



No. 150

June 27, 1991

McDOUGALL STATES CANADA'S VIEWS ON THE CURRENT SITUATION IN YUGOSLAVIA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today made the following statement about developments in Yugoslavia:

"We strongly encourage the people of Yugoslavia to seek a resolution to their constitutional problems democratically and peacefully. We urge all parties involved in the current crisis to refrain from resorting to force or other actions which would complicate the situation further. We trust that the Yugoslav federal authorities will exercise caution and restraint in considering the role of the armed forces in responding to recent developments.

"As Prime Minister Mulroney has said, Canada considers the unity of Yugoslavia to be very important to the stability of Central Europe. That is why Canada subscribed to the June 20 statement of CSCE ministers, which supported the unity and territorial integrity of Yugoslavia, based on economic reforms and the full application of human rights, including minority rights, and which urged a peaceful settlement of the current crisis through negotiations.

"We are continuing to consult closely with other members of the international community as we monitor the situation in Yugoslavia."

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