

News Release

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SECRETARY OF STATE CHAN TO TRAVEL TO SRI LANKA

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet today announced that Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan will visit Sri Lanka from May 31 to June 2, 1995. Mr. Chan's visit comes in the wake of the unilateral resumption of hostilities by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) on April 19, which ended 14 weeks of peace in that country.

"The renewal of civil conflict in Sri Lanka is deeply disappointing. During my visit I will underline Canada's support for peace and explore possibilities for getting the peace process back on track," said Mr. Chan.

While in Colombo, Mr. Chan will discuss the conflict with Prime Minister Bandaranaike, Foreign Minister Kadirgamar, and Deputy Foreign Minister Wickramasinghe. He will also meet with politicians representing the various ethnic groups, academics, business people and journalists. Canada has been a major supporter of social harmony, respect for human rights, and good governance in Sri Lanka. Mr. Chan will address these issues and others in his talks.

Mr. Chan will also meet with representatives of the Sri Lanka-Canada Business Council and visit Canadian development assistance projects.

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