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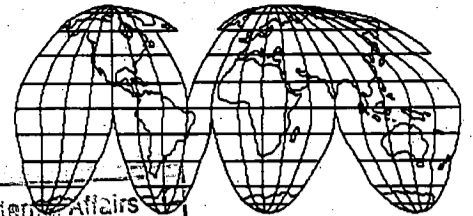
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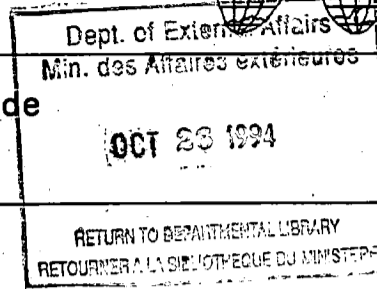
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Le commerce et la politique étrangère cette semaine

October 13-19, 1994



Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
Foreign Policy Communications Division (BCF)



(disponible en français)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE: PRESS RELEASES:

Canada to Participate in the Venice Biennial of Visual Arts and Architecture

October 19, 1994, no. 208

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet is pleased to announce that Canada will participate in the Venice Biennial of Visual Arts and Architecture, from June 11 to October 15, 1995. Canada will be represented at the Visual Arts Biennial by Edward Poitras, an Aboriginal artist from Regina, Saskatchewan. At the Architectural Biennial, Canadian exhibitions will be staged by John and Patricia Patkau of Vancouver, along with some promising new architects who will be selected by competition.

Ouellet Denounces This Morning's Terrorist Attack in Tel Aviv

October 19, 1994, no. 207

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet expressed his indignation over the savage attack this morning against the passengers on a bus in Tel Aviv, and his sympathy for the victims' families. "Canadians are mourning these innocent victims who were attacked in a cowardly manner by the enemies of peace. With peace having just been concluded between Israel and Jordan, and with the announcement of the resumption of Israeli-Palestinian talks, this attack bears witness to the fury of those who continue to traffic in hatred. The contempt provoked by their disgusting cowardice should rally people of good will everywhere. When violence breaks out we are all victims, and we must respond together against its perpetrators," said Mr. Ouellet. The Minister expressed his solidarity with the political officials who are steering the peace negotiations through enormous obstacles. "Their dedication to peace honours the memory of the victims, and it alone can lead to a new Middle East where such tragedies no longer occur," he said.

Canada Welcomes Nuclear Agreement Between the United States and North Korea

October 18, 1994, no. 206

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet welcomed the announcement made in Geneva on October 17 of an agreement between the United States and North Korea on the nuclear question. "The Canadian government is very pleased with this agreement. It holds out hope for a positive security climate in the North Pacific region. We would like to see this agreement followed by an early resumption of the dialogue between South and North Korea, which is a prerequisite for peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula," said Mr. Ouellet. Canada has been invited to participate in an international consortium that would be established to replace North Korea's nuclear facilities. "The consortium proposal interests us and we look forward to receiving more details soon. It is in our interest to help find a lasting solution to the North Korean nuclear problem," added Mr. Ouellet.

Canada Congratulates Israel and Jordan on Draft Peace Treaty

October 17, 1994, no. 205

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet congratulated the governments and people of Israel and Jordan on the draft peace treaty initialled today by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Jordanian Prime Minister Abdel Salam Majali in the presence of King Hussein, at the Al-Hachemiyet Royal Palace near Amman. "This is the first treaty negotiated under the Middle East Peace Process that began in Madrid in 1991. It proves once and for all that the process is irreversible. Canadians greatly admire Jordan's King Hussein and Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, whose leadership and vision have made this breakthrough possible," said Mr. Ouellet.

Canadian Culture on Display in Mexico Festival

October 14, 1994, no. 204

A major Canadian cultural festival marking the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Canada and Mexico, and featuring some of Canada's top film-makers and performing artists, opens October 17 in Mexico City. The Montreal Symphony Orchestra will inaugurate the event with a performance at Mexico City's Palacio de Bellas Artes. Festival Canada is organized by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in collaboration with other Canadian and Mexican organizations. It runs until November 13. "This is an ideal way to celebrate our 50 years of diplomatic relations," said Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet. "The trade and political links between our two countries have been growing enormously in recent years and appreciation of each other's culture is an important part of this deepening relationship."

MacLaren Announces Strong Canadian Participation at SIAL

October 14, 1994, no. 203

The Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, announced that more than 100 Canadian agri-food companies will be represented at the Salon international de l'alimentation (SIAL) in Paris, October 23-27, 1994.

The Honourable Ralph Goodale, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, will lead the official Canadian delegation to SIAL. Canadian participation at SIAL, the world's largest professional food products show, is co-ordinated by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. SIAL features 4700 exhibitors from 73 countries. An expected 100 000 visitors and buyers from 140 countries will gain first-hand exposure to the products of the participating Canadian companies, 30 of which will exhibit in the Canada pavilion. "Government is working closely with industry to increase Canada's value-added food exports to world markets," said Mr. MacLaren. "There is also an excellent 'Team Canada' effort at SIAL, with active participation by industry, the federal government, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs of Ontario, and the Club Export Agro-Alimentaire du Québec."

STATEMENTS

The Government has emphasized the importance of a dynamic cultural sector to help us achieve the objectives we have set for ourselves: the creation of jobs based on our talents for creativity and innovation; the reinforcement of our national identity; and the projection of the image of a country determined to meet the challenges of the emerging global economy. The dynamism of this sector is reflected in the fact that it now represents almost three per cent of our gross domestic product and employs more than 425 000 Canadians. Its labour force has increased by 122 per cent over the past 10 years, twice the rate of increase of the Canadian labour force as a whole. The vitality of our cultural sector has enriched the lives of Canadians immeasurably. Canadian creators have firmly placed Canada in the international spotlight.

Notes for an Address by the Honourable André Ouellet, Minister of Foreign Affairs, on the Occasion of the Announcement of Canada's Participation at the Venice Biennial of Visual Arts and Architecture, 1995 (Hull, Quebec, October 19, 1994, 94/60)

Canada, like India, has a commitment to open, rules-based trade. Like you, we are engaged in a long and strenuous process of transforming our economy to meet the challenges and reap the rewards of global competition and global trade. Like you, our long-term objectives are bound up with the responsibility and respect for rules that go beyond the mere accumulation of wealth, although it would be naive to say that the profit motive is not the main concern. During this short visit, I have already come to the conclusion that there are enormous opportunities ahead for Canada-India business co-operation; not just in joint ventures or technology transfer agreements, but in strategic partnerships which will spell growth both for our business communities and our national economies. We no longer come to you as a developed country proffering aid and export financing; we come as an equal partner, with an eye to mutual advantage: a "win-win" scenario. Our relationship has grown beyond the idealism of the '50s and '60s, which often gave way to disillusionment. We have to face the 21st century in the light of our enlightened national and international self-interests; I like to think that, most of the time, as they have over the last half century, those interests will coincide.

Notes for an Address by the Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, to a Luncheon Co-Hosted by the Joint Business Council of India and the Indo-Canadian Business Club (New Delhi, India, October 10, 1994, 94/59)

We know that the achievements of the Uruguay Round, as significant as they were, were generally smaller than the ambitious program envisaged at Punta del Este almost a decade ago. Much remains to be done to resolve some key problems such as the proliferation of anti-dumping abuses, limited services liberalization to date, remaining tariffs, and obstacles to investment. We would like to begin to move in several directions: First, consider accelerating the implementation of the tariff cuts agreed to in the Uruguay Round and exploring further MFN [most favoured nation] tariff cuts in other sectors while ensuring that there is no back-sliding in the application of rates presently applied in our respective economies; Second, consider pursuing, in the short term, the elimination of export subsidies on agricultural trade in APEC and, in the longer term, a prohibition of all export subsidies in agricultural trade. Third, consider how we in APEC can remain at the forefront of investment liberalization, moving from a declaration of non-binding principles to an agreed set of rules with appropriate dispute settlement provisions. More effort is needed to facilitate international private investment — a major source of growth in this region — and to reduce uncertainties and transaction costs of investment and investment-related trade. Finally, we should advance energetically on standards and conformance activity. Since our region contains many of the world's leading high technology corporations, we might want to take up one or two sectors such as telecommunications and housing standards and initiate a reduction of the negative trade and investment effects of differing standards and conformance measures within the region.

Notes for an Address by the Honourable Roy MacLaren, Minister for International Trade, at the Meeting of APEC Trade Ministers (Jakarta, Indonesia, October 6, 1994, 94/58)

CIDA

Asian Development Bank President to Visit Canada

October 20, 1994

Mitsuo Sato will make his first official visit to Canada as President of the Asian Development Bank from October 24 to 27. Mr. Sato will meet with senior officials of the Canadian government, including Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet in Ottawa, as well as business leaders in Toronto and Vancouver. Canada contributes about \$60 million per year to the Bank to support projects in the developing countries of Asia.

Ouellet Announces Resumption of Canadian Aid Program to Haiti

October 15, 1994, 94-42

Foreign Affairs Minister André Ouellet announced, upon the return to Haiti of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, that Canada will provide \$30 million in aid to Haiti over the next six months. "Canada welcomes the return of President Aristide to Haiti, and is determined to support his government in the challenging task of restoring peace and democracy," Mr. Ouellet said during celebrations marking President Aristide's return to Port-au-Prince. "We want to participate to the best of our abilities in rebuilding Haiti." In addition to continuing emergency humanitarian and food aid, the aid program aims to strengthen democracy and good governance, respect for human rights, civil society, and sustainable economic development. It includes initiatives aimed at, among other things, job creation,

reconstruction of roads, distribution of farm tools, and rehabilitation of schools and medical clinics. The Canadian contribution also includes support for Haiti's balance of payments and for repayment of its debt service arrears to international financial institutions. The arrears payment will satisfy an institutional requirement and thus clear the way for these institutions to disburse a planned aid package to Haiti worth hundreds of millions of dollars. As part of the same program, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) will help train members for a reformed Haitian police, drawn from the Haitian community in Canada and elsewhere in the Western Hemisphere. The RCMP will also send a contingent to Haiti to help the government establish a civilian police force. .../4

FINANCE

Finance Minister Reaffirms Deficit Targets

October 18, 1994, 94-095

Finance Minister Paul Martin launched the consultation process for the 1995 budget with a renewed commitment to take the action required to achieve the government's deficit reduction targets. Describing Canada's deficit and debt burden as "unsustainable," Mr. Martin told the House of Commons Finance Committee that addressing the fiscal challenge is "the keystone of responsible economic policy." "The fact is we won't get the quality of growth we need to generate the jobs we want until we gain control of the debt," he said in updating the economic and fiscal situation and releasing a document entitled, *Creating a Healthy Fiscal Climate*. The update follows by one day the Minister's release of a companion paper -- *A New Framework for Economic Policy* -- which outlines a comprehensive strategy to create more and better jobs by fostering stronger economic growth. In updating the economic and fiscal situation, the Minister told the Committee that: The economy has been stronger than expected, but so far the fiscal benefits have been more than offset by higher than expected interest rates. Nevertheless, the government is still on track to meet its 1994-95 deficit target of no more than \$39.7 billion. The impact of higher interest rates on debt charges means that further action is required to meet the 1995-96 deficit target of \$32.7 billion and the interim target of 3 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 1996-1997. "It is a target that we will meet, come hell or high water," the Minister told the committee, adding that it will mean the turning point.... The growth in the debt will be brought down below the growth in the economy."

Minister of Finance Releases New Framework for Economic Policy

October 17, 1994, 94-094

Finance Minister Paul Martin released the policy paper that will guide the government's agenda for jobs and growth. "There is only one answer to our jobs dilemma. And that is sustained, substantial economic growth....And the key to growth is productivity....Productivity is about how well ideas, workers, resources and investment are brought together in a nation's economy," the Minister said in presenting the document entitled, *a New Framework for Economic Policy*, to the House of Commons Finance Committee. The jobs and growth strategy is built around five key priorities for government economic policy: helping Canadians acquire skills;....encouraging Canadians to adapt to change;....getting government right;....providing leadership in the economy;....creating a healthy fiscal and monetary climate.

ENVIRONMENT

Government Establishes a Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development

October 19, 1994, 94-094

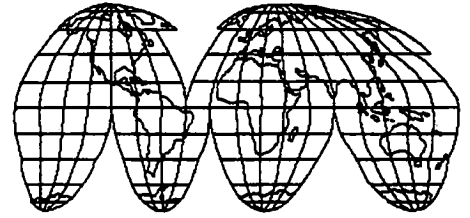
The Government will fulfil another "Red Book" commitment by establishing a Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development in the Office of the Auditor General. The announcement was made in the House of Commons by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Environment, Sheila Copps, as she tabled the government's response to the first report of the Standing Committee on the Environment and Sustainable Development.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- October 24, 1994: Launch of United Nations 50th Anniversary Commemoration Activities
- October 27, 1994: G-7 meeting on Ukraine (Winnipeg, Canada)
- November 11-12, 1994: APEC Ministerial Meeting (Jakarta, Indonesia)
- December 5-6, 1994: Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe Summit (Budapest, Hungary)
- December 9-10, 1994: Summit of the Americas (Miami, Florida)

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du 22 au 28 septembre 1994

Ministère des Affaires étrangères et du Commerce international
Direction des communications sur la politique étrangère (BCF)

(available in English)

**AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES ET COMMERCE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNIQUÉS :**

M. Ouellet annonce la visite de Douglas Hurd

Le 23 septembre 1994, n° 187

Le ministre des Affaires étrangères, M. André Ouellet, a annoncé que M. Douglas Hurd, secrétaire d'État du Royaume-Uni aux Affaires étrangères et du Commonwealth, viendra en visite à Ottawa les 29 et 30 septembre. «Le Canada et le Royaume-Uni entretiennent depuis longtemps des rapports solides et dynamiques, et ces relations bilatérales exceptionnelles ont contribué à renforcer les liens transatlantiques face aux bouleversements qui ont marqué les dernières années. Sachez que je me réjouis à l'avance de la visite de M. Hurd», a déclaré M. Ouellet. Au cours de sa visite au Canada, M. Hurd prendra la parole à la séance de clôture du Colloque Canada-Royaume-Uni, qui aura lieu à Ottawa du 27 au 30 septembre.

Maintien des casques bleus canadiens dans l'ancienne Yougoslavie

Le 23 septembre 1994, n° 186

Le ministre des Affaires étrangères, M. André Ouellet, et le ministre de la Défense nationale, M. David Collenette, ont annoncé que le Canada maintiendra encore six mois son actuelle contribution à la Force de protection des Nations Unies (FORPRONU) dans l'ancienne Yougoslavie. «Le Canada continue de jouer un rôle non négligeable dans les Balkans. En fait, notre contribution à la mission onusienne de maintien de la paix est importante — certains diraient même disproportionnée en regard de l'effectif de nos forces armées. Notre décision de la maintenir à son niveau actuel souligne à la fois notre attachement à la paix dans la région et notre fidélité aux Nations Unies et à nos alliés de la FORPRONU», a déclaré M. Ouellet.

Visite de M. Ouellet à l'Assemblée générale des Nations-Unies

Le 22 septembre 1994, n° 185

Le ministre des Affaires étrangères, M. André Ouellet, a annoncé qu'il prononcera le discours du Canada à l'occasion de l'ouverture de la 49^e Session de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies, le 29 septembre. «L'ONU s'apprête à célébrer son 50^e anniversaire. Le moment est donc bien choisi pour lui imprimer un nouvel élan. La présente session de l'Assemblée générale sera pour le Canada une occasion de marquer son attachement à l'ONU, mais aussi de proposer quelques réformes concrètes», a indiqué M. Ouellet. Le Ministre profitera de son passage aux Nations Unies pour s'entretenir avec un certain nombre de ses homologues des Affaires étrangères provenant de toutes les régions du monde. M. Ouellet rencontrera par ailleurs le Secrétaire général des Nations Unies, M. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, de même que les ministres des Affaires étrangères de la Francophonie, du Commonwealth et du Groupe de Rio. Enfin, il prendra part à un dîner de travail avec ses homologues du G-7, auxquels se joindra un représentant de la Russie.

La SEE remporte un prestigieux prix national de productivité

Le 22 septembre 1994, n° 184

L'honorable Roy MacLaren, ministre du Commerce international a félicité la SEE (Société pour l'expansion des exportations) qui a remporté un prix canadien de productivité (argent). Ce prix, décerné hier soir, souligne la conception d'un système novateur utilisé par la division des Assurances à court terme pour analyser et approuver les demandes de crédit des clients. Tout le processus a été repensé, ce qui a entraîné la conversion sur format électronique de presque tous les dossiers sur papier. Le nouveau système peut maintenant traiter un plus grand nombre d'approbations de crédit en beaucoup moins de temps, améliorant ainsi l'efficacité et la satisfaction du client. «Il est particulièrement agréable d'apprendre qu'un organisme fédéral se distingue par sa productivité et son efficacité, a déclaré M. MacLaren. L'équipe de la SEE peut être fière -- comme tous les lauréats de cette prestigieuse récompense -- d'être un chef de file sur le plan de la productivité. J'encourage les entreprises canadiennes à redoubler d'effort pour maîtriser le mieux possible la technologie de l'information afin de devenir encore plus concurrentielles sur les marchés internationaux.»

DISCOURS

Le gouvernement fédéral considère que les petites et moyennes entreprises [PME] sont une ressource nationale vitale, la composante la plus dynamique de l'économie, l'élément le plus axé sur les connaissances et le mieux adapté au changement rapide, ainsi que le plus important générateur de nouveaux emplois. Dans les années 1980, les firmes de moins de 100 employés ont généré plus de 2,3 millions de nouveaux emplois nets, ou 87 p. 100 de la croissance totale de l'emploi. Pendant cette décennie, elles pourront donner des résultats encore plus impressionnants. Mais les capacités de création d'emplois et de génération de richesse de cette importante ressource nationale ne seront pas pleinement utilisées tant que les PME ne deviendront pas des exportateurs plus

actifs. Le Canada est une nation commerçante, environ le tiers de son PIB [produit intérieur brut] étant tiré des exportations. Mais nos exportations reposent actuellement sur une base trop étroite, où un nombre relativement petit d'entreprises effectuent la majorité de nos exportations. Nous avons tous intérêt à voir les PME exporter davantage. Ces derniers mois, le gouvernement fédéral a mené un examen approfondi de ses programmes axés sur les petites entreprises, dans le but de mieux faire connaître nos capacités d'exportation et de valoriser nos aptitudes et nos capacités de commercialisation. Le grand défi est de transformer le Canada d'une nation tributaire du commerce en une nation vraiment commerçante, où les PME joueront un rôle bien plus important.

Notes pour une allocution de l'honorable Roy MacLaren, ministre du Commerce international, devant l'International Trade Committee du Board of Trade du Toronto Métropolitain, à Toronto (Ontario), le 26 septembre 1994, 94/54.

Il nous faut dès maintenant une grande politique commerciale et financière pour les Amériques -- une vision plus large et plus audacieuse qui pourrait aider à atténuer et, éventuellement, à faire disparaître les préoccupations plus locales qui nous divisent. En bref, il nous faut une politique qui reflète l'ouverture, la force et le dynamisme de nos économies; qui reconnaît la synergie créatrice pouvant émerger du mariage d'économies développées et en développement; et qui intéresse tous les pays désireux de mener un commerce plus intense, plus mondial et axé sur un ensemble de règles. L'ALENA peut fournir le fondement d'une telle politique. Avec la volonté politique requise, il pourrait servir de noyau à une plus vaste association de libre-échange capable d'englober graduellement les pays de notre hémisphère et même ceux d'autres régions. Avec un engagement adéquat, l'Accord pourrait se transformer en une nouvelle forme d'association économique définie non par la position géographique mais par un engagement collectif d'intensifier le libre-échange; il pourrait devenir le noyau d'un nouveau GATT globalement amélioré. L'idée de fond ne serait pas de remplacer le système multilatéral existant et encore moins d'établir un bloc régional discriminatoire; il s'agirait plutôt de former une coalition de pays souhaitant faire progresser plus rapidement l'objectif de la libéralisation du commerce et de l'investissement. Une association plus vaste de libre-échange pourrait également constituer un moteur pour faire avancer le processus multilatéral plus lourd mais éminemment important que nous devons tous appuyer au sein de l'Organisation mondiale du commerce.

Notes pour une allocution de l'honorable Roy MacLaren, ministre du Commerce international, à l'Empire Club, à Toronto (Ontario), le 23 septembre 1994, 94/53.

DÉFENSE

Le Canada réduit son engagement au Rwanda

Le 22 septembre 1994, NR-94.043

M. David Collenette, ministre de la Défense nationale, a annoncé une réduction de la participation canadienne aux opérations de l'ONU au Rwanda, compte tenu de l'amélioration de la situation politique dans ce pays d'Afrique centrale. Trente-neuf membres de l'ambulance de campagne qui faisait fonctionner un hôpital à Mareru sont rentrés en fin de semaine dernière, et le reste de l'unité doit quitter le Rwanda le 15 octobre. «L'ambulance de campagne a accompli un travail exceptionnel, a déclaré M. Collenette, mais, heureusement, l'ONU et les organismes non gouvernementaux comme Médecins sans Frontières et la Croix-Rouge sont maintenant en mesure de combler les besoins des réfugiés. Il faut toutefois signaler que nous laissons à ces organisations des fournitures médicales et de l'équipement sanitaire représentant des milliers de dollars, pour les aider à dispenser des soins adéquates aux réfugiés.» Le pont aérien établi au moyen d'un Hercules entre Nairobi et Kigali, baptisé Opération Scotch, prendra fin lui aussi puisque l'aéroport de Kigali est ouvert et que les lignes aériennes commerciales peuvent maintenant assurer les liaisons avec la capitale du Rwanda en toute sécurité. «Le Canada peut être extrêmement fier de la performance de ses forces armées au Rwanda, a conclu M. Collenette. Tandis que nos troupes réduisent leur engagement au Rwanda et se préparent à de nouvelles missions dans d'autres régions du monde où notre aide est nécessaire, rappelons que c'est précisément à ces hommes et à ces femmes, membres de tous les grades des Forces canadiennes et qui risquent quotidiennement leur vie au service de la paix, que le Canada doit sa réputation de chef de file mondial du maintien de la paix. Les Canadiens ont une immense reconnaissance envers ces militaires et leurs familles, qui contribuent à la paix et à la stabilité dans le monde.»

À VENIR :

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|-----------------------|--|
| 26-30 septembre : | Ministre des Affaires étrangères à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies (49 ^e)
(New York, New York) |
| 24 octobre 1994 : | Lancement des activités commémoratives du 50 ^e anniversaire des Nations Unies |
| 11-12 novembre 1994 : | Réunion des ministres de l'APEC (Djakarta, Indonésie) |
| 5-6 décembre : | Sommet de la Conférence sur la sécurité et la coopération en Europe
(Budapest, Hongrie) |
| 9-10 décembre : | Sommet hémisphérique (Miami, Floride) |

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