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Halifax Chronicle Herald Nov. 21/84

(Column by Harold Shea)

Shea reviewed the remarks of Donald Macdonald, chairman of the economic commission, in favour of a free trade arrangement. Shea noted there were widely mixed reactions in both Canada and the U.S. Shea said the Mulroney government was not bound to accept the recommendations of the commission, but had indicated it would study them seriously. Shea foresaw further economic debates on the question.

Globe and Mail Nov. 21/84

(Column by Ron Anderson)

Anderson discussed preliminary attempts to get sectoral free trade arrangements under discussion. He quoted Charles McMillan, senior policy adviser to Prime Minister Mulroney, as expressing serious doubts about closer bilateral links with the U.S. in the trade field. Anderson agrees with those who say that the sectoral approach is bound to fail, but he submits that the status quo is not tenable. The case for either sectoral or general free trade arrangements with the U.S. seems overwhelming, Anderson says.

Toronto Star Dec. 16/84

(Column by Richard Gwyn)

Gwyn noted Cretien's criticism of the Mulroney government's attitude to the U.S. as "immature...a partnership between equals is one thing--a master-servant relationship is quite another..." More important, Gwyn suggested, was UAW director Robert White's move to seek full autonomy from his international union or lead 120,000 members into independence. Gwyn saw these developments as the first signs of nationalist response to Mulroney's "still ill-defined policy" of developing a special relationship with the U.S.

Edmonton Journal Oct. 1/84

(by Don McGillivray)

From Sir John A. Macdonald to John Diefenbaker Conservative Prime Ministers have been the party resisting greater economic integration with the U.S. Now Mulroney is trying to make the PCs the pro-U.S. party.

Le Soleil Dec. 5, 1984

In his speech to the Economic Club in New York next week, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney will send the message to American investors that a more favorable climate and conditions for American investment now exist in Canada. Mulroney wants to replace Trudeau's politics of confrontation with politics of consultations, co-operation and conciliation.

Financial Post Nov. 17/84

(by Fred Harrison)

Harrison suggested that Canadian policymakers will be facing a Washington more highly polarized and less anxious for compromise than ever. Free trade talks with Canada might enjoy limited appeal in view of a spiralling U.S. trade deficit and Congressional compromises on fiscal policy.