



# communiqué

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## AGREEMENT WITH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY ON GERMAN AIR FORCE TRAINING AT GOOSE BAY, LABRADOR

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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Dr. Mark MacGuigan, and the Minister of National Defence, Gilles Lamontagne, today announced the signing of an agreement between Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany authorizing the use of facilities at Goose Bay, Labrador for low-level flight training operations by the German Air Force.

An Exchange of Notes constituting the agreement was signed today in Bonn by Klaus Goldschlag, Canada's Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, and Guenther van Well, State Secretary of the Foreign Ministry of the Federal Republic. The signing was a highlight of the current official visit to Bonn of the Minister of National Defence, Gilles Lamontagne.

The agreement exemplifies Canada's continuing resolve to help maintain the deterrent capability of NATO forces. It will remain in effect until December 31, 1983. It is the result of a successful trial period of flight training conducted by the German Air Force at Goose Bay from July to October, 1980. Under the terms of the agreement, the Germans will station up to 200 personnel and 16 aircraft at Goose Bay under the supervision of the Canadian Armed Forces who will ensure compliance with Canadian safety regulations.

Senior provincial officials and native groups have been briefed on the training programme which has been designed to have minimal impact on wildlife and the environment.

The Germans join other NATO Allies who also use the Goose Bay facilities. The Royal Air Force has used the base to support Vulcan bomber training since 1967 and the United States Air Force maintains a small detachment there in support of strategic airlift operations.