## News Release

Communiqué

Department of External Affairs



Ministère des Affaires extérieures

November 1, 1988.

No. 233

## CANADIAN HONORARY CONSUL IN MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, announced today the appointment of Enrique Alberto Belli Alfaro as Honorary Consul of Canada in Managua, Nicaragua. Mr. Clark had made a commitment, in late September, in his reply to the report of the Special House of Commons Committee on Peace in Central America, that the government would be strengthening Canada's diplomatic presence in Central America. A new Honorary Consul was recently appointed in Honduras, and consideration is being given also to the appointment of another in El Salvador.

In making this announcement, Mr. Clark wished to pay particular tribute to Mr. Belli, who, even before assuming his official duties, provided invaluable assistance in Nicaragua in the aftermath of Hurricane Joan; contacting Canadians, conveying messages, and assisting the Embassy in San José in an assessment of the damage caused by that devastating storm.

Mr. Clark noted as well the fact that a Field Support Unit, to assist in the delivery of development assistance to Nicaragua, has now been in operation in Managua for some weeks, and was able to act effectively, with Embassy Officers, in helping formulate the recommendations on which were based Canada's rapid response to Hurricane Joan.

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Secretary of State for External Affairs Secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures

