

INTRODUCTION

As part of the Canadian Government's programme for the International Year of Peace, Douglas Roche, Ambassador for Disarmament, travelled across Canada April 13 - May 2, 1986 to discuss with Canadians the themes of the International Year of Peace and the Relationship between Disarmament and Development.

The Ambassador held public forums in all 10 provinces, conducted three-hour consultations with 198 Canadians in 13 cities, St. John's, Halifax, Charlottetown, Saint John, Montreal, Toronto, Waterloo, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Vancouver, Victoria and Ottawa, spoke at 7 business luncheons hosted by the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs, gave background briefings to 15 Editorial Boards of daily newspapers, and 38 interviews with newspapers, radio and television. He also spoke at various functions, including an assembly of high school students in Halifax, the 25th Anniversary Catholic Social Services Conference in Edmonton, the official opening of the United Nations Pavilion at Expo '86, and the Vancouver Centennial Peace and Disarmament Festival. During the three-week tour, the Ambassador spoke to more than 4,000 people and had access to 11 million Canadians through the media.

Ambassador Roche was accompanied by Mr. Oleg Chistoff (Deputy Director, Arms Control and Disarmament Division, External Affairs, April 13 - 19), L.Col. Alex Morrison (Counsellor, Canadian Permanent Mission to the United Nations, New York, April 19 - May 2), Ms. Jill Sinclair, Research Assistant to the Ambassador; Mr. Jim LeBlanc, Executive Assistant; Mr. Firdaus Kharas, Executive Director, United Nations Association in Canada.

The Tour had three aims:

- to consult with Canadians on the question of the Relationship between Disarmament and Development as part of Canadian preparations for the United Nations international conference on the same theme; a report of this aspect of the Tour begins on page 9.
- to hold public forums as a means of stimulating discussion, debate and public education on the broad agenda identified by the U.N. in its Proclamation for the International Year of Peace; a report on this aspect of the Tour begins on page 57.