

OUELLET CONDEMNS TERRORIST KILLINGS IN SRI LANKA

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Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet expressed his shock at the horrific suicide bombing which took the life of Sri Lankan presidential candidate and Opposition leader, Gamini Dissanayake, in Colombo. The bombing, which occurred at a large election rally of the United National Party, killed over 50 people and wounded many others. "Canada strongly condemns this premeditated, cowardly, and brutal act. Democracy and peace cannot be held ransom by thugs and terrorists. I wish to extend Canada's deepest condolences to Mrs. Dissanayake and to the families, friends, and colleagues of the other victims," Mr. Ouellet said.

MACLAREN ANNOUNCES \$20-MILLION LINE OF CREDIT FOR UKRAINE

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The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, announced that Canada will make available a \$20-million non-concessional line of credit to Ukraine. The announcement was made during the five-day visit to Canada by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma. Mr. Kuchma will also attend the G-7 Conference on Partnership for Economic Transformation for Ukraine being held in Winnipeg on October 27, 1994. "This will benefit both countries," Mr. MacLaren said. "The line of credit will encourage Ukraine to integrate its economy into the world economy and it will help Canadian business develop new opportunities in this emerging market."

MACLAREN INTRODUCES BILL TO BRING CANADA INTO NEW WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

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The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, introduced into Parliament a Bill to implement the Uruguay Round agreements of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), signed by 123 governments in Marrakech, Morocco, six months ago. "This Bill will make Canada a full participant in the most comprehensive trade agreement in history," Mr. MacLaren said.

STATEMENTS

....this kind of conference, bringing together people from business and government, is an important part of a process which, by its nature, is symbiotic. Each sector can and must contribute to the overall effort to carry the ball forward. I say this in the belief that we are all on the same team, that we want the same things, namely, economic freedom, sustainable growth, and stability. I also believe we are serious about laying the foundations for a future less burdened by debt, and more promising in terms of quality jobs for the generation of Canadians who will be growing up and taking their place in the "Pacific Century." No one is more aware of this than the members of the Pacific Basin Economic Council (PBEC), who, as members of the private sector doing business in the region, make an invaluable contribution to the vitality of Asia-Pacific economies. PBEC can take a lot of pride in its track record. As the only multilateral private sector business organization in the Pacific, it has proven itself a tireless champion of expanding trade and understanding throughout the region. Its membership has grown to include 17 member economies since its founding in 1967. Its annual general meeting is considered one of the most influential business conferences in the region, if not in the world. All of this makes PBEC an indispensable partner for my government in the promotion of policies advancing Canadian interests in the Pacific Rim. As you know, the federal government has made the expansion of Canadian involvement in Asia-Pacific trade and investment a top priority, and we have backed up that commitment with concrete and continuing action. Our motivation is clear. Last year Canada exported \$16.5 billion worth of goods across the Pacific, and our imports amounted to \$21.5 billion. We have enjoyed a growing trade and investment relationship with many Asia-Pacific countries. But we know that, overall, Canada's level of commerce has not kept pace with the growth of a region that will, by the year 2000, account for 50 per cent of global production and 40 per cent of global consumption. Notes for an Address by the Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, to the Asia-Pacific Round Table (Ottawa, Ontario, October, 25, 1994, 94/64)

There are more than 650 000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and Syria alone. Many of them fled their homes over 45 years ago. If we really wish to create a "new" Middle East, one that is at peace, with prosperity and security for all of its people, we must achieve a fair and equitable settlement of the refugee question. Refugees must reap their own peace dividends, the possibility of living with dignity and a recognized identity, and of playing a full and active role in this new Middle East to which we aspire and for which we are working as energetically as possible.... I am confident that progress on the issue of the Golan and southern Lebanon will soon allow Syria and Lebanon to join in this multilateral task of historical significance. Their involvement is essential in seeking acceptable solutions to issues such as that of refugees. It is their future that is at stake, and the international community needs the active collaboration of Damascus and Beirut....CIDA's assistance program is another tangible expression of Canada's active role in the peace process....Visits by Canadian missions have identified encouraging prospects for trade with Syria. These contacts allow the development of closer relations between Canada and its partners in the Middle East....Thus, I have decided to proceed with the reopening of the Canadian Embassy in Beirut in the beginning of the new year.

Notes for an address by the Honourable André Ouellet, Minister of Foreign Affairs, on the 75th Anniversary of the Association Canadienne Libanaise Syrienne du Québec (Montreal, Québec, October 22, 1994 94/63)

Canada is delighted to welcome the return of Haiti's legitimate government. This democratic victory marks the beginning of a new era for the Haitian people, whose rights, freedoms and dignity have been abused for too long. Despite the repressions, chaos and horrors, Haitians have never lost hope that democracy and the rule of law would be restored in this country. They drew their courage from their hopes and their belief in the future.... I am pleased to announce that Canada will resume its assistance program for Haiti's legitimate government. We will commit, over the next six months, \$30 million in humanitarian assistance, food aid and development co-operation.

Notes for an address by the Honourable André Ouellet, Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the Occasion of the Return of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to Haiti (Port-au-Prince, Haiti, October 15, 1994, 94/62)

The Momentum for trade liberalization both in the hemisphere and around the world, is strong. Canada seeks to maintain that momentum and, accordingly, I shall convene a meeting of the Trade Ministers of Japan, the United States and the European Union this spring. We hope to develop a consensus for new trade initiatives that will be considered at the Halifax G-7 [Group of Seven leading industrialized countries] Summit next June. Canada's goal is to eliminate trade