OPPORTUNITY WHICH COULD SERVE TO INTENSIFY THESE EXCHANGES.

6. IN THIS CONTEXT, IT WAS NOTED WITH GREAT INTEREST ON THE PART OF FRENCH THAT THE CDN GOVT INTENDED TO UNDERTAKE A PROGRAMME DESIGNED TO DEVELOP CULTURAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. FRENCH GOVT HAS PROMISED ITS COOPERATION, AND OFFICIALS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL MEET TO DISCUSS THE PROGRAMME. IT WAS CONSIDERED THAT THE AGREEMENT RECENTLY SIGNED BY THE ASSOCIATION POUR L'ORGANISATION DES STAGES DANS L'INDUSTRIE FRANCAISE (ASTEF) ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ON THE OTHER WOULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE TRAINING OF NEW ENGINEERS. THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF FRANCE CONFIRMED TO SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CDA THAT THE FRENCH GOVT WAS PREPARED TO WELCOME CDN CANDIDATES TO THE ECOLE NATIONALE D'ADMINISTRATION. THE AGREEMENT OF THE CDN GOVT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY AN EXCHANGE OF LETS. FINALLY, THE TWO GOVTS EMPHASIZED THE INTEREST WHICH THEY SHARED IN ACADEMIC EXCHANGES AT THE ADVANCED LEVEL, AS WELL AS IN EXCHANGES IN THE FIELD OF THE PERFORMING ARTS. IN THIS SPIRIT, AN AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE JOINT PRODUCTION OF FILMS WAS REACHED LAST OCT.

7. THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS ALSO EXCHANGED VIEWS CONCERNING ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN FRANCE AND CDA, THEY EXPRESSED THE DESIRE THAT

PAGE THREE PRESS RELEASE NO 3 JAN 17

COMMERCIAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES BE DEVELOPED TO THE FULLEST POSSIBLE EXTENT. THEY WERE AGREED THAT THIS STRENGTHENING OF TIES COULD TAKE PLACE IN THE CONTEXT OF A REDUCTION IN TRADE BARRIERS AND THE EXPANSION OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, THE OBJECTIVE OF THE FORTHCOMING GATT NEGOTIATIONS. THEY NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT PROJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST IN THE FIELD OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION WERE UNDER STUDY. THEY ALSO TOOK NOTE OF THE INTEREST OF FRENCH BUSINESS CIRCLES IN NEW INVESTMENT POSSIBILITIES IN CDA.

8. THE MINISTERS WERE ALSO IN AGREEMENT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ACCELERATING ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BY ASSISTING THEM IN INCREASING THEIR TRADE AND BY SUSTAINED PROGRAMMES OF EXTERNAL AID. THE TWO GOVTS FELT THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO COORDINATE THEIR POLICIES IN THIS RESPECT, IN VIEW OF THE CONSIDERABLE ROLE WHICH FRANCE HAS TRADITIONALLY PLAYED IN THIS FIELD AND OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE CDN PROGRAMME OF AID TO FRENCH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES IN AFRICA.

9. THE PRESIDENT OF FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE PRIME MINISTER OF CDA NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE WARM CORDIALITY AND THE SPIRIT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING WHICH CHARACTERIZED THEIR DISCUSSIONS. THERE IS NO RPT NO DOUBT THAT THE COMMUNITY OF VIEWS WHICH HAS BEEN EVIDENT ON THIS OCCASION OPENS THE MOST FAVOURABLE PROSPECT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FRANCO-CDN RELATIONS FOR THEIR MUTUAL BENEFIT AND FOR THAT OF THE WESTERN WORLD AS A WHOLE.