



communiqué

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CANADA SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH MULTINATIONAL FORCE

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr. Peter D. Constable, Director-General of the Multinational Force and Observers, (MFO) today signed an Exchange of Notes establishing the terms and conditions of Canada's participation in the Sinai-based peacekeeping force.

In response to requests from Egypt and Israel, the Prime Minister had announced on April 11 the decision in principle to provide a contingent to replace the Australian helicopter unit which is withdrawing from the MFO in April 1986.

Under the terms of the Agreement concluded today, Canada will provide up to 140 personnel and nine unarmed CH 135 helicopters to the MFO.

The Canadian contingent will assume responsibility for its mission on 31 March 1986. Canada has agreed to serve in the MFO for a period of two years, and thereafter may terminate its commitment by providing twelve months written notice.

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