



news release

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UGANDA: COMMONWEALTH MILITARY TRAINING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mark MacGuigan, and the Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Gilles Lamontagne, today announced Canada's contribution to a Commonwealth Military Training Programme in Uganda.

Canada will contribute \$300,000 to defray the travel and support costs of members of the Commonwealth contingent which includes Australia, Britain, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya, Sierra Leone, and Tanzania. Three Canadian Forces medical personnel will participate in the programme to safeguard the health of the Commonwealth team, to train Ugandan Armed Forces medical personnel and to help improve first aid clinics throughout Uganda. They arrived in Uganda on April 14.

Canada's participation is in response to requests for assistance from Ugandan President Obote, Commonwealth Secretary General Ramphal and several of Uganda's neighbours. The purpose of the programme is to assist with the training of the Ugandan army and to improve standards of discipline in order to strengthen civil authority and respect for human rights in that country.

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