

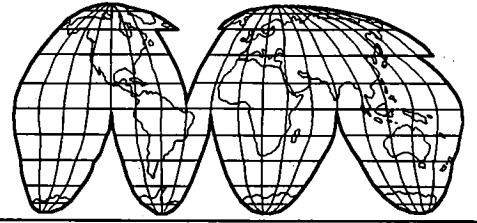
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Le commerce et
la politique étrangère
cette semaine

Dept. of External Affairs
Min. des Affaires extérieures

JUL 25 1995

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Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
Foreign Policy Communications Division (BCF)

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**FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE:
PRESS RELEASES:**

Australian Trade Minister to Visit Canada

July 19, 1995, no. 130

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, announced that Senator Bob McMullan, Australian Minister for Trade, will visit Ottawa and Toronto, July 23-25.... "Australia and Canada have always had a close relationship, through common economic interests and membership in the Commonwealth and APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation forum)," said Mr. MacLaren. "We now want to develop stronger ties by expanding trade opportunities for Canadian and Australian firms and by promoting greater trade liberalization." Mr. MacLaren and Senator McMullan are expected to discuss a trade and investment agreement. Work is already under way on the agreement which would provide a framework for more co-operation in international business development. It is also designed to explore ways to further liberalize trade and investment and to improve consultation on multilateral and regional trade policy issues.

Canada Requests WTO Panel on French Scallop Labelling Regulations

July 19, 1995, no. 129

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, announced that, at the request of the Government of Canada, the World Trade Organization (WTO) has established a panel to examine French scallop labelling regulations. "We have concerns with changes made since 1993 to French Government regulations on the labelling of scallops which have impaired Canadian exports," said Mr. MacLaren. "The labelling requirements are arbitrary and discriminate against Canadian products which have been sold without problem in France for more than 40 years.".... In May 1995, Canada requested WTO consultations with the European Union, which acts on behalf of France in the WTO, in an effort to resolve this issue. These consultations were held in June without reaching a resolution. Exports before the changes in labelling exceeded \$10 million per year.

Canada Urges Restraint in Nigerian Sentencing

July 18, 1995, no. 128

Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) Christine Stewart, on behalf of Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet, expressed deep concern at the outcome of secret trials in Nigeria. Forty people, including ex-President Olusegun Obasanjo and Vice-President Shehu Musa Yar'Adua, have been sentenced in connection with an alleged coup plot. The sentences, believed to include some death sentences, are now under review by the military regime. "Due process is vital, especially with such serious charges," said Mrs. Stewart. "Canada seriously questions the credibility of sentences rendered by secret trials with unseen evidence, in which the accused lacked access to counsel of their choice and judicial appeal. We urge the Nigerian authorities, in reviewing the sentences, to exercise maximum restraint and clemency for all accused." The Secretary of State reinforced the message she conveyed in the House of Commons last month that Nigeria "... must act decisively to restore democracy, the rule of law and respect for human rights."

MacLaren Welcomes CIBC and EDC as "Partners in Trade"

July 17, 1995, no. 127

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, announced the participation of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) and the Export Development Corporation (EDC) as co-sponsors of the 1995 Canada Export Awards. Under the theme "Partners in Trade," CIBC and EDC join the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in celebrating the success of this year's award winners. "Partnership between the private sector and government is one of the best ways to effectively and economically deliver important services to Canadians. This is why it is so very satisfying to have these two respected organizations work with the Department to promote the accomplishments of this year's Canada Export Award winners," Mr. MacLaren said. The Canada Export Awards are presented annually by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to Canadian companies that have achieved success in international markets. This year's presentation will be held on October 2, 1995, in Fredericton, New Brunswick, in conjunction with the annual convention of the Canadian Exporters' Association.