

News Release

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CANADA TO MAINTAIN PEACEKEEPERS IN FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet and National Defence Minister David Collenette today announced that Canada will rotate its forces in the former Yugoslavia.

"The Government has decided to continue its peace and humanitarian efforts in the former Yugoslavia. Intricate negotiations are now under way and the situations in both Bosnia and Croatia are very complex. Our commitment to peace in the region, to the United Nations and to our allies remains firm," said Mr. Ouellet in a statement in Paris.

"Canada continues to play a meaningful role in the former Yugoslavia. Our decision to support international efforts in this troubled region has been carefully considered – both diplomatically and militarily – and has been fully discussed in the House of Commons," added Mr. Collenette.

The ministers noted that they continue to monitor the situation on the ground and are consulting with the UN, NATO allies and members of the Contact Group about developments in the former Yugoslavia and the future of Canada's peacekeeping role.

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