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# news release

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## SIGNATURE OF CANADA-SPAIN AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and the Honourable Benoît Bouchard, Minister of Transport, announced today that a new bilateral Air Transport Agreement has been signed between Canada and Spain. This Agreement was concluded ad referendum during negotiations held in Ottawa, March 9-13, 1987.

The Honourable Benoît Bouchard signed the Agreement on behalf of Canada at a ceremony in Ottawa today. His Excellency Antonio José Fournier, Ambassador of Spain, signed the Agreement on behalf of the Government of Spain.

The new Agreement, the first concluded between the two countries, will enable the Spanish airline, Iberia, to continue its existing service from Madrid to Montreal and beyond to Mexico City. In the absence of a formal treaty, to date Iberia has been exercising its rights in Canada under a temporary permit.

New benefits for Canada include the rights for Air Canada to proceed with its plans to inaugurate a new service involving three weekly flights from Toronto and Montreal to Madrid via Lisbon as early as October 31, 1988.

This will be the first service to Madrid by a Canadian airline since 1976.