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CANADIANS TO INSPECT CZECHOSLOVAK MILITARY EXERCISE

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, and the Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Bill McKnight, today announced that Canada has addressed a request to the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to inspect a military exercise. Under the terms of the Document of the Stockholm Conference, agreed to by Canada and by Czechoslovakia in 1986, each participating State has the right to conduct inspections on the territory of any other participating State, within the zone of application for the confidence— and security—building measures described in the document.

Four inspectors from the Canadian Forces will travel to Czechoslovakia on June 14, 1989 to conduct a 48-hour inspection of a military activity notified by Czechoslovakia for June 12-16, 1989. This training activity will be a command and staff exercise. The tactical setting for the field portion of the exercise will be at divisional level with a partial deployment of troops.

Mr. McKnight announced that the inspection team will be led by Colonel Ken C. Mitchell of Montreal, who is the Commanding Officer of 3 Canadian Forces Technical Services Agency in Toronto. The team will fly in a Canadian Forces aircraft to Czechoslovakia on Wednesday, June 14, from Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Lahr in the Federal Republic of Germany. There, in accordance with the Stockholm Document, the team will inspect the Czechoslovakian military operations, using host nation vehicles and aircraft.

At the completion of the 48-hour period, the team will return to CFB Lahr, where it will write a report which will be forwarded to all nations who are signatories to the Stockholm Accord.

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