

1 relations; and what are our problems?

2 MINISTER LALONDE: Well, I am not talking, really,
3 just International courtesy here, when I say this; and
4 those who know me say that I can be pretty blunt. I
5 think that the state of relationships between the United
6 States and Canada have never been better! Anyway, in the
7 15 years that I have been around the Federal government in
8 one way or another, I have never seen the state of
9 relationships between the two Countries in as good a state
10 as they are at the present time--in terms of very open
11 communication. We have our differences. There are quite
12 a few things that are still in negotiations: from
13 Maritime borders; to boundaries; you know, to the issue of
14 broadcasting; and convention expenses.

15 But frankly, on the large, substantial issues,
16 we are working extremely well, together. We have a very,
17 very good relationship, whether it is in the MTN negotiations;
18 or the negotiations that took place about the pipeline; and
19 questions of Energy; and broad questions of trade and
20 economic policies. We are very much seeing the situation
21 along the same lines. So, in terms of Canada/U.S. rela-
22 tions, I think those relations are going extremely well--
23 at the present time--at all levels. There is very, very
24 direct and easy relationship. I don't see this as an
25 area of great concern at the present time; and maybe that