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## CANADA'S RESPONSE TO THE CRISIS IN THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

Canada is participating fully in international efforts, including at the United Nations and at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), to promote a peaceful settlement to the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. In September 1991, Prime Minister Mulroney led the call for the UN Security Council to deal with this issue. The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Barbara McDougall, is participating in the London Conference, August 26-28, co-chaired by the UN and the European Community. On this occasion, Mrs. McDougall announced further Canadian contributions to international initiatives for the former Yugoslavia.

### Peacekeeping

In London, the Secretary of State for External Affairs announced that Canada is ready to provide an additional 1 200 Canadian troops for any further UN operations in the former Yugoslavia in support of UN Security Council Resolution 770.

Some 1 200 Canadian troops and 30 Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) civilian monitors are already deployed with the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR). One of the largest contributions to the international force, the Canadian contingent is based in Daruvar, Croatia. In June, Canada responded positively to a UN request to allow its troops to be reassigned to maintain security at the Sarajevo airport in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Their presence there made possible the airlift of relief supplies for the population of Sarajevo. In early August, the Canadian troops resumed their duties in Croatia.

### Humanitarian Assistance

In London, the Secretary of State for External Affairs announced a further Canadian contribution of \$15 million to the forthcoming joint appeal by UN agencies and \$5 million to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in support of their humanitarian relief efforts in the former Yugoslavia. This announcement brings to over \$25.25 million Canada's contribution to international appeals.

- In the fall of 1991, Mrs. McDougall announced a contribution of \$1.25 million to the Canadian Red Cross Society for the purchase and delivery of emergency relief and medical supplies from Canada to support the activities of the ICRC in the former Yugoslavia. Canadian Forces aircraft

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airlifted the supplies, and distribution took place in Croatia and other parts of the former Yugoslavia.

- In January 1992, Mrs. McDougall announced a contribution of \$1 million for the joint appeal by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) for assistance to the victims of the conflict.
- In June, Canada contributed an additional \$3 million in response to Red Cross and UN appeals. The money was distributed to UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, the Canadian Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies to support the purchase and delivery of food and medical supplies, and to assist refugees and displaced persons.
- Canada is also participating in the international airlift to the besieged city of Sarajevo. Since the start of the airlift on July 3, a Canadian Armed Forces Hercules C-130 transport airplane has conducted more than 30 relief flights to Sarajevo.

### Diplomacy

Canada has repeatedly called upon the parties to the conflict to end the violence and negotiate peacefully.

Canada recognized the independence of Slovenia and Croatia on January 15, 1992. On April 8, it recognized Bosnia-Herzegovina, in the hope that international recognition would discourage any attempt by its neighbours to partition the republic and would strengthen the chances of finding a peaceful solution acceptable to all the ethnic groups.

Canada's position with regard to the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia is that its people have a legitimate claim to recognition. Canada plans no action, however, which could contribute to further destabilization of the region. It is hoped that a mutually acceptable solution can be found on the contentious issue of the name of the republic.

While the two remaining republics, Serbia and Montenegro, have proclaimed a new union, Canada believes that the question of the continuity of Yugoslavia must be negotiated among the parties that made up the former Yugoslav republic.

Canada, along with other Western countries, has urged the Yugoslav Army, Serbia and Croatia to stop interference in the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina and has condemned Serb aggression in the country. Canada supported the temporary suspension of Yugoslavia from the CSCE. Trade sanctions are in place, and Canada will seek stronger enforcement of measures.

### Special Immigration Measures

A special program has been set up to facilitate the reunification of nationals from the former Yugoslavia with relatives in Canada and to allow visitors currently in Canada to extend their stay. Through this program, up to 26 000 ex-Yugoslav nationals who have been affected by the civil war will be eligible for processing as permanent residents in Canada.