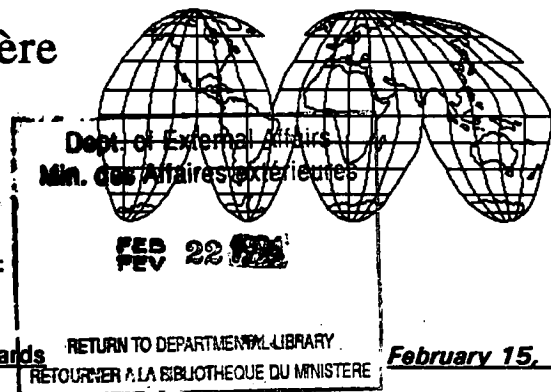


**This Week Le commerce et
n Trade and la politique étrangère
Foreign Policy cette semaine**

February 9-16, 1994

**DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE:
PRESS RELEASES:**



MacLaren Launches Competition for 12th Annual Canada Export Awards

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February 15, 1994, No. 25

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, launched the 1994 Canada Export Awards competition. The Awards are presented annually by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade to a select number of Canadian companies in recognition of their success in exporting to foreign markets. "As one of the countries most dependent on trade, Canada wants to encourage more and more of our companies to export successfully, thereby contributing to job creation and to our high standard of living," Mr. MacLaren said. The Awards, now in their 12th year, will be presented by the Minister for International Trade on October 4 in Toronto, in conjunction with the 100th anniversary celebration of the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service, the 50th anniversary celebration of the Export Development Corporation and the annual convention of the Canadian Exporters' Association. Applications for the 1994 Canada Export Awards must be received by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade no later than May 15, 1994. To obtain an application form or for further details, contact the Department's InfoEx at 1-800-267-8376 (toll-free) or 944-4000 (in Ottawa), or by facsimile (613) 996-9709.

MacLaren Reports on Highly Successful Trade Mission to South Africa

February 11, 1994, No. 24

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, reported on the success of his trade mission to South Africa during a keynote address to a South Africa Business Forum organized by the Canadian Exporters' Association in Toronto. While in South Africa, the Minister met with senior government and African National Congress officials, including state president F.W. de Klerk and prominent members of the South African business community. Mr. MacLaren's January 30 to February 4 mission marked the first visit by a Canadian trade minister to South Africa in 30 years. He was accompanied by senior representatives from Canadian companies and banks, as well as the President of the Black Business Professional Association in Canada. "More than ever we are enthusiastic about the prospects in South Africa," the Minister said. "We return with an order book much larger than anticipated and a conviction that the future offers new markets for Canadian goods and services". In demonstration of the new "Team Canada" approach to international trade promotion, Mr. MacLaren was also accompanied during the mission by Ontario minister without portfolio, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade Richard Allen.

Visit of Danish Foreign Minister

February 11, 1994, No. 23

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that the Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Niels Helveg Petersen, will visit Ottawa February 17 and 18. "Denmark and Canada have a long history of cordial relations, stemming from our membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and shared experiences in United Nations peacekeeping. My discussions with Mr. Petersen will focus on the situation in the former Yugoslavia, where Denmark also has peacekeeping forces," said Mr. Ouellet. Other issues to be discussed during Mr. Petersen's visit include General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade implementation, the situation in the Baltic republics, the Middle East peace agreement and Arctic co-operation.

Visit of Korean Foreign Minister

February 10, 1994, No. 22

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that the Korean foreign minister, Dr. Han Sung-Joo, will make an official visit to Ottawa February 13 to 16. "Canada and Korea are natural allies in the Asia-Pacific region. As middle powers, we both have complementary foreign policy interests and much to contribute to prosperity and stability in the region," said Mr. Ouellet. Dr. Han will also meet with the Governor General, the Prime Minister and the Minister for International Trade. Among the issues to be discussed are security in the North Pacific, nuclear non-proliferation, the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations and the Governor General's upcoming visit to the region.

Ouellet Comments on the Passing of Arnold Smith

February 10, 1994, No. 21

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet expressed sadness at the death of Canadian diplomat and statesman Arnold Smith. "Arnold Smith was a credit to Canada and our foreign service during a distinguished career that spanned four decades. He did much to advance the ideal of a community of nations. The Commonwealth in particular is indebted to him for his inspired leadership as its first Secretary-General. On behalf of the Government of Canada, I extend heartfelt condolences to his family," said Mr. Ouellet.

Canada Supports NATO Decision and Welcomes Cease-Fire in Sarajevo

February 9, 1994, No. 20

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced that Canada joined its North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies in the decision to support the United Nations (UN) Secretary General's request to respond to further artillery attacks on Sarajevo. He also welcomed the UN announcement of a cease-fire, which calls for heavy weaponry in the Sarajevo area to be withdrawn or placed under UN supervision. "We are pleased that a cease-fire has been reached. I hope this agreement means that there will be no need for air strikes," said Mr. Ouellet.

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE CANADA:

Notice of Ways and Means Motion Tabled Related to the Goods and Services Tax

February 14, 1994, No. 94-020

Finance Minister Paul Martin tabled in the House of Commons a Notice of Ways and Means Motion proposing a number of amendments to the Excise Tax Act. In tabling this Motion, the Minister reaffirmed the Government's intention to implement a fairer and simpler system of sales tax. In the meantime, the Government is taking steps to facilitate GST compliance while protecting its revenue base. The proposed changes are designed to: exempt small and seasonal businesses from filing returns for periods in which they have virtually no sales and make it easier for new registrants to take advantage of annual filing