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⁵¹ In January 1982, the Department of External Affairs and the Trade Commissioner Service were combined into a single trade and foreign policy ministry, with a broader mandate. Here, Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen confronts the vexing challenge of multilateral trade. (Source: Ed Franklin, *The Globe and Mail*, November 26, 1982)

Conservative minority government under Prime Minister Joe Clark (which saw the appointment of Flora MacDonald as the first woman to serve as external affairs minister), they acted quickly. In March 1980, the process of consolidation began in earnest when the Department was given responsibility for delivering the country's foreign aid and immigration programs abroad. By April 1981, the foreign branch of Employment and Immigration Canada had become part of External Affairs; the following January, the government announced that all foreign-service officers from CIDA and Industry, Trade and Commerce (ITC), as well as the

trade policy and promotion responsibilities of ITC, would follow. One department—eventually known as the Department of External Affairs and International Trade—would be in charge of trade, aid, and immigration, as well as the traditional foreign-policy functions. The minister was joined by two ministers of state: one for international trade, which was restored to full ministerial status in 1983, and another for external relations, whose responsibilities included CIDA. It marked the culmination, in the sphere of foreign affairs, of Trudeau and Pitfield's determination to rationalize the organization of government.