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NEW AIR AGREEMENT BETWEEN CANADA AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

The Department of External Affairs announced today that delegations representing Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany concluded January 14, in Ottawa, a series of negotiations substantially revising the bilateral Air Transport Agreement of 1973. The most notable impact of the new accord will be expanded air services between the FRG and western Canada by carriers of both countries until now served only by Air Canada on a restricted basis.

For Lufthansa German Airlines the new agreement will allow the introduction of new services to Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. Services to Vancouver and to one of the two Alberta cities may be introduced as early as January 1983, with services to the third point started two years later. Under the terms of the accord, the German carrier will be permitted to combine certain of its western Canadian services with its service to the western United States and to carry local traffic between Montreal and certain United States cities. Lufthansa already serves Montreal and Toronto on a regular basis.

On the Canadian side, Air Canada will be free to expand its services to points in the FRG from any city in Canada. Until the present, the carrier has been permitted to operate only a restricted number of frequencies. In addition, Air Canada will be granted wide flexibility in the carrying of local traffic between Germany and third countries, both en route to Germany and beyond Germany to points in Africa, the Middle East and Asia.