



DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

REF

communiqué

No:
No.: 13

DIFFUSION: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
RELEASE: FEBRUARY 8, 1978

TABLING IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
OF NOTES RE THE RE-ENTRY OVER CANADA
OF THE SOVIET SATELLITE COSMOS 954

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Don Jamieson, tabled today in the House of Commons two Diplomatic Notes, one addressed to the Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the other to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, concerning the re-entry of the Soviet satellite Cosmos 954 into the earth's atmosphere in Canada on January 24, 1978.

As a party to the 1968 Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, Canada is fulfilling its obligation to notify the launching state and the Secretary General of the United Nations if it discovers parts of a space object on its territory.

The two Notes (copies attached) are similar in content except for a reference in the Note to the Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics that Canada reserves its position under international law on the question of liability and compensation.

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