

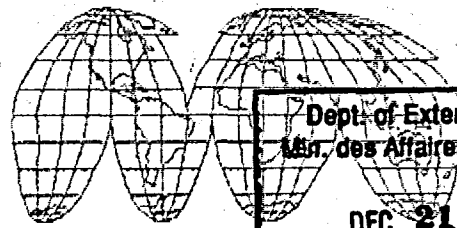
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External Affairs and  
International Trade Canada

Affaires extérieures et  
Commerce extérieur Canada

This Week in Trade and Foreign Policy  
Le commerce et la politique étrangère  
cette semaine



Dept. of External Affairs  
Min. des Affaires extérieures

DEC 21 1992

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December 4 to December 17, 1992

**PRESS RELEASES:**

Prime Minister Signs North American Free Trade Agreement

Dec 17, 1992 (PMO)

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney today signed during a ceremony in Ottawa the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) between Canada, the United States and Mexico. The Prime Minister noted that today's signing, which begins the domestic approval process for the NAFTA in each country, is a clear indication of Canada's commitment to forging closer and more open trade relations around the world ... The NAFTA will expand the current Canada-U.S. free trade area of 270 million people to a market of 360 million, creating the largest free trade and investment area in the world.

Canada Provides Assistance for Women Victims of Violence in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Dec 16, 1992, No. 235

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today announced an initial Canadian contribution of \$250,000 for women victims of violence and sexual abuse in Bosnia-Herzegovina. "Like other Canadians, I have been horrified by reports of mass rapes and sexual abuse in Bosnia-Herzegovina," said Mrs. McDougall. "These vicious and repulsive attacks against women and children are despicable crimes and the victims clearly need our help and support."

McDougall Welcomes end to Civil War in El Salvador

Dec 15, 1992, No. 234

The Honourable Barbara McDougall today welcomed the final signing of the peace accords between the Farabundo National Liberation Front in El Salvador, which formally ends 12 years of civil war in that country. "This marks the formal end of the armed conflict in El Salvador but also a major step toward national reconciliation and a peaceful and prosperous future," stated Mrs. McDougall.

Canada Welcomes Principles of Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space

Dec 14, 1992, No. 233

The Honourable Barbara McDougall today welcomed the adoption by the United Nations of a set of principles on the use of nuclear power sources in outer space. "Our country has had firsthand experience of the potential hazards of nuclear power sources launched into outer space. Because of this, our negotiators have been active in developing these principles," said Mrs. McDougall.

EDC Supports Agricultural Sales to Pakistan

Dec 11, 1992, No. 232

The Honourable Michael Wilson, Minister of Industry, Science and Technology and Minister for International Trade announced today that the Government of Canada, through EDC (Export Development Corporation), is offering medium-term credit guarantees in the amount of C\$20 million to support exports of bulk agricultural commodities to Pakistan.

Canada to Withdraw Troops from Cyprus

Dec 11, 1992, No. 231

The Honourable Barbara McDougall, and the Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Marcel Masse, announced today that Canada has decided to withdraw its peacekeeping contingent from the United Nations Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) in mid-1993. Canada has been serving in UNFICYP since 1964 and currently has 575 troops involved. "Peacekeeping must never be considered as an end in itself or as a substitute for political leadership, honourable compromise and negotiation," said Mrs. McDougall. "Whether or not Canadian troops remain in Cyprus, it is the Greek and Turkish Cypriots who bear the ultimate responsibility for resolving the dispute."

McDougall to Attend Regional Security Meetings in Europe

Dec 11, 1992, No. 230

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall will be in Europe, December 14-18, for a series of regional security meetings. Discussions at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the North Atlantic Co-operation Council (NACC) and the London Conference on the Former Yugoslavia will focus on the conflicts and political and security issues facing Europe.

Canada Concerned Over Situation in Zaire

Dec 10, 1992, No. 229

The Honourable Monique Landry, Minister for External Relations and International Development, has expressed serious preoccupation over the deteriorating situation in Zaire. "The Canadian government is very concerned about the revocation of Prime Minister Tshisekedi's provisional government and about the use of force to attempt to compromise the democratic process," said the Minister, adding that the transition to a democratic regime ought to take place in accordance with the decisions of the National Sovereign Conference (CNS).