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SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
TO TRAVEL TO MALAYSIA, THAILAND AND INDONESIA  
JULY 9-22

The Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that he will participate in the annual Post-Ministerial Conference (PMC) of ASEAN Foreign Ministers with their "Dialogue" partners (Australia, Canada, the European Community, Japan, New Zealand and the United States). The ASEAN PMC is being held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, July 11-13. Mr. Clark will also be holding official bilateral talks with Malaysian ministers and officials, following which he will make official visits to Thailand (July 15-18), and Indonesia (July 18-22).

Mr. Clark stressed the political value that Canada attaches to its "Dialogue" relationship with the ASEAN countries. Discussions at this meeting are expected to focus on international economic issues and on recent political and economic developments in the Pacific region. Mr. Clark noted the importance that Canada attaches to the economic progress and stability of ASEAN and the wider Asia/Pacific region and the need to expand commercial links with the area. Discussions in Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia will therefore place emphasis on the importance of increasing two-way trade and commercial co-operation, including possible joint ventures. ASEAN-Canada two-way trade approached \$1.5 billion in 1984.

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