

Gorbachev Enjoys Warm Canadian Reception



PMO/ Bill McCarthy

In the short span of his 30-hour visit to Canada's capital at the beginning of June, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev proved himself a master at working the crowds. Before leaving for a summit with U.S. President George Bush in Washington, he enjoyed a warm, boisterous reception from people lining the streets of downtown Ottawa.

Between official engagements, including more than four hours of talks with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and a wreath-laying ceremony at the National War Memorial, Gorbachev twice took time to walk among the people, talking and shaking hands. His accessibility surprised many.

Canadian and Soviet officials both stressed the importance of the visit, citing the Soviet President's statements con-

cerning East-West relations as well as the reunification of Germany. Officials also recalled Gorbachev's first visit to Canada in 1983, when, as the Soviet Agricultural Minister, his visits to farms and well-stocked supermarkets across the country convinced him that the Soviet Union needed considerably more economic and personal freedom, thus helping him to crystallize his reform policies of *glasnost* and *perestroika*.

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Europeans Reflect on the Future of Canada

The first-ever All-European Canadian Studies Conference was held at the Hague in the Netherlands, from October 24 to 27, 1990.

Entitled "Canada on the Threshold of the the 21st Century: European Reflections

on the Future of Canada," the conference explored some of the main issues and problems that Canada faces as it moves towards the next century. Canada's economy, environment, culture, political system and military commitments were debated by the more than

400 participants who attended the symposium. Also discussed will be Canada-Europe relations.

Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret opened the conference, with the Right Honour-

able Jeanne Sauvé, Canada's former Governor General, as the keynote speaker. Former European Commissioner Willy Declercq addressed the closing session and Netherlands Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers also presented a speech.