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DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TO VISIT THE MIDDLE EAST

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that he will make an official visit to the Middle East in the latter half of October. His itinerary will include Syria, Egypt, Jordan and Israel.

As developments in the region have reached a particularly critical juncture, the visit will provide a timely opportunity for Mr. MacEachen to exchange views with the leaders of these countries on a number of regional issues, particularly the situation in Lebanon, the Arab-Israeli dispute, the Palestinian issue and Gulf security including the Iran-Iraq war. Equally, the Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs will wish to discuss a variety of bilateral interests in each of the four host countries.

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