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Canada pledges energy conservation measures at Tokyo Summit

Prime Minister Joe Clark has announced that Canada will reduce its annual average rate of growth for oil consumption to 1 per cent with the consequent reduction of oil imports by 50,000 barrels a day by 1985. The announcement was made at the close of the Tokyo Summit meeting held June 28 and 29.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs Flora MacDonald and Minister of Finance John Crosbie also participated in the meeting.

The heads of seven western countries attended the Summit, which focused primarily on the question of energy.

Following are excerpts from a joint communiqué issued in Tokyo, June 29.

...New challenges have arisen. Inflation, which was subsiding in most countries, is now regaining its momentum. Higher oil prices and oil shortages have reduced the room for maneuver in economic policy in all our countries. They will make inflation worse and curtail growth, in both the industrial and developing countries. The non-oil developing countries are among the biggest sufferers. We are agreed on a common strategy to attack these problems. The most urgent tasks are to reduce oil consumption and to hasten the devel-

opment of other energy sources.
* * * *

The seven countries express their will to take as goals for a ceiling on oil imports in 1985, the following figures:

- For France, Germany, Italy and Britain: the 1978 figure.
- Canada whose oil production will be declining dramatically over the period between now and 1985, will reduce its annual average rate of growth of oil consumption to 1 per cent, with the consequent reduction of oil imports by 50,000 barrels a day by 1985. Canada's target for imports will therefore be 0.6 million barrels a day.
- Japan adopts as a 1985 target a level not to exceed the range between 6.3 and 6.9 million barrels a day.
- The United States adopts as a goal for 1985 import levels not to exceed the levels either of 1977 or the adjusted target for 1979, i.e. 8.5 million barrels a day.

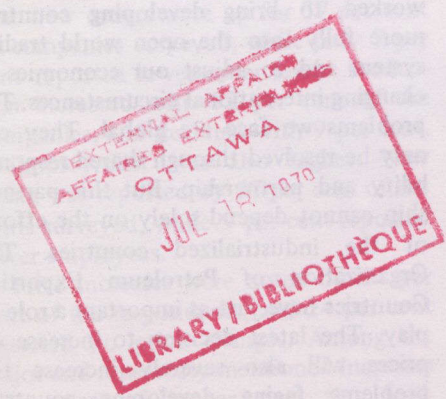
These 1985 goals will serve as reference to monitor both energy conservation and the development of alternative energy sources. A high level group of representatives of our countries and of the European Economic Community (EEC) Commission, within the Organization for European Co-operation and Development (OECD), will review periodically the results achieved. Slight adjustments will be allowed to take account of special needs generated by growth....

We agree on the importance of keeping domestic oil prices at world market prices

The Summit series

The Bonn Summit was the fifth in the series of meetings that have been held for heads of government. The first was at Rambouillet, France — in which Canada did not participate — the second in Puerto Rico in June 1976, the third in London in May 1977 and the fourth in Bonn in July 1978.

At these meetings, heads of government, together with the foreign affairs and finance ministers, from Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Britain and the United States have met to discuss, principally, economic issues. The President of the Commission of European Communities, Roy Jenkins, and the President of the Council of Ministers, President Giscard d'Estaing, represented the European Communities at Tokyo.



Eighty-three years ago today... Wilfrid Laurier, at the age of 54, became the first French-Canadian Prime Minister of Canada.