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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CANADIAN ATTENDANCE AS AN OBSERVER TO THE
SECOND SPECIAL INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE,
RIO DE JANEIRO

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that Canada will participate as an observer in the Second Special Inter-American Conference. The Conference, which is called for the purpose of considering "matters of fundamental importance in strengthening the inter-American system", will open in Rio de Janeiro on November 17 and is expected to last two to three weeks. The Canadian Delegation will be headed by the Chargé d'Affaires of our Embassy in Rio de Janeiro, Mr. A.D. Ross. He will be assisted by Mr. C.M. Forsyth-Smith, Counsellor of our Embassy in Rio de Janeiro, and by Mr. G.C. Langille, Counsellor of our Embassy in Washington.

The Second Special Inter-American Conference was originally planned to start on May 20 but was postponed because of the Dominican crisis to August 4 and then to November 17. The Second Special Conference, in effect, replaces the Eleventh Inter-American Conference in which Canada had agreed to participate and which was scheduled to take place in Quito in 1959 but has been postponed ever since.