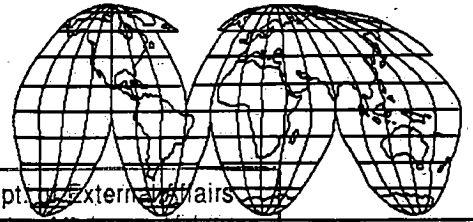


**Le commerce et
la politique étrangère
cette semaine**

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Dept. des Affaires étrangères
Min. des Affaires extérieures

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
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"Quad" Trade Ministers to Meet in Whistler, B.C., May 4-5

April 13, 1995, no. 69

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, announced that the ministers responsible for international trade from the European Union, Japan, the United States and Canada will meet at Whistler, B.C., on May 4-5, 1995.... "This year's Quad is intended to lay the ground for discussions on trade by the G-7 leaders at their meeting in Halifax in June," Mr. MacLaren said. Discussions will focus on three priorities for the multilateral trading system: consolidating the World Trade Organization, the new body created to oversee international trade; successful completion of current negotiations left over from the Uruguay Round in areas such as financial services and telecommunications; and maintaining the momentum of trade and investment liberalization.

Ouellet Condemns Gaza Bombings

April 10, 1995, no. 68

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet condemned the terrorist bombings on Sunday that killed six Israeli soldiers in Gaza and injured many more. "Canadians are shocked by these attacks. They are an attempt to derail the peace process by enemies of peace, by people who have nothing but contempt for the value of life," he said. Mr. Ouellet expressed heartfelt sympathy for the victims and their families. He called on Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat to redouble his efforts to control terrorism and urged Israeli leaders to exercise forbearance. He also praised Prime Minister Rabin for declaring that Israel would pursue the peace negotiations despite the attacks. Mr. Ouellet noted that these incidents underscore the need to accelerate the peace talks, to facilitate early Palestinian elections and ultimately to decide on the future of settlements like those in Gaza that are a focal point for continued violence.

Ouellet to Lead Delegation to the NPT Review and Extension Conference

April 10, 1995, no. 67

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that he will lead the Canadian delegation to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review and Extension Conference, which takes place April 17-May 12, in New York. "The NPT serves fundamental global and regional security interests. Canada is actively committed to ensuring it continues to do so. The treaty prevents the spread of nuclear weapons and binds nuclear weapons states to disarmament. The NPT also provides the framework for co-operation in civilian uses of nuclear technology and materials. For these reasons, the Canadian government supports the indefinite, unconditional extension of this crucial agreement," said Mr. Ouellet. Mr. Ouellet will address the Conference on April 18. He is accompanied on the delegation by Canada's Ambassador for Disarmament, Christopher Westdal.

Canada to Lead Major Nuclear Arms Control Negotiations

April 10, 1995, no. 66

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that the 37 member states of the Conference on Disarmament (CD) in Geneva have appointed Canada as the first chair of the upcoming multilateral negotiations on a treaty to ban the production of fissile material (plutonium and highly enriched uranium) used in nuclear weapons. This treaty is commonly referred to as the Cut-Off Convention. "The launching of these negotiations under Canadian chairmanship represents a major step forward for the nuclear disarmament agenda and the fulfilment of a long-standing Canadian foreign policy objective. It is a testimony to the leadership of Canada's ambassador to the CD, Gerald Shannon, who for the last 18 months has acted as Special Co-ordinator for the Cut-Off Convention," said Mr. Ouellet. Canada is committed to the indefinite, unconditional extension of the NPT, which is the cornerstone of international efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons.

International Conference on Improving the UN's Rapid Reaction Capability

April 6, 1995, no. 65

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet and Defence Minister David Collenette will participate in an international conference in Montebello, Quebec, April 7-8.... Experts from Canada and some 30 UN member countries will also participate in this event, along with senior advisers from the UN Secretariat.... "I am impressed with the quality and expertise of the participants. Their input is crucial to the success of the Canadian study currently under way on this subject," commented Minister Ouellet, who will address the conference on Saturday at noon.... Recommendations formulated during the Montebello meeting will subsequently be analyzed in the context of the final report of the Canadian study, which is scheduled to be tabled before the United Nations General Assembly and submitted to the Secretary-General in September 1995, during the Organization's 50th anniversary.