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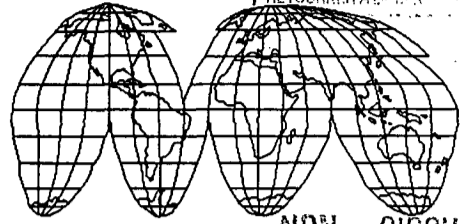
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June 10 to 16, 1993

PRESS RELEASES:

Canada Establishes Advisory Group On Canada-Japan Relations

June 11, 1993, No. 131

External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall announced the establishment of an advisory group on the implementation of the final report of the Canada-Japan Forum 2000. The report, presented to the Canadian and Japanese prime ministers in December 1992, contains 19 recommendations to improve Canada-Japan relations. The Forum, a group of eminent persons co-chaired by former Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed and Yoshio Okawara, recommends a Canada-Japan partnership that: improves investment and trade opportunities; promotes mutual understanding through increased people-to-people contacts; enhances co-operation on global security questions; and increases collaboration on pressing world problems, such as the environment, trade, human rights and refugees. "The Forum report is an important milestone in Canada-Japan relations, and we are committed to translating its recommendations into action," Mrs. McDougall said.

Canada and the United States Release FTA Panel Report on UHT Milk

June 10, 1993, No. 130

The Honourable Michael Wilson, Canadian Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade, and Ambassador Michael Kantor, the United States Trade Representative, announced the release of a final report on ultra-high temperature (UHT) milk imports from Canada into Puerto Rico by a dispute-settlement panel under the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The panel was established under Chapter 18 of the FTA in September 1992 at the request of Canada. The Panel recommended that the United States and Canada conduct an expeditious and conclusive equivalency study to determine as rapidly as possible whether UHT milk is produced in Quebec under conditions having the same effect as those set out in the U.S. Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO). The panel also recommended that, if Quebec and Puerto Rico's standards for UHT milk are found to have the same effect, UHT milk produced in Quebec should be re-admitted for sale into Puerto Rico.

STATEMENTS:

Here in Vienna we must reaffirm the principle that has guided the United Nations throughout its history -- the principle of the commitment to the universal character of basic human rights and freedoms. Madam President, not a single country treats women equally to men. Canada has been actively pressing for action to bring the rights of women into the mainstream of the human rights system. The Ad Hoc War Crimes Tribunal must ensure effective prosecution of rape cases brought to its attention. Canada is also committed to the appointment of a special rapporteur on violence against women and other violations of women's human rights. We call upon this conference to give impetus to this proposal. I am pleased to announce that the Government of Canada, through the Canadian International Development Agency, will provide support of up to \$500 000 to the Centre for Human Rights to enable a women's rights expert to assist in the all-important task of integrating the rights of women throughout the UN human rights system. Madam President, if fundamental human rights are to be enjoyed equally by all people without distinction, the international community must devote more attention to those whose rights have been traditionally neglected. The rights of children must be a priority concern for all nations. We must redouble our efforts to implement the Plan of Action adopted by the 1990 World Summit for Children, which Canada was proud to co-chair. Persons with disabilities experience continuing marginalization in society. If their potential is to be fully appreciated, our outdated attitudes must be challenged and changed. It is also unacceptable that anyone, because of sexual orientation or HIV [human immunodeficiency virus] infection, be denied fundamental human rights and freedoms.

From an Address by the Honourable Barbara McDougall, Secretary of State for External Affairs, to the United Nations World Conference on Human Rights Delivered by Dorothy Dobbie, Member of Parliament (Vienna, Austria, June 16, 1993, No. 93/48)