

Canada-Korea Arms Control Verification Training SeminarDec 10, 1992, No. 228

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced that Canada will host a special conventional forces verification seminar for senior military officials from the Republic of Korea. "For many years now, Canada has specialized in the field of verification techniques," said Mrs. McDougall. "As part of the government's efforts to prevent excessive conventional arms build-ups worldwide, I am pleased that we can share this information with our Korean colleagues."

UN Official Launch of the International Year of the World's Indigenous PeopleDec 10, 1992, No. 227

The Honourable Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations and International Development, and Minister of State for Indian Affairs and Northern Development, introduced today, on behalf of all member countries of the United Nations, the Commemorative Resolution on the International Year of the World's Indigenous People. "The International Year provides Canada and all the co-sponsors with an opportunity to participate in efforts to promote the values, history and aspirations of indigenous people and to further improve international co-operation in the field of human rights," said the Minister.

Canada Calls for Calm in IndiaDec 8, 1992, No. 226

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today supported calls for calm by all parties to the Ayodhya controversy in India and a return to peaceful negotiations. "Competing claims over the site of the mosque in Ayodhya have been a divisive and emotional issue in India for some time," said Mrs. McDougall. "Canada supports the Indian government's efforts to have the dispute resolved through negotiation and the court system."

Canadian Nominated to Senior United Nations Environment PostDec 4, 1992, No. 225

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, said today that she was very pleased that a Canadian, Ms. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, had been nominated by the UN Secretary-General to be the new Executive Director of the UN Environment Program (UNEP). Mrs. McDougall said that the General Assembly must endorse the Secretary-General's decision.

STATEMENTS:

These days the pharmaceutical industry can locate its discovery research anywhere in the world. This is both an opportunity and a threat for Canada. We have an international reputation as the best health care system in the world ... Bill C-91 [Amendments to the Patent Act] is a cornerstone of Canada's ability to become a major player in the international drug industry. It is time for the opponents of Bill C-91 to stop distorting the facts ... [and] for Canada to join the rest of the industrialized world in protecting creativity and innovation. It is time for this House to pass this legislation.

An Address by the Honourable Michael Wilson, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, to the House of Commons on Third Reading of Bill C-91, Amendments to the Patent Act, (Ottawa, Ontario, December 10, 1992, No. 92/59, As Delivered).

Whether or not Canadian troops remain in Cyprus, Greek and Turkish Cypriots bear the ultimate responsibility for resolving the dispute. But it appears that, instead of taking advantage of the peace and order that the UN mission has afforded, some political leaders have used the presence of UN forces to avoid making difficult choices, to avoid making the compromises required to ensure peaceful co-existence. At a time when there are increasing demands for peacekeeping around the world, we must ensure that we establish our priorities carefully, and manage our resources and contributions effectively. Mr. Speaker, in deciding to withdraw our troops, we are not saying that the United Nations should put an end to its peacekeeping mission in Cyprus. That is a matter for the Security Council, the Secretary-General, and the parties involved to consider. With over 4,000 troops participating in peace missions from Cambodia to Bosnia, from Croatia to Central America and the Middle East, the words "Canada" and "peacekeeping" will always be closely associated in the eyes of Canadians and in the eyes of the world.

An Address by the Honourable Mary Collins, Associate Minister of Defence, on behalf of the Honourable Barbara McDougall, Secretary of State for External Affairs, in the House of Commons, on Canada's Participation in the UN Peacekeeping Mission in Cyprus (Ottawa, Ontario, December 11, 1992, No. 92/60, Check Against Delivery).

Upcoming Events:

December 17-18, 1992:	North Atlantic Council Ministerial Meeting (Brussels)
January 1993:	Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Meeting (Ottawa)
February 1993:	Meeting of the Working Group on Refugees (Oslo)
June 14-25, 1993:	World Conference on Human Rights (Vienna)