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VISIT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
TO THE SOVIET UNION

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that he has accepted the invitation of Andrei Gromyko, First Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, to visit the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics during the first week of April.

Mr. Clark said that his visit will reflect the Government's commitment to high level dialogue with the Soviet leadership and to Canada's political and economic relations with the Soviet Union. Noting the wide range of Canada's bilateral interests in the USSR, Mr. Clark also underlined the high priority which the Government attaches to promoting confidence between East and West as a contribution to peace and international security.

Mr. Clark added that countries like Canada have a particular role to play in ensuring that East/West relations are managed in a broad political framework of consultations and contacts.