



Canada and Security Challenges Note from the "Retreat" with Minister Graham

On Friday, September 6, 2002, at the request of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development brought together a group of thinkers to examine Canada and security challenges. The meeting took place under Chatham House rules. Participants included: John Mearsheimer (Co-Director of the Program on International Security Policy at the University of Chicago), Andrew Mack (Director of the Centre for Human Security at the Liu Centre for the Study of Global Issues, University of British Columbia), Stéphane Roussel (Université du Québec à Montréal), Jocelyn Coulon (Director of the Montreal campus of the Lester B. Pearson Peacekeeping Centre), Michael Dartnell (University of New Brunswick at Saint John), Wesley Wark (University of Toronto), Hal Klepak (Royal Military College), Christian Leuprecht (Royal Military College and Queen's University), Barbara Arneil (University of British Columbia), Rob Huebert (Associate Director for the Centre for Military and Strategic Studies, University of Calgary), Elizabeth Dowdeswell (University of Toronto), Marcus Gee (*The Globe and Mail*), and Paul Heinbecker (Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Canada to the United Nations). The Minister was accompanied by Dan Costello (Executive Assistant), Robert Fry (Senior Policy Advisor), Pierre Guimond (Senior Departmental Assistant), and Sharon Cardash (Policy Advisor). Responding to the Minister's wish to have a small group of 'outside' thinkers, department participants were: limited to Gaëtan Lavertu (Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs), Paul Thibault (Associate Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs), Lorenz Friedlaender (Head of Policy Planning Secretariat), and Steve Lee (Chair) and some staff of the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development.

The objective of the discussion was to stimulate the Minister's thinking, expose him to outside views, and create an opportunity for intellectual exchange. The discussions aimed to explore a broad concept of security, not necessarily focussing only on military and intelligence matters. Since September 11, 2001, the "war on terror" has dominated international forums, including the G8 meeting. In the context of the "war on terror," the challenge for Canada is to identify appropriate responses to the threat of terrorism, and to achieve a balance between containment, repression and the achievement of human rights goals. Participants were challenged to think about the following questions:

- What is terrorism, and what should the response be?
- How do we avoid a perception of a "Clash of Civilizations"?