

On February 1, Mr. MacEachen will address the opening plenary of the 1983 session of the Committee on Disarmament. He will be underlining the growing concern of Canadians about the arms race and emphasizing the vital role of arms control and disarmament negotiations for international peace and security. Issues under consideration in the Committee on Disarmament are directly related to three Canadian arms control and disarmament priorities: a nuclear test ban; a convention prohibiting chemical weapons; and a treaty to prohibit the development, testing, and deployment of all weapons for use in outer space. The forty-member Committee on Disarmament, the multilateral negotiating body in Geneva, meets each year from early February to late August.

Mr. MacEachen will then make a short working visit to Berne to meet H.E. Pierre Aubert, President of the Swiss Confederation and Foreign Minister. The meeting will be followed by a dinner offered by President Aubert.

Mr. MacEachen will return to Canada on February 2.