



news release

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APPOINTMENT OF CANADA'S CHIEF AIR NEGOTIATOR AND ASSOCIATE CHIEF AIR NEGOTIATOR

The Honourable Barbara McDougall, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and the Honourable Jean Corbeil, Minister of Transport, are pleased to announce the appointment of J.G. Harris as Canada's Chief Air Negotiator, effective July 11, 1991.

Mr. Harris has demonstrated outstanding effectiveness and dedication throughout a most distinguished diplomatic career. He was appointed Special Negotiator for the comprehensive Canada-U.S. bilateral air negotiations in October, 1990. As Chief Air Negotiator, Mr. Harris will have responsibility for all of Canada's bilateral air negotiations but will continue to focus on air negotiations with the U.S.; the third round of these negotiations was held in Regina, July 23-25, 1991.

To assist Mr. Harris with other bilateral negotiations, Armand Blum, a senior officer of External Affairs and International Trade Canada with an extensive background in bilateral and multilateral affairs, was appointed Associate Chief Air Negotiator.

Biographical notes for Messrs. Harris and Blum are attached.

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For further information, media representatives may contact:

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J.G. HARRIS

J.G. (Jim) Harris studied at the University of Toronto where he obtained a Master's degree in 1952.

Mr. Harris joined the Department of External Affairs in 1954. He served abroad in Canberra, Colombo, Paris and Brussels (both with Canada's Delegation to NATO), Washington, Moscow and Belgrade.

In 1974, he was Director, NATO Ministerial Meeting Task Force; from 1974 to 1975, Chairman, Central Staff; from 1977 to 1979, Director General, Bureau of Development, Industry and Science Relations; from 1979 to 1983, Ambassador to Yugoslavia with concurrent accreditation to Bulgaria; and from 1983 to 1986, Assistant Deputy Minister, Personnel. From 1986 to 1990, he was High Commissioner to India with concurrent accreditation as Ambassador to Nepal.

He was appointed Special Negotiator (Canada-U.S.) in October 1990, and has since been working intensively with the Transport Canada project team established for the Canada-U.S. air negotiations.

A. BLUM

Armand Blum graduated with a B.A. in economics from Sir George Williams University in Montreal in 1962 and took post-graduate studies in economics at the University of Montreal in 1963.

Mr. Blum joined the Trade Commissioner Service in 1964. He served abroad in Hong Kong, Kingston, Beijing, London. In Paris he was Minister-Counsellor (Commercial) from 1980 to 1983, and in Tokyo he was Minister (Economic and Commercial) from 1983 to 1987. In Ottawa he worked in the Research Department of the Bank of Canada; in the General Relations Division of the former Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce; in International Economic Relations, Department of Finance; in External Affairs and International Trade Canada as Co-ordinator, Submarine Acquisition Program; as Director General, Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Products Bureau; as Director General, European Community Bureau. Since May 1991, he has been Senior Advisor, Office of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations.