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MINISTERIAL SESSION OF NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, today announced that he will lead the Canadian delegation to the Ministerial Session of the North Atlantic Council in Brussels on December 11 and 12, 1987.

The NATO foreign ministers will receive a detailed report from Mr. Shultz, the U.S. Secretary of State, on the summit meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev. They will have an opportunity to discuss the U.S.-Soviet agreement on the elimination of Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF), implications for NATO's security and arms control policy as well as future directions in East-West relations.

The historic INF agreement is all the more significant for NATO which for the last 20 years has had a policy of maintaining an adequate level of defence and vigorously pursuing dialogue and cooperation to eliminate East-West tensions, especially in the area of arms control.