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New pact to clean up Great Lakes highlights visit of U.S. State Secretary

United States Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson signed a revised agreement between Canada and the U.S. on Great Lakes water quality on November 22. Mr. Vance was on a 24-hour visit to Ottawa.

The new agreement, an updated version of the one signed in 1972, reaffirms the commitment of both countries to obtain a better understanding of the basin ecosystem and to reduce or eliminate the discharge of toxic pollutants.

State Secretary Vance, who was welcomed at Ottawa International Airport by Mr. Jamieson the previous afternoon, called on Governor-General Jules Léger before attending a dinner in his honour given by Mr. Jamieson.

In a toast that evening, Mr. Jamieson stated that there was little real difference in the ultimate goals of the two nations in the international sphere. He added: "The essential difference which can create difficulties, is that the United States is a

super-power, while Canada's ability to influence and shape events is much more limited. Nevertheless, there is a worthwhile and effective role for Canada which recent events have demonstrated."

Relations seldom better

Speaking of bilateral matters, Mr. Jamieson said that "never in the history of our two countries have we faced more difficult and complex problems; yet relations between Canada and the United States have seldom been better than they are today". Although there were tensions, he went on, and unresolved important issues, there was "no bitterness, no sense of confrontation. Rather there is a strong and mutually shared commitment to consultation and co-operation and the results are obvious".

Canada complimented

Mr. Vance paid tribute to Canada as a peacekeeper. "Canadians," he said, "have made a greater contribution to interna-



U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance (left) and Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson shake hands after signing the 1978 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement in Ottawa, on November 22, during Mr. Vance's visit.

Eleven years ago today...

What is believed to be the world's largest underground pedestrian passage system opened in Montreal. It includes three miles of walkways through which users may reach ten office buildings, 240 shops, 4,000 parking spaces, 2,200 hotel rooms, 36 restaurants and four cinemas.

Bryce Flynn, The Citizen

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