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MEETING OF CONSULTATION WITH ACADEMICS

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

Representatives of some twenty-six universities and institutions dealing with international affairs met in Ottawa May 13 and 14 with officers of the Department of External Affairs.

Subjects discussed included the recently-published foreign policy papers: "Foreign Policy for Canadians"; EEC enlargement; Canada-United States relations, and the exchange of diplomats with the People's Republic of China.

There was considerable discussion of more effective means of consultation between the academic community. These have been increasing during the last few years. Officers of the Department of External Affairs are now assigned as foreign service visitors for limited periods to universities. It is intended that academics should spend similar periods working with the Department. Session chairmen included Mr. A. Davidson Dunton, President of Carleton University, Mr. Gilles Lalonde of the Department of Political Science, University of Montreal, and Mr. Paul Tremblay, Associate Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, presided at the opening dinner and addressed the meeting on the Canadian foreign policy decision-making process in relation to "Foreign Policy for Canadians".