

World View

NATO's 50th Anniversary: Canada and the Challenges of Reshaping NATO

When the leaders of the 19 member countries of NATO convene in Washington from April 23 to 25 to commemorate its 50th anniversary, there will be ample reason to celebrate the Alliance's achievements. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization has not only managed to deter any military threat against its members since 1949, but it has become the strongest and most effective military alliance ever. Further, NATO has proven to be an invaluable forum for the development of strong political, economic, scientific and cultural ties between its members.

But despite its past successes, NATO is facing questions about its future. In the absence of the Soviet threat that once glued its members together, will the Alliance be able to redefine its role and adapt to the new challenges and realities of the post-Cold War era?

As one of the founding members of the Alliance, Canada is ready to take on the challenges of the new NATO. The



Government of Canada has repeatedly expressed its unequivocal support for the Organization and its willingness to contribute in a positive manner to the redefinition of NATO's role and mandate.

Canada's attitude is based on an overriding belief: that the Alliance was, and remains, the tangible proof that stability comes

from solidarity between nations on both sides of the Atlantic. This is as true today as it was during the darkest days of the Cold War.

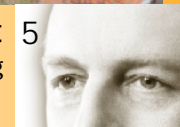
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Issue 3 • 1999

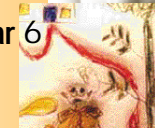
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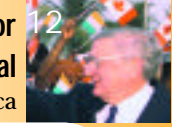
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NATO countries' leaders at the Madrid Summit in 1997



photo: NATO

NATO is one of the major forums where Canada exerts international influence and participates in the building of a more peaceful, prosperous world. This third issue of **Canada World View** explains Canada's historical role in NATO and examines future prospects for the Atlantic Alliance, which this year celebrates its 50th anniversary.

Also in our pages, a look at the ever-expanding Canada-Mexico partnership, the coming into force of the Landmines Convention and several other topics of interest.

We hope you will enjoy this third issue of **Canada World View**.

The Editors

Canada

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Membership in NATO also assists Canada in the pursuit of several of its most important foreign policy objectives:

- it provides the collective security framework essential to enhance the security of Canada;
- it is critical to the maintenance of stability at a time of fundamental change in Europe;
- it is a forum for transatlantic relations, and for transatlantic consultation on security issues;
- it provides a transatlantic framework for the pursuit of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation issues; and
- it encourages democratic development and stability in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

With regard to the last point in particular, Canada views all NATO partnership arrangements — such as the NATO–Russia Permanent Joint Council, the NATO–Ukraine Commission, the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and the Partnership for Peace — as well as the admission on March 12 of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland as vivid illustrations of NATO's continuing utility. ●—

For more information about Canada and NATO, visit the following Web sites:

www.dfait-maedi.gc.ca/nato-otan
www.dfait-maedi.gc.ca/english/foreignpn/nato/nato-e.htm
www.dnd.ca
www.nato.int
www.nato.int/nato@50
web.idirect.com/~atlantic

Member countries

 Belgium	 Luxembourg
 Canada	 Netherlands
 Czech Republic	 Norway
 Denmark	 Poland
 France	 Portugal
 Germany	 Spain
 Greece	 Turkey
 Hungary	 United Kingdom
 Iceland	 United States
 Italy	

Interview with

On April 23, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien will go to Washington for a well-deserved celebration. He and his counterparts will gather to mark the 50th anniversary of a military and political alliance that has stood the test of time and contributed in no small way to the longest period of peace, stability and prosperity among its member states.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization has served Canada's interests well, and Canada was and is an active and valued partner in the Brussels-based Alliance. NATO is one of the foundations of Canada's foreign and military policy.

But the world has changed dramatically since the end of the Cold War. The threats that prompted NATO's founding members to set up a strong military and political alliance to defend themselves in case of aggression no longer exist. Because of today's new realities and challenges, NATO now has to redefine its role and mandate. For that reason, the Washington Summit may well be a turning point in the Alliance's history.

Canada World View asked the Prime Minister for his thoughts on the future of the Alliance.

Canada World View

Prime Minister, looking back at NATO's first half-century, would you say that the Alliance has served Canada's foreign policy and military interests well in the past 50 years?

Prime Minister Chrétien

I certainly think so. First of all, simply look at a world map and you will realize that for such a vast country with such a small population, we have developed a much wider and deeper set of defence partnerships through NATO than would have been possible otherwise. Second, NATO provided us with an invaluable forum to exert international influence, advance Canada's security, economic, scientific and cultural interests, and promote our democratic values. And when you consider the large number of NATO military personnel that come to Canada each year to train at facilities in every part of the country, you realize that our membership in NATO has brought, and still brings us, tangible economic benefits.

Prime Minister Chrétien

Jean Chrétien talks to **Canada World View**

Canada World View

NATO celebrates its 50th anniversary at a time when its original purpose — protecting its members against an overwhelming military threat from the east bloc — no longer exists. Is NATO still relevant?

Prime Minister Chrétien

In my view, the Alliance is more relevant than ever. As you know, the end of the Cold War did not give rise to a period of international peace and stability, as many expected. Instead, an era of instability and unprecedented change marked by vicious ethnic conflicts and a host of new security anxieties ensued. Far from becoming irrelevant, NATO remains the key to providing stability to the Euro-Atlantic area. A case in point is the fact that NATO intervention became the key to the Dayton peace accords and to stopping the war in Bosnia. Furthermore, there are all kinds of new threats that can be addressed and contained only by a strong institution such as the Atlantic Alliance.

Canada World View

Can you expand on these threats? Are you referring to non-military threats?

Prime Minister Chrétien

Well, I'm referring to threats such as ethnic and religious intolerance, terrorism, nuclear weapons, biological weapons, possible threats to our information infrastructure and others. Threats that are not always the fact of states but of groups or individuals. To deal effectively with these threats, you need a strong military and political institution, one that has credibility and moral authority. And NATO has all that. Its integrated command structure, standardized operating procedures and standing forces help support preventive diplomacy, crisis management and peacekeeping.

Canada World View

Last fall, many observers said that NATO is currently going through a mid-life crisis, that it has to redefine its role, even to question its very existence. Others say that while NATO still has a purpose, it has to carefully examine its raison d'être if it is to justify its existence in the absence of a serious military threat to its members. What are your views on this and how will Canada contribute to NATO's renewal?

Prime Minister Chrétien

Well, it's obvious that the world has changed and that an institution like NATO must adapt to new circumstances. Like our partners, we recognize that collective defence is no longer the most urgent task of the Alliance. And that is why it now has a more flexible military structure and a new Strategic Concept built around rapid reaction capability. We strongly support NATO's new roles and the Alliance's new partnership with the countries of the former Warsaw Pact. I believe that NATO can play a pivotal role in ensuring stability and renewed prosperity in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

Meanwhile, the danger of nuclear weapons has re-emerged — in particular, with last summer's testing by India and Pakistan. I think NATO has a role to play in promoting nuclear non-proliferation.

Finally, the Alliance has entered into successful partnerships with Russia, Ukraine and countries of Central and Eastern Europe as well as with the Organization for Security and

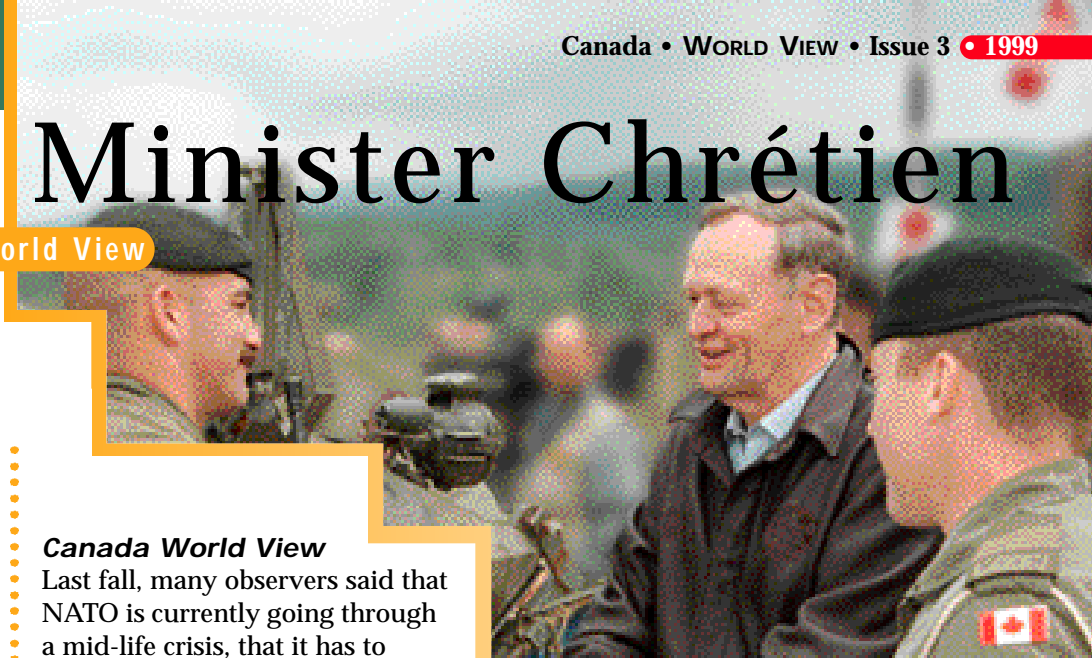


photo: J.M. Carisse/PMO

Co-operation in Europe. It also has a good relationship with the United Nations. These partnerships contribute greatly to our global security. They must continue.

Canada World View

You mentioned, and we will conclude on this, the threats posed by nuclear arms. There was much debate in the fall about Canada's position with regard to proposals that NATO renounce the right to first use of nuclear weapons. Can you clarify Canada's position on this issue?

Prime Minister Chrétien

As we approach a NATO summit — which marks the organization's 50th anniversary and takes us into a new century — I think that a review of the Alliance's Strategic Concept is a timely undertaking.

To be worthwhile, this review should be comprehensive. That is to say, the revised Concept should address all aspects of NATO, including nuclear weapons.

As I just said, NATO must be part of the solution to the problem of proliferation. And so the Alliance will require new initiatives, new approaches and new thinking to respond to the new dynamics of a changed world. ●—

Landmines Update

Landmines: The Ottawa Convention Makes a Difference

"This is a win for the good guys," remarked Prime Minister Chrétien at a ceremony on March 1 at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT), marking the day the treaty banning landmines became international law. The treaty, formally called the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, was signed in Ottawa in December 1997 by 122 countries. It has since been signed by another 13 countries and ratified by 67.

Now that the Ottawa Convention has entered into force, countries that have ratified it are legally bound by the terms of the treaty. They include a commitment to ban mine production and export, destroy mine stockpiles within 4 years, clear mined land within 10 years and help rehabilitate victims.



photo: DFAIT

Ceremony marking the coming into force of the Ottawa Convention. From left to right: Robin Collins, Mines Action Canada; German Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer; Prime Minister Jean Chrétien; Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy; European Commission Vice-President Sir Leon Brittan; and Pierre Duplessis, Canadian Red Cross.

The Prime Minister noted that the speed with which the Convention came into force was unprecedented for a disarmament treaty.

Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy also participated in the ceremony, at which a bronze replica of the first page of the treaty was unveiled. Mr. Axworthy noted that the treaty is already making a difference, with Canada continuing to play a leadership role. New Mine action programs are under way in 25 countries, casualty rates in some regions are dropping significantly, over 14 million stockpiled mines have been destroyed, and even countries that haven't signed the treaty are feeling the pressure to implement many of the terms. For example, the United States, China and Russia have all implemented some form of unilateral export moratorium; the U.S. is a major financial contributor, and China has contributed to demining in Bosnia and plans to host a regional demining conference. Mr. Axworthy noted, however, that the commitment of the international community, non-governmental organizations and private donors must remain firm if the goals of the treaty are to be fulfilled.



Montréal-based Mélanie Gagnon, one of Canada's Youth Mine Action Ambassadors

Treaty signatories and other active partners will gather in Maputo, Mozambique, in May for the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention. Participants will assess progress and plan the next steps in the campaign against anti-personnel mines.

Youth Mine Action Ambassadors' Fund-Raiser: "Dance Without Fear"

Young Canadians are eager to contribute to the international anti-landmines campaign. To coincide with the March entry into force of the Ottawa Convention, they organized "Dance Without Fear," a nationwide effort to raise awareness of the global landmines crisis. At events across the nation, students danced to raise money for clearing mine-infested countries and helping victims and their families and communities. Some 350 young people attended a dance at Collège Villa Maria in Montréal — a great success according to organizer Mélanie Gagnon, one of Canada's Youth Mine Action Ambassadors. Similar events are being organized by Youth Ambassadors in Saint John, Ottawa, Winnipeg and Vancouver.

Gagnon says that being a Youth Ambassador has made a difference. "Since the launching of the program last September," she says, "I've met thousands of high school and university students who want to contribute to lasting change. Young people are profoundly moved by the devastation and human suffering caused by anti-personnel mines. They come to me asking how they can get involved, how they can help. Many are now actively engaged in letter-writing campaigns to countries that have not ratified the Convention, and are working on all kinds of educational and fund-raising projects to help rid the world of this scourge." ●—

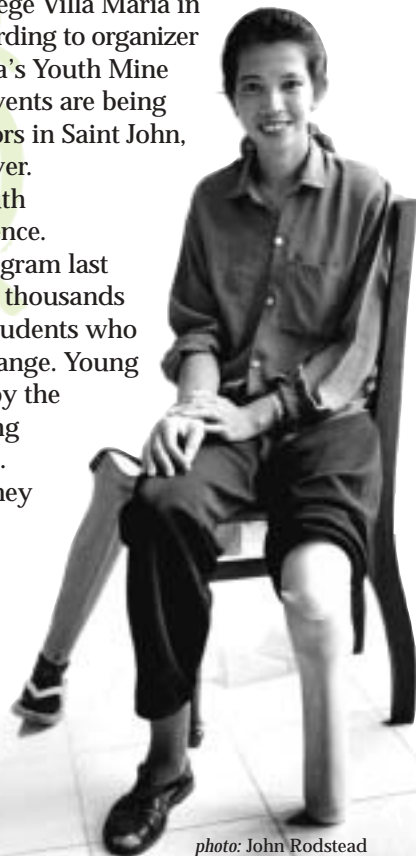


photo: John Rodstead

To learn more about Canada's mine action efforts or to find out how you can help, visit our Web site: www.mines.gc.ca

Portrait of a Canadian Diplomat

Hume Wrong: The Right Stuff, the Right Time

Two Canadians figured prominently in the founding of NATO. The name of one is instantly recognizable today: Lester B. Pearson. Less well-known is Hume H. Wrong, but historians and professionals in diplomacy will have no trouble identifying him.

As negotiations progressed toward the North Atlantic Treaty, the Government of Canada relied on Hume Wrong, then our Ambassador in Washington.

Hume Wrong performed skilfully in the negotiations. He came armed with a fierce conviction that the Treaty should be binding on all its members, particularly the United States and Canada. He expressed a distinctive Canadian position, arguing successfully that the Treaty should allow for non-military co-operation. And when drafting time came, Wrong helped write the text of the treaty, which was signed in Washington on April 4, 1949.

Canada's emergence as a strong voice in the NATO discussions was a signal of the country's growing influence.

In the early 1940s, Canada had been overshadowed by Great Britain (where many still thought of us as a colony) and the United States (with its formidable global clout). To shape Allied strategy during the Second World War, the two big powers worked through "Combined Boards." When it came to major decisions, Canada sat on the sidelines.

Enter Hume Wrong in 1942, then assistant to the Canadian Ambassador in Washington. Canada, he argued, was a major contributor to the Allied cause, supplying military equipment, training, food and personnel. We would hardly continue this level of support without representation on the Boards.

"Wrong pressed vigorously for Canada's place in the sun," wrote historian Jack Granatstein. "This was an unusual negotiating stance for Canada, and its toughness struck responsive chords." Wrong's views eventually prevailed.

On Wrong's tenure as Ambassador to the United States, Pearson wrote, "The good relations between Canada and the United States in a difficult period could be attributed to Hume Wrong's professional skill and wise counsel."

What equipped Hume Wrong to meet the challenges of his day? Persistence and patriotism, perhaps, both of which mark his career. Born in Toronto in 1894, Wrong was educated at the University of Toronto and then at Oxford University. A blind eye meant that he couldn't serve with Canadian armed forces during the First World War. Undeterred, he enlisted with British forces. After the war, Wrong returned to teach history at the University of Toronto.

He joined the Department of External Affairs in 1927. Successive postings to Washington, Geneva (representing Canada at the League of Nations) and London gave him a solid grounding in international affairs and a vision of an expanded role for Canada.

Hume Wrong died in 1954. He is buried in Wakefield, Quebec, in the same cemetery as two friends and fellow Canadian diplomats of his generation: Norman Robertson and Lester B. Pearson. ●—



photo: National Archives of Canada

Canada's Ambassador to the United States, Hume Wrong, signs the North Atlantic Treaty on behalf of Canada in Washington on April 4, 1949.

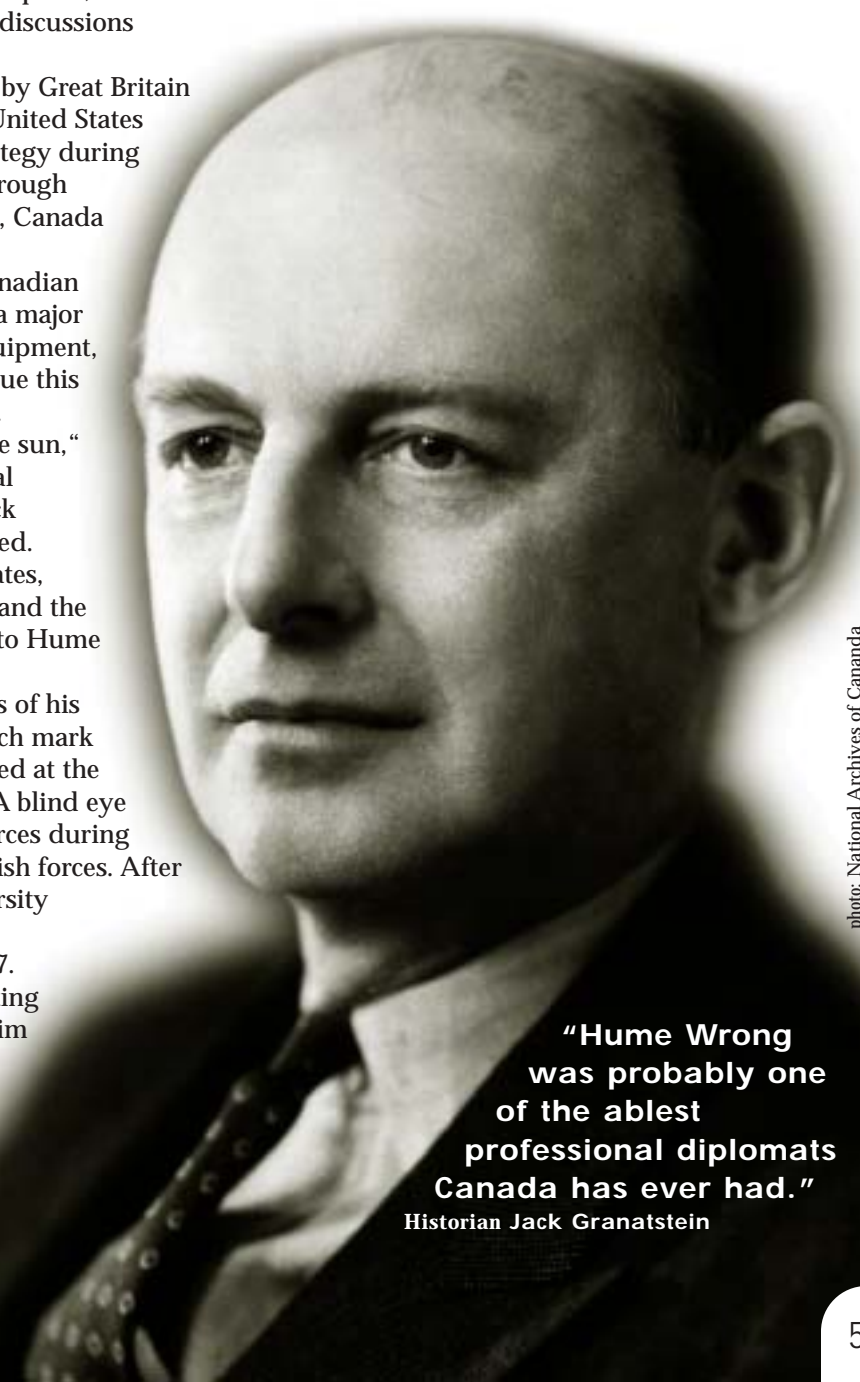


photo: National Archives of Canada

"Hume Wrong was probably one of the ablest professional diplomats Canada has ever had."

Historian Jack Granatstein

Children



photo: Lisa Woodsworth

Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Laval West MP Raymonde Folco accepting the petition from Philippe Laterreur and Christine Plouffe of École secondaire Paul-Arseneau.

Québec Schoolchildren Take a Stand: Non aux enfants-soldats!

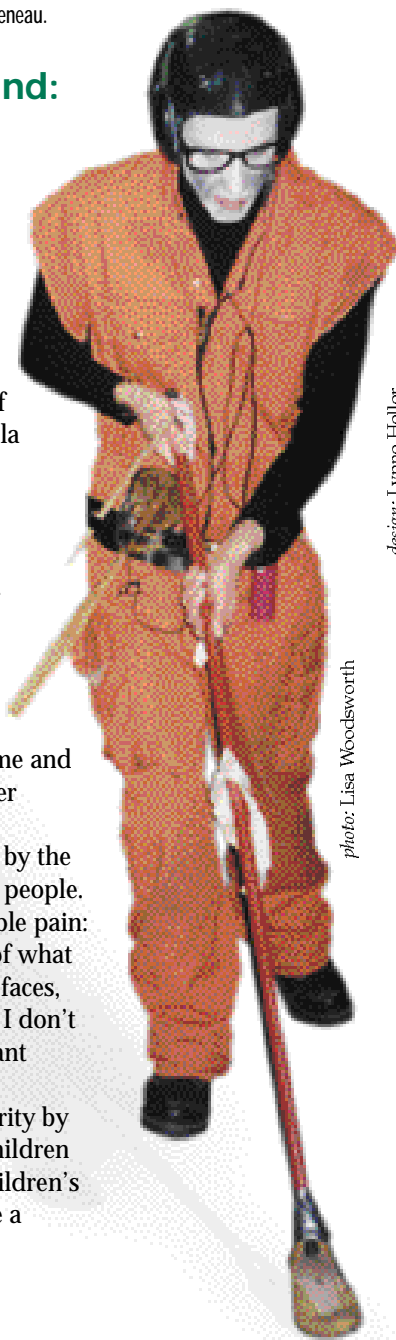
On February 26, 1999, at the Centre Saint-Pierre in Montréal, two students from the École secondaire Paul-Arseneau of L'Assomption, representing schools from all over Quebec, proudly presented to Foreign Minister Axworthy a weighty, barely liftable box containing some 31 000 signatures to a petition against the recruitment of child soldiers.

The moving ceremony was held under the auspices of Action des Chrétiens et Chrétiennes pour l'abolition de la torture (ACAT). Clowns from Clowns Sans Frontières, garbed in demining outfits, combed the auditorium for anti-personnel mines while the organizers and students spoke. One young student read out the testimony of a 13-year-old from Honduras, a girl her own age, who had been recruited and then forced to act as a sexual slave to soldiers: "Instead of helping me change the world as they had promised, they abused me and trampled on my dignity." Another student spoke of a Liberian boy nicknamed "Hitler killer," who by the age of 11 had already killed 10 people. The boy now feels indescribable pain: "I had nightmares thinking of what I'd done; I kept seeing their faces, then I'd collapse into tears. I don't want to kill any more. I want to forget."

Said Minister Axworthy, "Acts of solidarity by organizations such as ACAT and the Quebec schoolchildren are a great boost to Canada's approach of promoting children's security, and they encourage us in our struggle to create a kinder world."

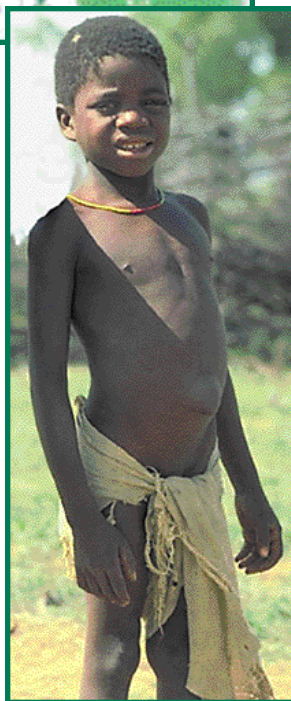


drawing: Adoki Alfred, 14, Uganda



design: Lynne Heller

photo: Lisa Woodsworth

Dwaka Dennis
former child soldier, Uganda

Political Initiatives

Protecting the Rights of Children in Armed Conflict

Several new initiatives aimed at protecting the rights of children in situations of armed conflict were announced recently.

They include:

- a contribution of \$400 000 to support the work and ensure continued profile and action of the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict, Olara Otunnu;
- support for a joint Canada-Norway workshop bringing together a small number of governments to consider the common challenges faced in aligning domestic laws with the expected terms of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which would raise the age of recruitment and participation in hostilities;
- support for a joint Canada-Norway project aimed at developing training modules to enhance peacekeepers' awareness, knowledge and expertise in dealing with children in conflict zones; and
- a Canada-Norway initiative to bring together government and NGO agendas on the issue of children in armed conflict, with a view to convening an international conference in the future.

For more information, call (613) 996-3649 or visit the DFAIT Web site at www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/culture/children/menu-e.htm for descriptions of the selected projects, the program and the project selection process.

DFAIT's Cultural Initiatives for War-Affected Children:

Helping Children Help Themselves

"This picture is of the man who was my husband. It is the face of death." So reads the caption to a painting entitled *My Soldier Husband*, by Acen Paska, a child-soldier bride in Uganda. The picture is part of the *Children of the Wind* exhibit on show at the McCord Museum in Montréal until April 25, and of an art therapy project called "Mapping Our World." The pictures from this children's rights project evolved out of five-day workshops in which kids from all over the world used drawing, painting, writing, photography and video to "map" or describe their lives. They tell us how they see themselves, how war affects their lives, and what their hopes are for the future.

The project was 1 of 14 which received funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Cultural Initiatives for War-Affected Children Program. The aim of the fund is to raise awareness about children in armed conflict by promoting cultural activities at the international level.

After the War is another project supported by DFAIT. The aim of this documentary film is to explore the lives and perspectives of young people living in Canada after escaping from situations of war. It also seeks to inform the public about the devastating effects that war has on young people.

In 1990, during a troubled period in Ethiopia, a Canadian teacher, Marc La Chance, went to Addis Ababa and changed the lives of children in the city when he noticed that many of them had remarkable physical ability and creative capacity. He began to teach the children the concepts of self-expression, self-confidence and teamwork through creative movement, gymnastics and circus activities. Within a year, Circus Ethiopia was formed.

The Circus consists of 30 young Ethiopians (ages 10 to 25) performing incredible circus acts in a theatrical context. It has enjoyed enormous success touring throughout Ethiopia and Europe. With support from the Cultural Initiatives for War-Affected Children Program, the circus will be able to participate in the Milk International Children's Festival of the Arts in Toronto and the International Children's Festival in Vancouver next May. These appearances will mark its Canadian debut.

DFAIT is encouraging Canada's arts and cultural community to submit new applications for projects. The deadlines are May 14 for projects taking place in the summer or fall of 1999, and October 15 for projects taking place in the winter of 1999-2000. —

STATESMAN PAR EXCELLENCE
STATESMAN PAR EXCELLENCE
STATESMAN PAR EXCELLENCE



photo: National Archives of Canada

In 1947, Louis Saint-Laurent argued compellingly for like-minded countries to band together in a collaborative force that, in retrospect, sounds like NATO.

Two years before the Washington Treaty, Saint-Laurent, then Secretary of State for External Affairs, said, "Francophone and Anglophone Canadians had come as a people to distrust governments which rule by force and which suppress free comment on their activities."

He added, "The best guarantee of peace is the creation and preservation by the nations of the Free World of an overwhelming preponderance of force over any adversary or possible combination of adversaries. This force must not be only military; it must be economic; it must be moral."

CANADA and

In Bosnia and Herzegovina,
over 1300 Canadian troops
are serving in the North
Atlantic Treaty Organization's

Stabilization Force, striving to build
peace. RCMP officers and other

Canadians outside the
military are helping
rebuild civilian life. In
Germany, Canadians
stand duty in
NATO's airborne
early-warning force.

At home, Canada maintains a 10 000-member force of naval, air and ground troops, ready to contribute to the Alliance's collective defence. It's the latest chapter in a partnership that began 50 years ago.

Back in 1948, Czechoslovakia's takeover by a communist government, followed by the Berlin blockade, set warning lights blinking. Antagonism between the Soviet Union and Western powers was leading to a cold war that could easily turn hot. Within a year, 12 Western countries, including Canada, signed the Washington Treaty founding NATO.

As fifth-largest military power in the victorious alliance of the Second World War, Canada had an influential voice in international affairs. Our small, highly respected diplomatic corps skilfully pursued an independent foreign policy. Canada had played a leading role in founding the United Nations in 1945. It led again in the creation of NATO. Canadians helped draft the Washington Treaty and argued successfully for an article allowing non-military co-operation.

NATO 50 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP



During the 40 years of the Cold War, Canada contributed substantial land and air forces to NATO, including an army brigade and an air division. In the early 1950s, a full fighter wing of the Royal Canadian Air Force provided a large share of NATO's front-line air defence capability. Canada reduced its commitment to NATO in 1969, but it maintained smaller forces in Europe until our last contingents withdrew in 1994 following the end of the Cold War.

The most successful military alliance in history, NATO helped avoid the ultimate catastrophe — a thermonuclear superpower conflict. It provided the security shield behind which Europe began its integration process. With that mission fulfilled, the question arose: what role now for the Alliance?

The answer came quickly. After the Soviet Union's collapse in 1990, two-power confrontation gave way to smaller, violent conflicts. NATO — which has just admitted three new members from the former

east bloc (the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland) — provides an essential stabilizing force. In the former Yugoslavia, it serves as an armed instrument of international peacemaking.

Consistent with our position that NATO must be more than a military alliance, Canada has cultivated non-military links, initiating and then promoting the post-Cold War reform of NATO's Science Program. Canada has also encouraged the Alliance to play a part in addressing human security issues: NATO troops in Bosnia are actively involved in demining. And the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council is looking at ways NATO and its partners can help reduce the problems caused by small arms proliferation.

In other words, there is still a lot to do for the cause of peace and stability, and Canada intends to be a full-fledged player in this endeavour. —



photo: Allen Macartney

Developing Foreign Policy:

Canadians
Speak

There should be more non-military peacekeepers, plus youth interns at the United Nations in New York. These were among the recommendations from Canadians at the 1999 National Forum on Canada's Foreign Policy, on the theme of human security and the Security Council.

Canadians also called for careful measurement of the impact of sanctions on children, women, the natural environment and culture; more Security Council attention to human security issues, such as international crime; and a bigger role for NGOs in Security Council affairs.

Meetings were held in Saint John, Montréal and Vancouver. Local organizers invited a broad range of participants, including academics, business, labour, community leaders and youth.

At all three meetings speakers expressed the wish to know more about Security Council affairs and to create UN education and opportunities for youth.

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy told the Montréal meeting of the National Forum that human security is the central objective for Canada's two-year term on the Security Council (see excerpts from the speech on p. 13). In Vancouver, Diane Marleau, Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for La Francophonie, outlined the Canadian International Development Agency's broad approach to strengthening human security around the world. Secretary of State (Asia-Pacific) Raymond Chan welcomed participants with the reminder that foreign policy is now too important to be left only in the hands of diplomats, politicians and academics, and he invited citizens and civil society organizations to play a larger role.



Look Ahead

The Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development will hold its first annual Graduate Student Policy Seminar, entitled "Canada in the World," from May 3 to 9, 1999. Fifteen participants will be selected from graduate students in political science, history, public administration, law, economics and international relations, to present their graduate research on any aspect of Canadian international relations. In addition to student presentations, the seminar will include meetings with government officials and policy makers. It will provide an opportunity for graduate students to exchange ideas with students from other universities and to obtain feedback on their research interests. For further information, contact Natalie Mychajlyszyn at (613) 520-2600.

Another new event, the first annual Academic Roundtable, will mark the end of the Graduate Student Seminar. Leading international relations and foreign policy academics are being invited to an all-day meeting on May 7, 1999, to discuss issues and trends in Canadian foreign policy. —

We are continuing to design tools and opportunities for public input and for informing Canadians about policy developments. Starting this spring, the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development will prepare an annual Canadian Foreign Policy Development report, outlining recent foreign policy developments, especially as follow-up to policy projects, roundtables, National Forum meetings and other activities.

Canadian Centre
For Foreign Policy
Development



For a complete report on the meetings of the National Forum, visit our Web site: www.cfp-pec.gc.ca

photos: DFAIT

"A Leader who Took Chances for Peace"

CANADIAN REFLECTIONS ON THE LEGACY OF

King Hussein

The death of King Hussein in February raises many questions about the future of peace in the Middle East. Andrew N. Robinson is Special Co-ordinator for the Middle East Peace Process in the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. For three years, he was Canada's Ambassador to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Since 1995, Mr. Robinson has chaired, on behalf of Canada, the 45-country Refugee Working Group in the multilateral track of the Middle East peace process. *Canada World View* interviewed Mr. Robinson shortly after the death of King Hussein.

Canada World View

What are the implications for Canada and for Middle East peace of the death of King Hussein?

Andrew Robinson

King Hussein himself is irreplaceable. But the work that he has done has left a very solid basis for the development of his country, for the growth of the peace process and also for the continuation of Canada's friendly relationship with Jordan.

During King Hussein's reign, Jordan evolved from a fragile kingdom with few institutions to a state with all the appurtenances of statehood, including a parliament and a functioning civil service. Regionally, the King was a force for Middle East stability. In 1994, he signed a peace treaty with Israel, making Jordan only the second Arab country to do so. That treaty was very much his inspiration. It was negotiated because the King had become convinced that peace with Israel was in Jordan's strategic interest.

Canada
World View

How were Canada's relations with Jordan during Hussein's reign?

photo: courtesy
Andrew Robinson

Andrew Robinson

Consistently strong — even during the Gulf War, which placed Jordan in a particularly dangerous and difficult situation. Canada showed in very concrete ways that we recognized Jordan's predicament, at a time when other friends were less understanding. Essentially, we showed that we supported a Middle Eastern leader who took chances for peace. Jordanians noticed this and remembered.

Canada World View

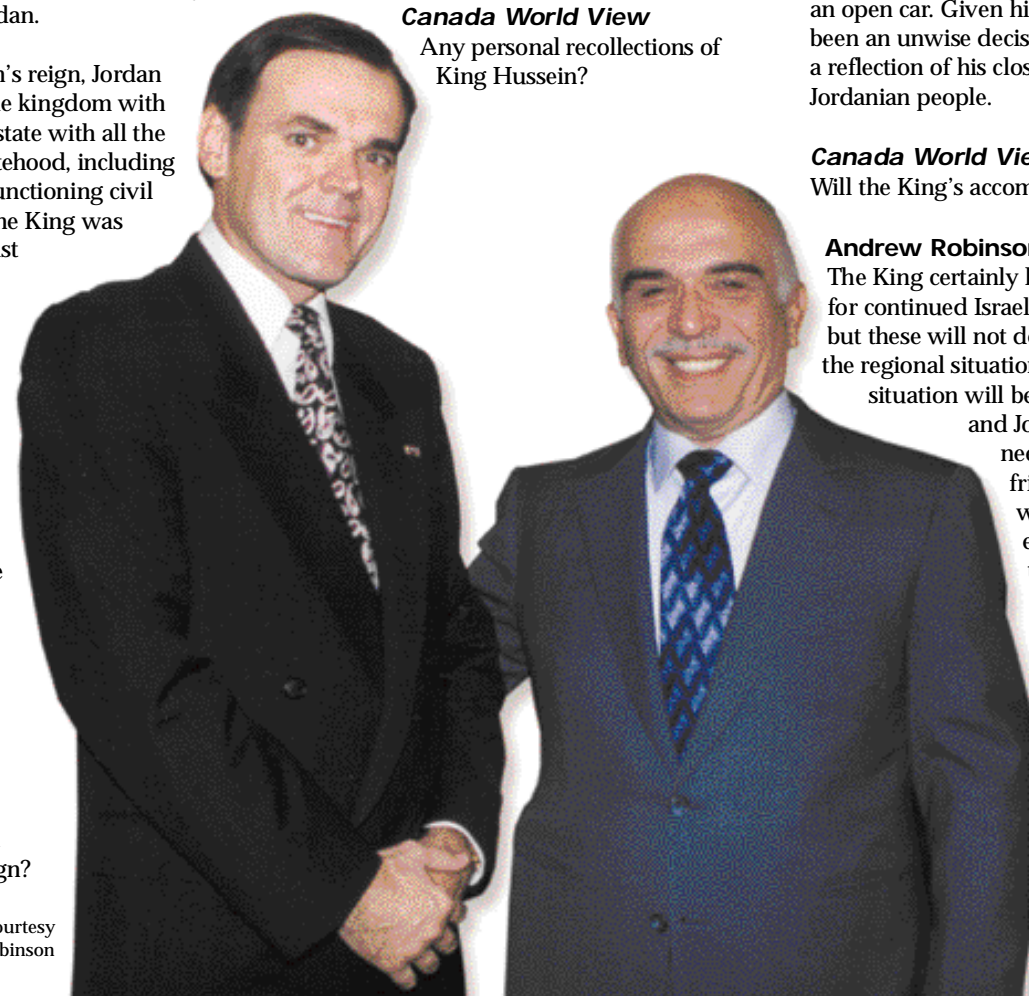
What about Canada's leading role in the Refugee Working Group?

Andrew Robinson

That is another link. There are 3.6 million Palestinian refugees in the Middle East; at least 1.2 million are in Jordan. Jordan has given them citizenship. But they are still refugees by the UN definition. Their situation awaits resolution within the Middle East peace process, and Jordan very much appreciates the leadership Canada is showing in the Refugee Working Group.

Canada World View

Any personal recollections of King Hussein?



Andrew Robinson

I was Ambassador to Jordan from 1992 to 1995 and I met him as required during that period. King Hussein had an especially warm regard for Canada, which he had visited many times, and was interested in many aspects of Canadian life. I recall in particular our discussion of Canada's experience in developing the loyalty of new Canadians without requiring them to sever their links with their countries of origin. This issue was of special interest to His Majesty because of Jordan's large population of Palestinian origin.

What was specially memorable for me was the love of the people of Jordan for their King. I was witness to this in 1992, when he returned from the United States after prolonged medical treatment. The streets were just filled with people from all over Jordan who, in a quite spontaneous way, came to Amman to show their happiness at his return and his recovery.

These scenes were repeated when the King first returned from the Mayo Clinic in 1999, after what appeared to be successful treatment. In cold, rainy weather, he insisted on responding to his people's welcome from an open car. Given his health, this may have been an unwise decision, but it was a reflection of his closeness to the Jordanian people.

Canada World View

Will the King's accomplishments endure?

Andrew Robinson

The King certainly laid the groundwork for continued Israeli-Jordanian relations, but these will not develop independent of the regional situation. The economic situation will be important

and Jordan's friends will need to show their friendship in tangible ways. It has been very encouraging to see the warm signals of support coming from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other countries. —

The Governor General's State Visit to Africa: STRENGTHENING POLITICAL TIES

When Roméo LeBlanc landed in Dakar, Senegal, on February 12, he became Canada's first Governor General to visit Africa. The 16-day state visit, which also brought him to Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Tanzania and Morocco, marked a new phase in the strengthening of the Canada-Africa partnership. The Governor General was accompanied by the Minister for International Co-operation and Minister Responsible for La Francophonie, Diane Marleau, and a delegation of parliamentarians and representatives from the business community, cultural and academic sectors, and non-governmental organizations.

The visit also demonstrated Canada's support for countries that are playing an increasingly constructive role in regional efforts to bring about peace and stability throughout Africa. Côte d'Ivoire, for instance, indicated its commitment to participating in conflict prevention and peacekeeping missions with its neighbours. It has also set up a regional Peacekeeping Training Centre. Mali is closely involved in peace mediation efforts, notably in the civil strife in Liberia. President Konaré has been a strong supporter of Canada in the campaign for the adoption of the Landmines Convention. He has also championed a moratorium on the import, export and manufacture of small arms, which he proposed to the UN in 1997.

Senegal has participated in several UN and regional peacekeeping missions. It enjoys a close relationship with Canada and was the first African country to host a Francophonie Summit, in 1989. In Tanzania, the Governor General expressed Canada's appreciation for that country's active role in trying to resolve current conflicts in the Great Lakes region, particularly the internal conflict in Burundi.

Minister Marleau met with Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, founding president of Tanzania and the facilitator of the peace process in the region; and she took the occasion to announce that Canada, through its Peacebuilding Fund, will contribute \$750 000 to support the Nyerere Foundation and the Arusha Peace Process.

Morocco is a partner of Canada in the multilateral track of the Middle East peace process. In recent years, the two countries have strengthened their relationship and increased their political dialogue. Economic relations are also gaining momentum, particularly since 1996 with the signing of the Declaration of Political, Technological and Economic Partnership.

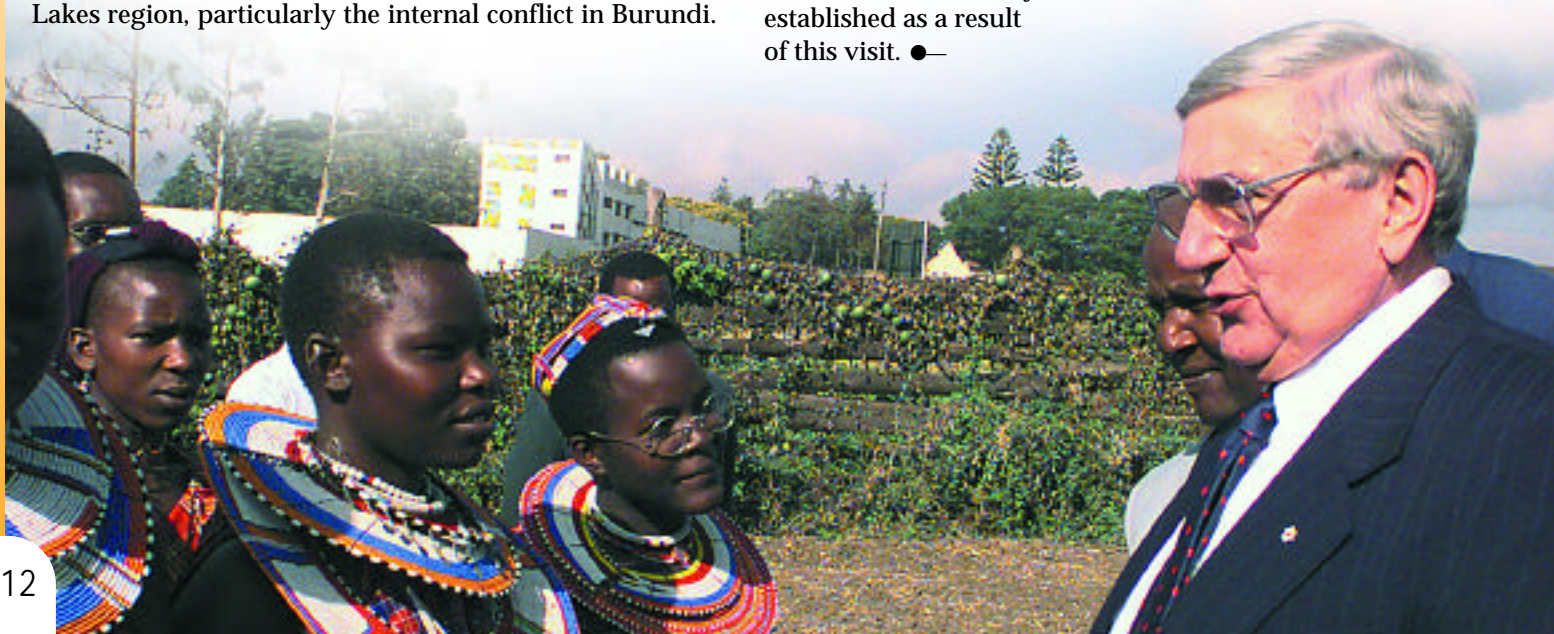
Strengthening Economic Ties

The 1980s were harsh on African economies, which suffered greatly from the crash of commodity prices and the sudden jump in oil prices. The situation is slowly turning around. In several countries (at least those that have launched economic reforms), recovery is on the way and there are now some promising trade and investment opportunities. Canada's two-way trade has increased with all the countries visited. All are going through privatization processes that are attracting foreign investors, including Canadians. In Senegal, for instance, Hydro-Québec International has won the contract to run the nation's electric utility.

The Canadian business leaders who accompanied the Governor General were able to establish contacts with key government officials and African businesspeople. With the movement toward democratization in many countries, the future of Africa now appears more promising than ever, and partnerships between Canadian and African firms are likely to be established as a result of this visit. ●—



photos: Sgt. Christian Coulombe



N A T I O N S

I N • T H E • N E W S

On the Record

Excerpts from Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy's speech to the National Forum on Canada's Foreign Policy, Montréal, Quebec, January 22, 1999

Canada's Agenda for a Renewed UN Security Council

Canada last held a seat on the Security Council 10 years ago [1989-1990]. The global context in which the Council operates, the membership it represents and the challenges it faces are considerably different than a decade ago. The Council faces challenges to its credibility. It is falling short of the responsibilities entrusted to it by the international community.

Canada's new mandate [1999-2000] comes at a historic juncture. We will work to shape a more proactive Council, broaden its agenda, re-assert its leadership, and make its operations more transparent and responsive to the UN membership.

We will work to enhance the Council's capacity to address new, non-traditional threats to security, such as ethnic conflict, mass refugee flows, illicit small arms trafficking, gross human rights abuses, failures of governance and the rule of law, and abject human deprivation.

We also will seek to ensure that human security concerns are incorporated into the Council's actions and decisions. We could seek opportunities for the Council to draw more systematically on the views and insights of NGOs and other civil society actors with direct experience on the ground. The Council could make more active use of conflict prevention instruments.

To be a leader, the Council must also be ready to act — rapidly. For this reason, Canada continues to support the creation of a UN Rapidly Deployable Mission Headquarters. This will allow the Council to quickly establish an initial beachhead for a UN peace mission, thereby increasing the chances for effective and timely Council action.

We will work with other Council members to explore how and when it may be appropriate for the Council to take action in conflict situations in which it may not have become engaged in the past. ●—

For the full text of the speech, visit our Web site at www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca and click on "Publications," or call the Media Relations Office at (613) 995-1874.



The Canada-Mexico Partnership Takes on New Life

The 13th meeting of the Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Committee (JMC), which took place from February 17 to 19 in Ottawa, was hailed as the most successful ever.

The meeting brought together 17 Canadian and Mexican Ministers and Secretaries of State. As a sign of the two countries' increasingly dynamic relationship, the JMC reached into new areas, such as social development, culture, the environment and Indigenous affairs.

Participants showed an interest in fostering exchanges in several areas of the social agenda, including the development and delivery of social and labour market development programs, regional development, and human capital development.

In the cultural sector, the two countries agreed to collaborate on promoting and preserving cultural and linguistic diversity at home and in international forums.

On environmental issues, they agreed to share information, techniques and solutions with respect to global climate change, and to help developing countries meet their development goals in a sustainable manner.

With regard to Indigenous affairs, participants issued a declaration committing them to develop joint co-operation projects, exchanges and other initiatives. These will help foster economic and cultural ties between Indigenous groups in both countries. In addition, it was noted that Canadian Indigenous leaders and businesspeople would undertake an Aboriginal trade mission to Mexico in April to explore new opportunities for co-operation.

Mexico is fast becoming a close partner to Canada in hemispheric affairs. The Canada-Mexico partnership holds many promises and will no doubt continue to expand at a rapid pace. ●—

For more information on the Canada-Mexico partnership, consult DFAIT's Web site: www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca

Promoting Canadian Arts Around the World

The examples on this page are but a few of the vast number of Canadian artists and cultural groups that receive assistance from DFAIT to perform or show their productions abroad. Projecting Canadian cultural diversity around the world is one of the pillars of Canada's foreign policy.

Canadian artists convey a sense of our values and interests through writing, music, dance, theatre and the visual arts. Their work adds depth and mutual appreciation to our

international relations.

The support of the Department helps Canadian artists showcase our culture abroad, and allows both artists and the public to benefit from cultural exchanges, international marketing assistance, and project development grants and training.

To consult Canada's international cultural calendar, visit our Web site (www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca) and click on "Cultural Attaché." For more information about foreign policy and culture, click on "Culture."

Culture and Foreign Policy:

Projecting Canadian Cultural Diversity Abroad



photo: courtesy La La Human Steps

La La La Human Steps

Montréal, Quebec

SALT, Édouard Lock's latest creation, premiered in October 1998 at the Saitama Arts Theatre near Tokyo, Japan, where La La La Human Steps, a Montréal dance troupe, was in residence for six weeks. For the next two years **SALT** will tour Europe, North America, the Middle East and Asia, appearing at major theatres and festivals in over 60 cities.



photo: courtesy Opera Atelier

Opera Atelier

Toronto, Ontario

The Opera Atelier, North America's finest Baroque theatre company, will participate in the Singapore Festival of the Arts in June. Opera Atelier will present a fully staged production of Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*, plus excerpts from Lully's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*. The all-Canadian cast of singers and dancers will be accompanied by a 17-piece orchestra performing on period instruments.

Celebrating the Americas Through Dance

Winnipeg, Manitoba

Two Winnipeg dance organizations will celebrate the Pan Am Games, being held in the city in July, through dances on the Pan American theme. While the Games will showcase excellence in athletics, the dances will add a cultural element highlighting excellence in the arts. The Royal Winnipeg Ballet will create a ballet under the leadership of artistic director André Lewis, to celebrate the spirit of the Americas. And the Winnipeg's Contemporary Dancers will bring together contemporary dance artists from Mexico, the United States and Canada to enrich the Games, and then to tour across North America. ●

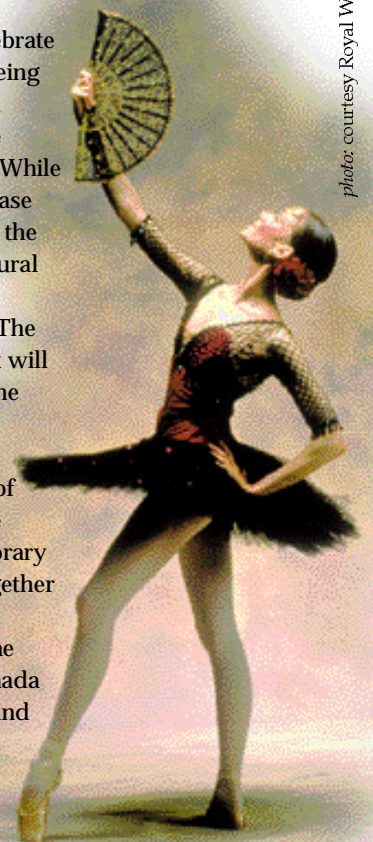


photo: courtesy Royal Winnipeg Ballet

News BRIEFS

PHILIPPE KIRSCH RECEIVES ROBERT S. LITVACK HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

DFAIT legal advisor Philippe Kirsch received the Robert S. Litvack Award on January 28 for his outstanding contribution to the cause of peace and human rights. He shared the award with Benjamin B. Ferencz, the former chief prosecutor for the United States before the Nuremberg war crimes tribunal. The award is presented annually by McGill University in Montréal and InterAmicus, an international human rights advocacy centre based at McGill.

The Robert S. Litvack Award was instituted in 1987 in memory of a tireless defender of Aboriginal rights.



Philippe Kirsch and Benjamin B. Ferencz

photo: courtesy Morgane Production

Since joining DFAIT in 1972, Mr. Kirsch has worked unceasingly within the United Nations system to help promote humanitarian values in international law. He chaired the Committee of the Whole of the Rome Conference, which adopted the statute of the International Criminal Court on July 17, 1998 — considered a revolutionary development in international law. The Court will come into existence once 60 states have ratified the treaty. In February 1999, Mr. Kirsch was elected chair of the preparatory commission established to develop the instruments necessary for the proper operation of the Court.

Human Rights Highlights

- 1 For the Record 1998, a global human rights report produced by the non-governmental organization Human Rights Internet (HRI) in partnership with DFAIT, is now available on the Internet. This is the second annual edition of the publication, which guides the user through a vast array of UN human rights documentation conveniently

arranged by country and theme. A print version of the document can be obtained through Human Rights Internet. The electronic version may be accessed at HRI's Web site:

www.hri.ca/fortherecord1998

- 2 The situation in Rwanda; renewal of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of opinion and expression; impunity; violence against women; the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples — these are some of the main issues Canada was planning to raise at this year's session of the UN Commission on Human Rights, meeting in Geneva from March 22 to April 30. Canada also intended to co-sponsor a resolution on freedom of religion.
- 3 At a meeting with NGOs in Ottawa in early March, Foreign Minister Axworthy indicated that Canada would be making a particular effort to integrate human rights concerns into its work on the UN Security Council. On February 12, the Minister presided over a Canadian-initiated Council discussion on the issue of the protection of civilians in armed conflict. The Security Council agreed to hold further discussions on how the UN might play a more proactive role in addressing this problem.

New Embassies

Berlin — Construction of a new Canadian Embassy in Berlin, Germany, will begin in the fall of 1999, with completion expected in 2001. The winning architectural team, selected by a panel of distinguished Canadian and German architects, is: Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg Architects / Architectes Gagnon, Letellier, Cyr /



photo: DFAIT

Smith Carter Architects & Engineers Inc., in joint venture with Vogel Architect, Consulting Architect.

The need for a new Embassy in Berlin stems from Germany's decision, following its reunification, to reinstate Berlin as the seat of government. The move will occur in the fall of 1999. Consequently, in the summer of 1999, most of Canada's present Embassy operations in Bonn will be transferred to Berlin, where we will occupy temporary facilities.

The new Canadian Embassy will be located at the historic junction of Leipziger Platz and Potsdamer Platz in the heart of Berlin. To learn more about the design and other details, visit DFAIT's Web site at **www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca**, click on "Publications" and go to "News Releases."

Abu Dhabi — International Trade Minister Sergio Marchi officially opened the new Canadian Chancery in Abu Dhabi on February 24, during a seven-day business development mission to the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia, Israel, and Gaza and the West Bank. The Emirates represent the fastest-growing market for Canadians in the Middle East. In 1998, Canadian exports to the UAE reached an estimated \$270 million, increasing almost fivefold over the past six years.

Grant to Université Laval

On February 25, Minister Axworthy announced a \$250 000 grant to the Institut québécois des hautes études internationales of the Université Laval to support its graduate program in international relations. The grant will allow for the establishment of a three-year partnership between DFAIT and the Institut. Students and researchers will come to DFAIT to participate in educational forums on a host of international topics, and departmental officials will go to the Institut to lecture on their areas of expertise.

The Institut québécois des hautes études internationales is the only such body in Canada to offer a French-language multidisciplinary graduate program in international relations.

• cont'd on page 16

Trade and cultural issues are of critical importance to Canada. The Cultural Industries Sectoral Advisory Group on International Trade (SAGIT) has just published a report on the subject. Entitled *Canadian Culture in a Global World: New Strategies for Culture and Trade*, the report can be obtained by calling DFAIT's Enquiries Centre at 1-800-267-8376 (toll-free) or at (613) 944-4000. The report is also available on the following Web site: **www.infoexport.gc.ca/trade-culture**

Security Council Accepts Canadian Proposal for Iraq

On January 30, the UN Security Council unanimously accepted a Canadian proposal aimed at creating a unified approach on the issue of Iraq. The proposal called for the establishment of three panels to assess key issues concerning Iraq and submit recommendations to the Council. The first panel is assessing the status of Iraq's compliance with the disarmament provisions of Council resolutions. A second panel is examining the humanitarian situation in Iraq, while a third panel is reviewing the status of Iraq's compliance on the issues of missing prisoners of war and Gulf War compensation. Brazil's Ambassador to the UN, Celso Amorim, has agreed to chair the three panels. He will submit recommendations to the Security Council by April 15. ●—

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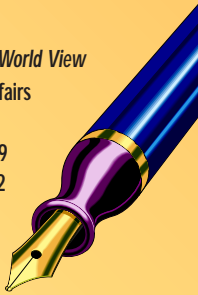
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Readers' Corner

Time constraints prevented us from publishing your letters in this issue of *Canada World View*. We will start carrying them in our fourth issue, scheduled for June. Share your thoughts about the magazine and foreign policy topics. Send your letters to the attention of:

Readers' Corner, *Canada World View*
Department of Foreign Affairs
and International Trade
125 Sussex Drive, C2-159
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2
Canada

Readers' Corner



In Our NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue will focus on Canada's relations with Latin America and on the Pan American Games in Winnipeg in July, considered one of the largest celebrations of sport and culture ever staged in Canada. More than 5000 athletes and artists from 42 countries will participate in the

event. Also of interest will be our regular "Nations in the News" section and "Historical Profiles," as well as consular advice for the thousands of Canadians who will be travelling abroad this summer. ●—

DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .

After the UN and the Commonwealth, NATO is the international institution Canadians are most familiar with. Also, after the UN and the World Trade Organization, NATO is the institution that should receive the **top priority**, according to three out of four Canadians.

On average, **6000** users per day consult DFAIT's Web site. On an annual basis, this translates into almost **2.2 million** users.

In the last decade, Canada signed or ratified **165** multilateral and **266** bilateral treaties, and it joined **12** major new international/regional organizations or processes.

Canadian Studies Programs are popular around the world. Over **6000** university and college professors in more than 30 countries reach over **150 000** students through their teaching. They also publish **hundreds** of scholarly articles and books on Canadian topics each year. The programs receive financial support from DFAIT.

In six years, Canada's two-way trade with Latin America has **more than doubled** — from **\$7.2 billion** in 1991 to **\$18.3 billion** in 1997. A record **532** businesspeople participated in the Team Canada 1998 trade mission to Latin America, signing **306** deals worth almost **\$1.8 billion**.

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CETTE PUBLICATION EST
ÉGALEMENT DISPONIBLE EN
FRANÇAIS.
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Canada World View is published in both English and French under the direction of:

Richard M. Bégin
Communications Services Division (BCS)
Department of Foreign Affairs and
International Trade (DFAIT)
125 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2
Canada

Canada World View is also available on the Internet:
www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/canada-magazine

