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AGREEMENT ON CINEMATOGRAPHIC EXCHANGES
BETWEEN CANADA AND FRANCE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, announces that a new Agreement concerning films and film-productions between Canada and France was signed in Ottawa on Wednesday, May 8, 1974, by His Excellency Jacques Viot, Ambassador of France in Canada, and by himself. It replaces the one signed in Montreal on October 11, 1963.

The new Agreement aims at the increase of cinematographic relations with France and its main objective is to foster film coproduction. It enables a producer who wishes to go into a joint venture with a French coproducer to seek the assistance of the Canadian Film Development Corporation. A coproduction produced within the provisions of the Agreement fully benefits from all the advantages granted in each country to the cinematographic industry, for example, assistance to production. The two Governments grant the producers important advantages with regard to the temporary entry on its territory of the personnel and of the cinematographic equipment used for the filming of a coproduction.

The new Agreement recognizes the principle of the sharing of receipts in proportion to the investments. The share of the coproducer of each of the two countries may vary between 20 and 80 per cent for each film. Moreover, one of the provisions of the Agreement mentions that

a French version of a film produced only in English must necessarily be made, either in Canada or in France.

Incidentally, any film in which there is a majority Canadian participation must be produced by a Canadian director or by a landed immigrant with more than one year's residence in Canada.

Finally, a global balance must be achieved with regard to the participation of artists, technicians and to the use of technical facilities (studios and laboratories).

The provisions of the new Agreement should ensure a better distribution of films and encourage exchanges between script-writers, producers and actors.