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# news release

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## CANADIANS PARTICIPATING IN UN SPECIAL COMMISSION TO DESTROY IRAQ'S WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, and the Minister of National Defence, the Honourable Marcel Masse, today announced that Canadian experts are participating in the United Nations Special Commission set up to destroy Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. They are Mr. Ron Cleminson, an arms control expert with External Affairs and International Trade Canada, and Lt.-Col. James Knapp and Dr. Peter Lockwood, both chemical defence specialists with the Department of National Defence.

"The world held its breath when Iraq launched Scud missiles against its neighbours and then threatened to add chemical warheads," said Mrs. McDougall. "It is gratifying to see that Canadian experts are helping the Commission to get rid of these weapons."

Under UN Security Council Resolution 687, Iraq must provide an inventory of all of its chemical and biological weapons, as well as its nuclear weapons-usable material, and of its ballistic missiles. The UN Special Commission's task is to carry out on-site inspections and receive items from Iraq for destruction or removal.

"Canadian Forces personnel and Defence Department scientists have an outstanding reputation in the field of defence against chemical and biological agents," said Mr. Masse.

"The expertise and defensive equipment developed at the Defence Research Establishments in Suffield and Ottawa will enable our experts to participate fully in the exercise of the Special Commission's mandate."

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