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# news release

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## CANADA TO PARTICIPATE IN UNITED NATIONS MISSION IN HAITI

External Affairs Minister Perrin Beatty, Defence Minister Tom Siddon and Public Security Minister Douglas Lewis today announced that Canada will participate in the new United Nations Mission in Haiti (UNMIH), established by UN Security Council Resolution 867 on September 23, 1993. Canada will provide a military construction contingent and a civilian police force.

It is expected that about 110 Canadian Forces personnel will participate in the UN mission, most of whom will be construction engineers who will help upgrade and rebuild Haitian infrastructure such as public buildings and hospitals. An advance group of 33 military personnel will be in Haiti by October 11, preparing for the arrival of the main contingent. This advance group will also assist in the rebuilding of a local school.

In addition, about 100 Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers will join the multinational UN civilian police force, which will train and monitor the work of the Haitian police. A Canadian, RCMP Superintendent Jacques Lemay, is already in Haiti to head the UN force, which is being set up in response to growing concerns about the human rights situation in Haiti. A first group of 50 RCMP officers is scheduled for departure on October 7, with the remaining personnel slated to leave within the next few weeks.

Since October 1991, Canada has supported the initiatives of the United Nations and the Organization of American States to restore democracy in Haiti. Along with the United States, France and