



news release

Date November 14, 1990.

No. 262

For release

CANADA SIGNS ITS FIRST AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SAUDI ARABIA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark and the Minister of Transport, the Honourable Doug Lewis, announced today that Canada has signed its first Air Services Agreement with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Bill McKnight, signed the Agreement on behalf of Canada in a ceremony in Jeddah on November 13. His Royal Highness Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, Minister of Defence and Civil Aviation, signed on behalf of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The Agreement forms the basis for scheduled air services between the two countries. Canada is granted the right for its designated airline to operate to Jeddah via Cairo from any point in Canada. The designated airline of Saudi Arabia is permitted to serve Montreal via New York from any point in its own territory.

The Ministers expressed satisfaction at the signature of the Agreement. Mr. Lewis indicated that the designated airline of Saudi Arabia would be welcome to inaugurate service to Canada under the Agreement at any time.

Mr. Clark noted, "A direct air link between the two countries is a welcome enhancement of the strengthening trade and diplomatic ties between Canada and Saudi Arabia."

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