

OTTAWA, Ontario
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July 15, 1983

The Hon. George P. Shultz
Secretary of State
State Department
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear George,

You will recall that when I wrote to you on January 21, I underlined the serious concern of the Canadian people about the decision their Government might take on the anticipated U.S. request to test the cruise missile in Canada. At that time I stressed how important it was for the Government to be able to assure the Canadian public that the arms control aspect of the negotiations in Geneva is being pursued as vigorously and as earnestly as is the deployment of new missiles.

The Canadian Government has considered very carefully your Government's request under our framework agreement to test the cruise missile in Canada. I am now in a position to inform you that the Government has decided to approve the request.

Because the weapons-testing issue raises fundamental questions affecting global security, my Cabinet colleagues have asked me to write you to set out in some detail the context in which this decision has been taken.

Canada joined in the NATO "two-track" decision in 1979, under which new Allied missiles will be deployed in Europe beginning this year unless a verifiable agreement can be reached with the Soviet Union to make this action unnecessary. When we met with our NATO colleagues in Paris

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