

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

communiqué

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE JUNE 24, 1983

VISIT TO CANADA OF THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE OF ISRAEL

The Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister of State (International Trade) will be meeting Monday, June 27 with the Honourable Gideon Patt, Israeli Minister of Industry and Trade to discuss a number of bilateral trade issues between Canada and Israel ranging from railway construction in Israel to government procurement, to Canada-Israel cooperation in research and development. Mr. Patt is on a 10 day visit to Canada at Mr. Regan's invitation. Accompanying him is an Israeli Trade Mission made up of eleven prominent Israeli businessmen.

Canadian sales to Israel have been increasing significantly over the years reaching their highest level in 1981 when they amounted to \$124.4 million. In 1982 exports declined to \$122 million but it is expected that the upward trend will continue in 1983.

The composition of Canadian exports to Israel reflects a good mix of agricultural products, industrial raw materials and fully manufactured products. Barley has been the most important export item and will remain so, at least for the next 2 to 3 years. Other leading exports have been crude and refined sulphur, aluminum ingots, aircraft engines, lumber, motor vehicles and synthetic resins.

Canadian imports from Israel have been on the decline since 1979 dropping from \$56.3 million during that year to \$39.8 million in 1982, a decrease of 29%. This is mainly due to a decrease in imports of gems. During the first 3 months of 1983 imports amounted to \$15 million.

Mr. Patt's tour will also take him to Quebec City, Toronto, Edmonton, Vancouver and Victoria where he will meet with respective provincial Ministers and business leaders.



VISIT TO CANADA

OF THE

HONOURABLE GIDEON PATT

ISRAELI MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE

OTTAWA

Sunday, June 26

Local Time

1620 hours - Arrival in Ottawa (Flight Pilgrim 35)

Ottawa International Airport

Greeting by:

Mr. Marc Brault

Assistant Under Secretary Office of Trade Development Africa and Middle East

1640 hours

Departure for Delta Ottawa 361 Queen Street

Monday, June 27

Local Time

0930 hours

 Meeting with The Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister of State (International Trade), Room 558
 Confederation Building

1030 hours

- Meeting with The Honourable Ed Lumley,
Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce and
Regional Economic Expansion
Minister's Office
11th Floor East
The C.D. Howe Building

1100 hours

- Signing of contracts establishing the Canada-Israel Research and Development Institute

1230 hours for 1400 hours

- Luncheon given by the Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister of State (International Trade) Salon Rideau, The Four Seasons Hotel

- Meeting with the Honourable Jean-Jacques Blais, 1500 hours Minister of Supply and Services Room 231 West Block, House of Commons 1600 hours - Meeting with the Honourable Herb Gray, President of the Treasury Board of Canada Room 238-S Centre Block, House of Commons 1645 hours - Meeting with Senator Hazen Argue, Minister of State for the Canadian Wheat Board, Room 185-S, The Senate 1830 hours - Dinner given by The Honourable Herb Gray, President of the Treasury Board of Canada The Railway Committee Room House of Commons

Tuesday, June 28

Local Time

0815 hours

- Departure from Ottawa to Quebec City
(Quebec Aviation Flight 292)
Gatineau Airport

0920 hours

- Arrival in Quebec City Ste. Foy Airport