

## Inside Canada by Pierre Beaudry

### Trudeau and the 'back channel'

*Do Canadians really want him to side with Andropov and the "Guelphs" against the United States?*

With a Jesuitical sense of timing, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau has decided that he had a new mission in life. Proffering what opposition leader Brian Mulroney politely termed "philosophical musings," Trudeau decided to try to mediate between the Soviet Union and the United States, because "the relationship between the two superpowers may have become too charged with animosity for East-West relations to be entrusted to them alone," said Trudeau in a speech to the Conference on Strategies for Peace and Security in the Nuclear Age, at the University of Guelph, Ontario, on Oct. 27. This initiative has already received the blessings of Moscow's U.S.A.-Canada Institute, which participated in the three-day conference. Meanwhile, Andropov is awaiting Trudeau's reply to his invitation of a few months ago to visit him in Moscow.

Like Britain's Margaret Thatcher, Trudeau seems to be attempting to appease Andropov at any cost, specifically at the cost of developing energy-beam weapons for the strategic defense of the West. Not only did he explicitly condemn "all weapons for use in space," but also condemned any power that is "truly dominant," referring to the United States. As for the Soviets? Trudeau's world federalists are confident that they will confine their imperial expansion to acceptable limits.

When Trudeau criticized Washington for the Grenada invasion and for not allowing Canadian planes to "rescue" Canadian subjects on the is-

land, the Conservatives attacked him for having turned Canada into an untrustworthy nation and for being anti-American. Trudeau was not alerted by the Reagan administration ahead of time, said the Conservatives, because he is considered unreliable; according to the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, on Oct. 28, U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Kenneth Dam told Canada's ambassador, Allan Gotlieb, that Trudeau was not consulted "because of concerns on the security side." The Caribbean Commonwealth nations did not consult with him either, added the Conservatives, because he is no longer considered a friend by the Third World members of the Commonwealth. At the same time, CBC radio polls show that public opinion in Canada runs heavily in favor of the U.S. mission.

During his remarks at the University of Guelph, Trudeau talked about the war between the Guelphs and the Ghibellines in Italy during the 13th century, which resulted in a victory for the bloody-handed oligarchic Black Guelphs and the postponement of the European Renaissance for two hundred years.

"Your location is appropriate," started Trudeau "because the name of Guelph reminds us of another age which was torn by hostile systems, competing alliances and profound ideological division. . . .

"And, because both history and geography are written by the victorious, the name Guelph lives on, given to this place as the proud heritage of a ruling dynasty." Trudeau claimed that

Guelph affinities are the basis for the alleged "European-ness" (i.e., anti-Americanism) of Canadians, which "is in our history, in our culture and in the predisposition of many of our government policies."

Some Canadians may think Trudeau was attempting to win electoral brownie points in Guelph County, since the Conservatives are leading the Liberals nationwide in polls by just over 2 to 1 (55 percent against 27 percent), but they miss the point.

The conference room was filled with peaceniks and KGB agents. Moscow's U.S.-Canada Institute was represented by two of its top KGB agents, Pavel Podlesny and Yuri Ivanov. Podlesny endorsed Trudeau's mediation bid by reiterating his contention that "there is no political will in the West to reach agreement" between the superpowers.

The honorary chairman of the conference was Canada's Count George Ignatieff, a Rhodes scholar and an original founder of the Pugwash conferences. He is the son of Count Paul Ignatieff, a former Imperial Russian minister of education who was exonerated by the Soviet regime. George Ignatieff has been the leading activist of the Toronto Bloorbathurst Russian Orthodox Church, which is being used as a top conduit into the Soviet KGB.

