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# CANADA

TODAY / D'AUJOURD'HUI

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From the 2nd to the 10th of August, the Prime Ministers and Presidents of 31 sovereign nations will be in Ottawa for the periodic meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Canada's Head of State, will be in residence there from July 31 to August 4, at the invitation of Prime Minister Trudeau. She is the Head of

## the Commonwealth

and a symbol of the free association of the member nations.

This is the first time Canada has been host to this unique gathering, and it will be covered by some 700 representatives of the electronic and written press. Many Americans are not quite sure what the Commonwealth of Nations is.

It is the result of the gradual evolution of the relationship between Britain and her former colonies. Each of these became independent, but for Commonwealth members independence did not mean the complete severing of old ties.

It has been variously described though it does not lend itself to easy definition. Prime Minister Trudeau has called it "A forum where free men try to find ways to progress in a difficult world."

In the following pages CANADA TODAY/D'AUJOURD'HUI attempts to tell you how it has become what it is and what the Heads of Government plan to do this summer.