

## Foreign relations review

Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark tabled a discussion paper (green paper) entitled *Competitiveness and Security: Directions for Canada's International Relations* in the House of Commons on May 14.

The paper is the first step in a broad review of Canada's international relations to be conducted by Parliament. The review will be the first comprehensive examination of Canadian international relations since 1970. It will also be the first public, parliamentary review ever undertaken in Canada.

The paper outlines the dramatic changes that have taken place in the world and raises some of the principal questions for Canadians to consider on international relations. It gives particular attention to questions relating to Canada's international economic competitiveness and to the security implications of recent developments in East/West relations and arms control.

There is special emphasis on the need for careful setting of policy priorities. Mr. Clark said that "we do not have the resources to do all we would like in international affairs. Priorities will have to be established; difficult choices will have to be made".

The green paper is being referred to a special joint committee of the House of Commons and the Senate, empowered to conduct hearings across Canada. They will make recommendations before the end of May 1986.

## Canada-US cleanup

Environment Minister Suzanne Blais-Grenier, after meeting with Lee Thomas, administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), announced that Canada and the United States have agreed to map out a plan by this fall to clean up Niagara River toxic wastes. Mrs. Blais-Grenier said she and Mr. Thomas agreed that the problem is a "high priority" and the two countries will meet by mid-October with a plan. They also agreed to a greater exchange of information so that both sides would be able to work from a common set of data and analyses.

Canada regards the problem of toxic contaminants along the Niagara River bordering Ontario and New York State as the most important trans-border pollution issue after acid rain.

In the coming months, officials from the two countries will assess the worst sources of chemical pollution in the area. In addition, they will try to establish a schedule for cleaning up the pollutants.

## New offshore standard set for oil and gas

The first Canadian offshore standard, *Z187 Offshore Pipeline Systems*, has been published by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) to aid the oil and gas industry.

The standard was prepared in co-operation with the Canadian oil and gas industry, with representation from producers, users, regulatory authorities, material manufacturers and related interest groups.

"No other country in the world has as wide a range of environmental conditions in its offshore waters," said Wayne Neuss, chairman of the CSA Joint Subcommittee on

Offshore Pipeline Systems, and president of Petrotech Lavalin Inc., Calgary. In the Arctic, for example, offshore pipeline systems must be designed to deal with ice and severe cold, while in the east coast waters off Sable Island, pipeline systems must contend with migrating sand dunes.

The *Z187* standard is comprehensive in scope. It outlines essential requirements for all aspects of pipeline development, from the design, construction, inspection, and testing, through to operation, maintenance, repair and deactivation.

## Canadian veterans remembered on VE-Day anniversary

The efforts of Canadians during the Second World War were marked this May on the fortieth anniversary of the victory in Europe of the Allies, as Canadian veterans were remembered and honoured in ceremonies across Canada and in Europe.

In the House of Commons, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney said: "Today we commemorate the devotion and sacrifice of Canadians, both men and women, and we remember the spouses who have lost their wives or their husbands and the families devastated by the war. The scope of their sacrifice has allowed future generations of Canadians to recognize our fundamental right to peace. Our duty on behalf of this generation of individuals who died in battle is to work relentlessly for peace."

For the first time since the end of the war, merchant seamen who served on freighters and tankers were also honoured. Defence Minister Erik Nielsen placed a wreath at the Sailor's Memorial in Halifax, Nova Scotia. It was one of 45 wreaths placed to honour the 1 700 sailors and 1 400 merchant seamen who died during the Second World War's battle of the Atlantic.

### Reunions in the Netherlands

In the Netherlands, which was liberated by troops from the First Canadian Army in 1945, some 2 000 Canadian veterans were honoured by thousands who attended ceremonies across the country. Nearly 6 000 Canadian soldiers are buried in seven Dutch cemeteries.

One highlight event was the 3-kilometre parade in Appeldoorn, home of the royal palace occupied by Princess Margriet, the Ottawa-born daughter of Queen Juliana who lived in Canada during the war. Princess Margriet took the salute at the march past and she was accompanied on the saluting



Defence Minister Erik Nielsen lays a wreath in Halifax to honour the sailors and merchant seamen who died during the battle of the Atlantic in the Second World War.

stand by Canada's Minister of Veterans Affairs George Hees, who fought in the battles of liberation. Ottawa's Mayor Marion Dewar also attended the Appeldoorn ceremonies with a delegation from the capital, which several years ago was twinned with the Hague.

About 800 Canadian veterans were also enthusiastically greeted as they marched past the monument opposite Hotel de Wereld in Wageningen, where the German surrender to the Allies in the Netherlands was signed in May 1945.

After the visit, Veterans Affairs Minister George Hees attended ceremonies in Italy and visited the war cemeteries, where there are as many Canadians buried as there are in the Netherlands.