



communiqué

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REFERENCE

SIGNATURE OF THE
CANADA/FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
EXTRADITION TREATY

The Department of External Affairs announced today that the Honourable Don Jamieson, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and His Excellency Count Max von Podewils-Dörniz, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, signed an Extradition Treaty between Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany. The signing ceremony was witnessed by His Excellency Helmut Schmidt, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Right Honourable Pierre Elliott Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, and the Honourable Ron Basford, Minister of Justice.

The Treaty is the result of extended negotiations between officials of the two governments. It will enter into force on the exchange of Instruments of Ratification which will take place at Bonn as soon as possible.

The Treaty will replace the present extradition arrangements between Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany which came into effect on March 25, 1974 when the Governor General proclaimed Part II of the Extradition Act to be in force and effect with the Federal Republic of Germany. Generally speaking the Treaty enumerates offences in respect of which one contracting party may seek the extradition of a fugitive offender found in the territory of the other and the conditions under which a fugitive can be surrendered. The terms of the Treaty are similar to those which Canada has recently entered into with other countries.

Among the more salient provisions of the Treaty are:

- (a) offences relating to the unlawful seizure of aircraft and drug offences are extraditable;
- (b) conspiracy to commit or being a party to any of the offences listed in the schedule of the Treaty is extraditable; and

- (c) a stipulation is included that extradition may not be refused on political grounds provided the offence is a crime against an internationally protected person.

The Treaty establishes the determination of Canada and the Federal Republic of Germany to co-operate in the field of crime prevention. It is in line with the Canadian policy to update existing arrangements and to conclude new extradition treaties with other countries.