

# News Release

Secretary of  
State for  
External Affairs



# Communiqué

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## MCDUGALL CALLS FOR INTERNATIONAL ACTION ON YUGOSLAVIA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, today expressed her deep concern with the lack of progress in the Yugoslav crisis.

"The complete breakdown of the October 4 agreement, on a ceasefire and a formula toward a political solution, is most discouraging," said Mrs. McDougall. "Both Croatian and Serbian parties have reneged on their public commitment toward peace. What needs to be understood in Yugoslavia is that peace cannot be imposed by force, nor are violence and aggression a way to address the rightful concerns of minorities. In the absence of sufficient goodwill, the international community must act," she added.

Mrs. McDougall also expressed horror at the news that federal airforce planes had attacked the residence of President Tudjman in Zagreb while the Croatian leader was meeting with Federal President Mesic and Prime Minister Markovic.

Canada is consulting urgently with our European and United Nations partners to determine what further action by the world community and the Security Council could induce the Yugoslav parties to honour their word and implement a ceasefire. Such action could take the form of economic measures, including an oil embargo. Our offer to contribute to a peacekeeping operation remains valid.

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Mrs. McDougall condemned the seizure of power by a group of four members of the Yugoslav collective Presidency, all associated with Serbia, calling it a negative development in the Yugoslav crisis. This message was conveyed on October 4 to the Yugoslav Ambassador in Ottawa.

Canada believes that the "twin-track" approach agreed on October 4 is the most realistic way to solve the crisis. This agreement provides for those republics that wish it to gain recognition in the framework of a general negotiated settlement that would protect minority rights, ensure against unilateral and forcible changes of borders, and provide for a loose association or alliance of sovereign republics. Premature recognition of Slovenia and Croatia could interfere with the possibility of achieving such a comprehensive settlement.

"Canada continues to be strongly opposed to the use of force to settle political differences and to achieve territorial gains. No territorial gains or border changes within Yugoslavia brought about by force are acceptable," said Mrs. McDougall.

As tension has mounted in Croatia, Canadians living there have been advised by letter on two separate occasions to leave the zones of conflict.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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