

expenditures on research and development to 1.5 per cent of the value of the Gross National Product.

To improve the ability of Canadian industry to compete abroad in order to create jobs at home, my Government will establish a national trading company....

To improve our system of collective bargaining, a Labour Information Bureau will be created to provide an impartial clearing house for the statistics and data required for negotiations. A fresh start will be made in the labour management relations of the Post Office by turning that Department into a Crown corporation....

The Foreign Investment Review Act will be amended to provide for performance reviews of how large foreign firms are meeting the test of bringing substantial benefits to Canada. As well, amendments will be introduced to ensure that major acquisition proposals by foreign companies will be publicized prior to a government decision on their acceptability. The Government will assist Canadian companies wishing to repatriate assets or to bid for ownership or control of companies subject to takeover offers by non-Canadians....

Renewed federalism

You will be asked to appoint a committee of Parliament to examine the electoral system in order to ensure that the highest degree of representativeness and responsibility is achieved and that the confidence of Canadians in parliamentary institutions is strengthened.

As part of its commitment to renewed federalism, my Government will revive the process of constitutional reform. My Ministers are committed to the full development of Canada's two major linguistic communities and to the enhancement of our mosaic of cultures. My Government will seek to constitutionally entrench a bill of civil and human rights, including language rights.

Members of Parliament, whatever their party, agree on the need to guarantee to Canadians greater access to information of concern to them. Freedom of information legislation will be introduced to provide wide access to government documents....

Legislation will also be presented to extend the rights of access by individuals to their personal information held by the government and to provide greater protection for privacy by further restricting

the use that may be made of that information....

Active foreign policy

...My Government intends to conduct an active foreign policy. Canada will rely upon its strong ties of friendship throughout the world. Part of our international response must be a determination to increase the ability of the NATO Alliance to provide security for its members and to advance the cause of peace, and my Government is committed to doing its full part....

But while recognizing the need for Canada to strengthen alliance security, the dangers of nuclear holocaust cannot

simply be forgotten. If anything, these dangers are heightened by current tensions and by the continuation of the arms race. Canada's imperative is clear. This Government must continue its strategy to suffocate the deadly growth in the nuclear arsenals of the world. We must, and we will, actively co-operate in international efforts to negotiate agreements on verifiable means of arms control and disarmament, and seek to rally others to a cause that is no less than human survival on this planet. To assist in this process, a new position of Ambassador for Disarmament will be created within the Department of External Affairs.

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Canada selects McDonnell Douglas CF-18A fighter airplane

The Federal Government has selected the McDonnell Douglas *CF-18A* as Canada's new fighter aircraft to replace its existing fleet of *CF-104s*, *CF-101s* and *CF-5s*.

The announcement was made April 10 in Ottawa by Defence Minister Gilles Lamontagne, Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Herb Gray and Supply and Services Minister Jean-Jacques Blais. The contract, which is worth \$2.37 billion and will provide Canada with a minimum of 137 aircraft, was signed April 16.

Mr. Lamontagne said that "the *CF-18A* had been found to be better suited to Canada's diverse military requirements and that this factor had been of prime importance in the decision process".

He said that the *CF-18A*'s twin engine configuration gives it an additional margin of safety, which is especially important in flying in Canada with its ex-

pense of uninhabited terrain and harsh winter climate. As well, the *CF-18A* with its greater size is well adapted to incorporate, during its lifetime, improvements and additions to the basic aircraft. This offered more flexibility in coping with the changing strategic and tactical circumstances which Canada could experience in future years, he said.

Industrial benefits to Canada

On the subject of industrial offsets Mr. Gray said that Canadian industry will benefit by about \$2.91 billion from the purchase of the *CF-18A* and that "these industrial benefits will be spread across the country with at least 60 per cent going to the aerospace and electronics sector". He said that in terms of direct employment, this means between 60,000 and 70,000 person-years of work over the life of the contract, which runs to 1995.



The Canadian Government's choice was the McDonnell Douglas CF-18A.