

Ouellet New Minister of Foreign Affairs



On November 4, the Honourable André Ouellet, Member of Parliament for the constituency of Papineau-Saint-Michel in Quebec, was named Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs. He replaces the Honourable Perrin Beatty, who had held the post since June 1993.

Mr. Ouellet has been a member of the House of Commons since 1967 and has held several Cabinet positions during his

years on Parliament Hill. He has served as Postmaster General, President of the Privy Council, Government House Leader, Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Minister of State for Urban Affairs, Minister of Public Works, Minister of Labour and Minister of State for Regional Economic Development. He has also served as Minister Responsible for various Crown Corporations, including the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Metric Commission and the Standards Council of Canada.

Mr. Ouellet was appointed the Official Critic for Transport in 1985, Official Critic for External Affairs in 1988 and Official Critic for Federal-Provincial Relations in 1990. Between 1990 and 1992, he sat on one royal commission and two parliamentary committees on Canada's constitution: the Belanger/Campeau Commission, as well as the Beaudoin/Edwards and Beaudoin/Dobbie Committees. He was Chair of the Quebec Liberal Caucus in 1968, Chief Political Organizer of the Federal Liberal Party in Quebec from 1977 to 1984, and Co-Chair of the National Liberal Campaign Committee in 1992.

Mr. Ouellet graduated from the University of Ottawa and the University of Sherbrooke Faculty of Law.

accuracy of exchanged information.

Forty-four months will be required to implement the various active phases of CFE, before a residual phase of unlimited duration commences. Following entry into force in mid-1992, states began an intensive program of verifying the initial exchanges of military information. This occurred during the 120-day baseline validation period. Most inspections were designed to verify the accuracy of exchanged information at a representative sampling of military units or facilities where TLE was located. However, some verification activities were conducted to monitor the destruction of TLE, known as "reduction" events. Following the conclusion of the baseline period, reduction activities intensified, particularly in the autumn of 1993 as signatories rushed to meet their obligations. CFE required that 25 percent of reduction targets had to be met by November 16, 1993. Targets of

60 percent and 100 percent exist for the two subsequent 12-month periods, ending respectively on November 16, 1994 and November 16, 1995.

After completion of the three-year reduction period in 1995, a second 120-day period known as the residual level validation period will again permit states to conduct an intensive program of verifying national holdings of TLE. This will be followed by the open-ended residual phase, during which a more modest level of on-site inspections will continue to be conducted.

CFE was originally conceived of as a treaty between two opposing blocs of states. However, the evolution in relations between the members of NATO and other CFE States Parties has exceeded the most optimistic intentions contained in the Treaty preamble, namely to "replace military confrontation with a new pattern of security relations among all the States Parties based on peaceful cooperation."

It is primarily in the implementation of verification activities that CFE participants have demonstrated a cooperative approach to Treaty implementation. CFE verification provisions fully embody the 16 verification principles endorsed by the UN General Assembly in December 1988. These stress that verification should build confidence among states by providing clear evidence of continued confirmation of compliance.

Some aspects of verifying CFE obligations are particularly suitable for implementation through a cooperative approach. For example, TLE reduction events must be notified to all other States Parties at least 15 days in advance of the start of the reduction period and must indicate the expected date of completion of the event. This enables other states to arrange, at minimum, to view TLE before and after it is destroyed and, if desired, to view the entire process. However, because the state conducting a reduction activity is obligated to receive only a single inspection team at any reduction site, States Parties wishing to monitor the activity are effectively encouraged to join forces and form a multi-national inspection team.

Since CFE entry into force, the members of NATO have been very active in coordinating their reduction monitoring activities. Under the guidance of a Verification Coordinating Committee (VCC) on which each ally is represented, more than 300 multinational inspection teams have been formed to monitor approximately 165 reduction events notified by other States Parties. Canada has led teams to 20 of these events and participated on the teams of other states at another 54 events.

To enhance the effectiveness of CFE implementation, the VCC initiated a cooperative program with the non-NATO CFE States Parties, which are collectively referred to as the Cooperation Partners. The program comprises jointly-conducted inspections, joint training, and access by Cooperation Partners to the NATO verification database VERITY. In addition, seminars designed to reinforce a cooperative approach to CFE implementation were held at NATO headquarters in January and November 1993. The establishment of this program was motivated by the desire to acknowledge the spirit of openness and cooperation demonstrated by Cooperation Partners during the initial months of application and implementation of CFE.

The program was also designed to