



October 4, 1993/le 4 octobre 1993 1700/17h00

***The Daily: Platforms, Positions and Statements
of the Major Federal Parties on Subjects of Interest to EAITC***

***Le Quotidien : Plates-formes, positions et déclarations des partis
fédéraux principaux sur les sujets d'intérêt à l'AECEC***

External Affairs/Affaires extérieures

*no significant items/
aucun élément d'importance*

International Trade/Commerce extérieur

FTA/ALE -- NAFTA/ALENA

According to Gordon Ritchie, the Liberal position on renegotiating the FTA is "realistic and responsible" saying that until reform is achieved on countervailing duties and anti-dumping, "it may not be in Canada's interest to proceed with NAFTA."

... In response, Minister Hockin called Ritchie's statements "empty and not constructive." He suggested that any attempt to renegotiate would prompt the Americans to demand removal of the existing protection of the auto pact, culture, or the dispute settlement mechanism.

... Meanwhile, a former Finance official Mel Clark, in a report for the Council of Canadians, argues that Canada willingly accepted inequities in the FTA in medicare, supply management, U.S. access to Canadian resources and cultural industries.

