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Le commerce et la politique étrangère cette semaine

June 30 - July 6, 1994

Dept. ci External Affairs

Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Foreign Policy Communications Division (BCF)

JUL 13 1994 (disponible en français)

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE: PRESS RELEASES:

MacLaren Calls for Termination of the Softwood Lumber Case

July 6, 1994, no. 138

"The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, called for the termination of the softwood lumber case in light of the third unanimous decision of a Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement (FTA) binational panel that Canadian softwood lumber imports do not cause injury to the U.S. domestic industry. 'This is the third time the panel has ruled unanimously that the ITC [International Trade Commission] injury determination is not supported by substantial evidence,' Mr. MacLaren said. 'This is enough. The harassment of Canadian softwood lumber exporters must end.' The Panel reaffirmed its July 26, 1993, and January 28, 1994, decisions that the ITC has failed to provide substantial evidence to support its original finding. The Panel has therefore remanded this determination to the ITC, which now has 30 days to reconsider."

Canada Announces Program of Action on Land Mines

July 5, 1994, no. 137

"Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet and Minister of National Defence David Collenette ... outlined a Canadian program of action to address the devastation caused around the world by the indiscriminate use of land mines. Canada will seek to extend existing land mine measures and introduce new controls. 'The indiscriminate use of land mines continues to inflict untold misery throughout much of the developing world. I urge all countries to join in the effort to protect innocent civilians and vital economic and social infrastructures from the scourge of these weapons,' said Mr. Ouellet. ... At the 1993 UN General Assembly, Canada cosponsored a resolution calling for a moratorium on the export of anti-personnel land mines. Canada will now seek an international agreement on the transfer of land mines as a more comprehensive and longer-term measure. On June 15, Canada ratified the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, which deals with land mines. The Convention will be reviewed at an international conference in 1995 at which Canada plans to play a major role."

Signature of Memorandum of Understanding with Russia

July 4, 1994, no. 136

"Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet ... announced the signing in Russia of a Memorandum of Understanding on the Russia-Canada Collaborative Federalism Project. This is a major project under the Canadian assistance program to Russia. The Russia-Canada Collaborative Federalism Project is designed to share Canadian knowledge and experience in managing the relationships between central and regional governments. The project underscores Canada's commitment to support constitutional and political reform in Russia. It will involve senior Russian and Canadian officials and private sector representatives and will consist of workshops, round tables, needs-specific training and exchanges. Topics to be addressed include management of northern resources, intergovernmental fiscal relations, northern development, and shared responsibility in environmental matters."

NATIONAL DEFENCE

Senior Appointment at National Defence

June 29, 1994, no. 94.028

"General John de Chastelain, Chief of the Defence Staff, and Mr. Robert Fowler, Deputy Minister, announced ... the promotion of Major-General Robert N. Fischer of Montreal, Quebec, to the rank of Lieutenant-General and his appointment as the Senior Assistant Deputy Minister (Materiel) (Sr. ADM (Mat)) effective September 1, 1994. Lieutenant-General Fischer succeeds Mr. Raymond N. Sturgeon of Thessalon, Ontario, who has been the Sr. ADM (Mat) since December 1992, and who will retire from government service after more than 39 years of dedicated service with the Canadian Forces and the Public Service of Canada. Like many positions in

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