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SSEA SPEAKS AT U.N.G.A.

Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Don Jamieson, will address the 33rd Session of the United Nations General Assembly September 26.

In his speech to the General Assembly, Mr. Jamieson will deal with issues which have concerned the UN in recent years: the Middle East, southern Africa, human rights, the New International Economic Order, and peacekeeping. These subjects are expected to dominate the subsequent debates at the Session.

During his visit, Mr. Jamieson will have bilateral discussions with a number of foreign ministers present for the opening of the General Assembly. He will be meeting with the Secretary General of the United Nations, Mr. Kurt Waldheim, in the afternoon of Monday, September 25.

Despite the Camp David results, debate on the Middle East question at the General Assembly will be spirited, reflecting the deeply-held view of member states. Canada's position will continue to be that the General Assembly should act in ways that facilitate the prospects for peace in the region.

Another area of major concern to Canada and other delegations is southern Africa. Of the 150 UN member states, 50 are from Africa. Difficult debates are expected on Namibia (Southwest Africa), Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) and the subject of apartheid. As one of the five Western Security Council members involved in the negotiations on Namibia, Canada will continue to work for independence on the basis of UN-supervised free elections.

It is expected that the General Assembly will also consider Resolutions that condemn the internal settlement in Rhodesia and urge the rapid transfer of political power to the Patriotic Front. Apartheid and the lack of meaningful changes in the South African government's policy will again be the focus of major debate.

Greater international attention to human rights issues recently will be reflected in the debates during the Session. The UN is expected to continue to evaluate mechanisms for the treatment of human rights.

Among the so-called "North-South" issues which will be considered by the Session are such problems as the world food situation, the transfer of resources and debt relief.

The peacekeeping role of the UN will once again be prominent. More than 14,000 troops are in UN peacekeeping service, including a significant Canadian contribution. The debates will consider guidelines for peacekeeping operations and practical improvements in the process.