

August 26 to September 1, 1993

PRESS RELEASES:

Beatty Urges Waring Parties in Bosnia-Hercegovina to Reach Peace Settlement

External Affairs Minister Perrin Beatty urged the warring parties in Bosnia-Hercegovina to reach a negotiated peace settlement and end the fighting. "As the peace talks resume in Geneva, it is important that all sides make the final compromises necessary to conclude a peace accord and put an end to further bloodshed in Bosnia-Hercegovina," said Mr. Beatty. "The consequences of continued fighting this winter will be catastrophic for all Bosnians.... Canada is already very active in Bosnia-Hercegovina.... We will consider how best we could contribute to the implementation of a negotiated settlement in light of requirements and Canadian resources." Canada's contribution now exceeds \$118 million in direct and indirect costs, including humanitarian assistance to the former Yugoslavia of \$38 million.

Beatty Applauds Withdrawal of Russian Troops from Lithuania

External Affairs Minister Perrin Beatty welcomed Russia's decision to resume the withdrawal of its troops from Lithuanian territory. Mr. Beatty also called on Russia to begin its troop withdrawal from Latvia and Estonia as quickly as possible. "Canada has strongly supported the call by the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) for the early, orderly and complete withdrawal of foreign troops from the territories of the Baltic States," said Mr. Beatty. "We are therefore pleased that Russia and Lithuania have been able to overcome their differences, and that all Russian troops will soon be out of Lithuania."

Canada to Suspend Sanctions Against Haiti

External Affairs Minister Perrin Beatty announced that Canada is suspending its economic sanctions against Haiti. The decision is in response to calls from the United Nations and the Organization of American States (OAS) to suspend international sanctions against Haiti following the ratification of Prime Minister Malval and the acceptance of his Cabinet and his political and economic program by the Haitian Parliament. "I would like to offer to President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and Prime Minister Robert Malval my best wishes for success in their difficult task ahead, and to assure them of Canada's continued support for the Government of Haiti and the people of Haiti in the reconstruction of their country. I would also like to express my sincere admiration and congratulations to Special Envoy Dante Caputo, OAS Secretary-General Joao Baena Soares and UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali for their efforts and determination in bringing about a peaceful solution to the Haitian crisis," the Minister said. Mr. Beatty said, however, that any failure to comply with the terms of the Governors Island Agreement on the transition to democracy and the return of President Aristide could trigger a return to sanctions. The Minister also said that, effective immediately, Canada will resume the full range of the co-operation that had been suspended after the September 30, 1991, coup-d'état. Canada's bilateral development assistance program will be reinstated in close consultation with the Haitian government. Canada will also work with international financial institutions to secure an adequate financial assistance package to enable the new government to carry out its mandate.

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