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A NP article details the role of the Summit's 125 protocol liaison officers, which are mostly foreign affairs officials, seconded for the event. Many of them are busy assisting their dignitaries with shopping and chauffeuring. (NP A6)

Le Sommet: un pas de géant pour la communauté acadienne.

Le premier ministre Bernard Lord a décidé de confier à un de ses ministres la responsabilité de la francophonie, poste qui avait été créé pour la durée des préparatifs et la tenue de l'événement.

Albania, Macedonia the newest "French" countries

An OCIT front treats the fact that these two countries will likely have membership approved at the Summit. The article notes that "increasingly, the Francophonie is seen be small countries such as Macedonia and Albania as a method to gain a greater international profile." Arben Kallamata, a frequent commentator during the Kosovo crisis, is critical of Albania's membership in today's op-ed. He argues that Albania is not a French-speaking country; in fact, very few can communicate in French. "Albania is a nation where the only tie to the francophone world is a dictator - or a series of dictators." (OCIT A1, A5)

Éditoriaux

Canada should raise the human-rights flag at the Moncton Summit

A G&M editorial emphasizes that Canada has an opportunity to advance a human rights agenda at the Summit. "Basically, there are two choices when dealing with tyrants and repressive regimes: ostracize them or try to help them evolve into better citizens of the world through persuasion, example and dialogue." The G&M comments that the Francophonie has chosen the latter, "if only by default." (A12)

"Mais pas de poivre,"

OCIT editorialists discuss a number of interconnected themes. They first point out that there is likely to be very little trouble with protesters. "Moncton is not Vancouver, and la Francophonie is not APEC." They go on to discuss the cost of the Summit, "between \$20 million and \$40 million" and ponder whether it is worth it? It concludes that it will be the "best we can expect for our money" if people from 52 countries can show the world how to have fun together, and if the people of Canada can show them what human rights really means." (OCIT A13)

Chirac strikes right note

The TSTAR suggests that Chirac "can be a charmer when he wants to, and he clearly wants to during his visit here." It notes that the French PM has taken great care not to offend regarding the Québec issue. Regardless of his personal views, the editorial argues, the President "as a matter of French policy, has wisely chosen to defer to Canadian law and precedent." The result "can only boost Canada-France relations." (TSTAR A22)

Francophonie must be an inclusive gathering

An editorial in the *EdmJ* notes that the Francophonie must be an inclusive gathering. "One talks to representatives of foreign countries that behave disagreeably in the hopes of making their behaviour more agreeable." It suggests that Boudria's "defence of the Francophonie Summit tends to encourage sympathy for its critics ... He says critics do not understand the