



No. 067

March 30, 1989.

## SITUATION IN LEBANON

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, expressed today his serious concern over the recent outbreak of violence in Lebanon and the large number of civilian victims and material losses. "All Canadians", he said, "are distressed and concerned by the loss of life and suffering which has touched Lebanese of all faiths".

Mr. Clark reiterated that Canada supports the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Lebanon. He called on all parties with influence on the situation to exercise restraint and to avoid actions which would further inflame tensions. Violence, he emphasized, is not the route to national reconciliation. He hoped the parties concerned would redouble their efforts to secure the election of a new president acceptable to all communities in Lebanon.

- 30 -