

Unofficial Translation

JOINT STATEMENT

In accordance with the established practice of regular Soviet-Canadian political consultations, U.S.S.R. Minister of Foreign Affairs Eduard A. Shevardnadze and Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, at their working meeting in Moscow on November 16, 1990 held an in-depth discussion on a broad range of international issues with a view to promoting joint efforts aimed at consolidating the achievements represented by the overcoming of the Cold War and a transition to a peaceful period of history.

Significant attention was accorded to the consideration of the situation in the Persian Gulf. Both sides expressed profound concern over the impasse experienced by the international community in finding a way out of the dangerous crisis that has emerged. The two Ministers insisted that Iraq should withdraw from Kuwait and comply with all UN Security Council resolutions as soon as possible, with the eventual result being a complete restoration of the situation existing prior to the aggression of Iraq against Kuwait. The two Ministers continue to hope that the crisis can be resolved by peaceful means. At the same time, they agreed to work closely together to pursue through the United Nations whatever further measures may be required to ensure Iraqi compliance with Security Council resolutions and international law.

It is utterly unacceptable for both the peoples and governments of the Soviet Union and Canada that their citizens are being held against their will by the Government of Iraq. The Soviet Union and Canada insist that Iraq permit those citizens to return to their homes in accordance with international law and accepted behaviour.

In the course of a thorough discussion of the state of affairs in the Asia-Pacific region, the Ministers stated that clear trends were emerging towards reduced tensions and an increased desire to accelerate the movement towards regional stability, the settlement of armed conflicts, national reconciliation and economic integration.