

World View

"Una Gran Familia"

CANADA HOSTS THE AMERICAS

In April 1998, at the second Summit of the Americas in Santiago, Chile, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien talked about the countries of the Americas as having become "*una gran familia*."

Starting this summer and for the next two years, Canada will be hosting the *familia* in an unprecedented number of important hemispheric events: the Pan American Games in Winnipeg in July; the Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas in Ottawa in September; the Americas Business Forum in Toronto in October; the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) Ministerial Meeting, also in Toronto, in November; the Model Organization of American States (OAS) General

image: Pan American Games Society



Assembly, in Edmonton in March 2000; the General Assembly of the OAS, in Windsor in June 2000; and the next Summit of the Americas, in Québec City in 2001.

Add to this list of events the fact that Canada will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of its membership in the OAS on January 8, 2000. Clearly our country is engaged in the hemisphere as never before, and we are one of the main and most active members of the family.

This fourth issue of *Canada World View* shows how important Canada's role in hemispheric affairs has become, and

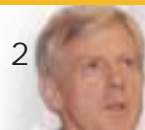
how we value our relations with our 34 partners in North, South and Central America and the Caribbean. ●—

The Editors

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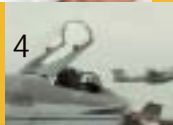
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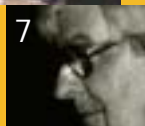
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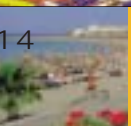
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Canada

READERS' CORNER

We have started receiving your letters and are now able to feature this column—your column—in every issue of *Canada World View*. We thank you for your comments and hope you will keep on writing.*

Understandably, Kosovo captures most of the attention these days, particularly from our British Columbia readers:

KOSOVO

In my opinion, the UN should encourage women from both sides of the conflict to elect a panel of their peers to study ways and means toward an equitable or viable solution. It would be strictly consultative and apolitical. A sort of dialogue over the fence without preconditions. A dialogue along these lines could be arranged better with women. They are the ones with the children. Men are the ones with the guns.

HUBERT ROBERTIES / OLIVER, B.C.

I am concerned and deeply distressed at Canada's involvement in NATO and their current bombing diplomacy. Your magazine's article on human rights (No. 1, p. 8) states, "For half a century, Canada and Canadians have played a leading role in enshrining respect for human rights in international law." This is the role that Canada should play.

ROBERT J. WINKENHOWER / VICTORIA, B.C.

The United Nations is doing a good job in many fields and it does need the support of the rank and file. In the peacekeeping area, Canada has certainly been doing an outstanding job. I do have some misgivings about the action in Yugoslavia. How to stop the tyrant Milosevic and his murdering? Better if it could be handled by the UN rather than NATO. Hopefully, we can call a halt to the terrible destruction of property and life soon.

WILLIAM SLOANE / PILOT MOUND, MANITOBA

EAST TIMOR

As a concerned Canadian—currently living in Portugal—I take this opportunity to express my grave concern regarding a very serious matter that I believe is being overlooked due to the situation in the Balkans. I am referring to East Timor. Recent massacres carried out by armed pro-integration militias have caused the death of numerous Timorese people; children have been and are being slaughtered. It is my belief that Canada should request the urgent presence of the United Nations in East Timor to ensure that the security and freedom of these people are guaranteed.

RUI M. MAURICIO MARQUES / LISBON, PORTUGAL

MORE INFO, PLEASE

Could you publish more information on the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations system, their roles, initiatives and relevance to Canadian interests? Perhaps a simple chart of the total UN system, with concise information on each agency.

JOHN C. CAIRNS / ELORA, ONTARIO

[We are noting this suggestion. — ED.]

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:

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* Please note that letters are condensed and edited for style.

Interview with

Canada's relationship with the countries of the Americas is growing at an unprecedented pace.

Canadian trade missions—both federal and provincial—to the United States and Mexico, to Central and South America and to the Caribbean are multiplying. Political dialogue is expanding and new areas of co-operation are opening on a regular basis.

New partnerships at the political and commercial levels are being established, and a new understanding between Canada and the rest of the Americas is developing. In other words, a rewarding relationship is blossoming in the hemispheric neighbourhood.

Recently, *Canada World View* interviewed Secretary of State (Latin America and Africa) David Kilgour about some aspects of Canada's relations with the nations of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Canada World View

Canadian foreign policy gives a high priority to building strong links with the nations of the Americas. How important is that relationship to Canadians?

Mr. Kilgour

The relationship is immensely important to Canadians. Let me start with the bread-and-butter economic benefits—jobs and economic growth. The countries of Latin America and the Caribbean will soon have a combined population of half a billion and an aggregate GDP [gross domestic product] of US\$2 trillion. When you consider these figures and the fact that the average age of that population is 17 to 21, you realize how much of our economic future is linked to this hemisphere. Already the figures are impressive: our exports to the region doubled between 1992 and 1998, rising from \$3.3 billion to \$6.8 billion. Our investments in the same period soared amazingly, from about \$6 billion to \$28 billion.

Another benefit of these closer ties is the influence they give in shaping the collective policy of our neighbours in the hemisphere in ways that reflect Canadian values—for instance, in contributing to our common goal of improved regional security. A third advantage is our ability to enlist the support of our hemispheric neighbours for Canadian positions on various international issues. One recent example was the strong backing we received when Canada made its successful bid for membership on the UN Security Council. And one only needs to look at the six major hemispheric events Canada will be hosting over the 1999–2001 period for evidence of our commitment to our hemispheric relationship.

Secretary of State Kilgour

David Kilgour talks to *Canada World View*

Canada World View

A recent Canadian initiative in this hemisphere has been the Dialogue on drugs, which Foreign Affairs Minister Axworthy launched last January and for which you have special responsibility. Please explain that for our readers.

Mr. Kilgour

We all recognize the problem of illicit drugs as a scourge that could undermine all other gains in the Americas. The basic goal of the Dialogue is to place the drug issue in the context of the other ongoing initiatives to strengthen democracy and improve the quality of life and the well-being—that is, the human security—of the peoples of the Americas. We hope to stimulate and sustain a hemisphere-wide discussion of the drug problem at the level of foreign ministers, to bring not just one but all of the many facets of this complex problem into focus.

Canada World View

What facets, for instance?

Mr. Kilgour

One good example is the relationship of the problem of illicit traffic in drugs to governance—for instance, to the enforcement of drug laws, to small arms control and to the need to get the public involved at the grass-roots level. There are also links to economic issues—such as, measures to farmers to replace drug-related crops, on which they now depend for their livelihood, with other marketable crops. There are the health aspects of the problem, and there is a link to education. As you can see, the drug issue is just one of many threats to human security in the region.

We live in an age of globalization, where the problems of illegal drugs, environmental degradation, human rights abuses and weapons proliferation respect no borders. It's absolutely essential to look at these various aspects of the problem not in isolation but in context. Measures in one field have to complement those in another.

Canada World View

Can you give us an example of that?

Mr. Kilgour

Crop substitution is an example. Countries that have introduced programs of this kind have learned that these measures work only to the extent that they are accompanied by effective enforcement of drug laws.

Another benefit we hope to derive from the Dialogue is the sharing of information, ideas and experience. I recently attended a meeting of experts under Canadian auspices in Costa Rica that contributed to that process.

As for ideas and experience, there is plenty we can usefully share, and not just at the governmental level. There's an example in my own home province of Alberta—a program called DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), which specially trained community police officers deliver to sixth-grade school kids. The program started in the United States in the 1980s, took root in Edmonton, and has since spread to other parts of Canada and also to certain countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. Quite recently there was a DARE conference in Brazil on its application in the hemisphere.

Canada World View

There are other hemispheric organizations looking at the drug problem—for instance, the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) in the Americas. How is this process different?

Mr. Kilgour

First of all, the Dialogue on Drugs isn't intended to displace these other forums but to complement them. What's unique about it is that the Dialogue is one of foreign ministers looking at the problem



photo: DFAIT

of illicit drugs in a hemispheric context and in relation to all these issues I've mentioned. As foreign ministers, they are well positioned to bring them to the attention of the appropriate cabinet colleagues. One point I want to stress about this initiative is that it's non-prescriptive. This is not Canada setting itself up as an example to the world or suggesting that other countries do what we do. This is Canada trying to get the various aspects of this common problem out on to the table, where we can look at them and talk about them in context.

Canada World View

The Drug Dialogue is about six months old now. How is it going?

Mr. Kilgour

So far I've visited 10 countries in connection with the Dialogue and the response in every case has been extremely positive.

Canada World View

What about the other aspects of our hemispheric relationship?

Mr. Kilgour

The future looks extremely good for Canada. I'm delighted wherever I've been to see just how highly regarded Canada and Canadians are. As a G-8 member we're perceived as an important partner—a partner of weight—by all of these countries. And our values are those of the vast majority of people in the hemisphere. We are becoming, as Prime Minister Chrétien put it, part of one big family in the hemispheric neighbourhood. ●

Canada AND Kosovo

A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION ON MANY FRONTS

Canada's efforts to resolve

the crisis in Kosovo have spanned the full spectrum. We engaged in diplomatic efforts to end the campaign of violence by the Yugoslav regime against its own civilians; we took part in military action after the failure of repeated efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement; and we are providing humanitarian assistance to victims of the disaster.

On the diplomatic front, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy visited Moscow to discuss with Russia's leaders that country's role in brokering a peace deal, and he met with United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan to discuss the need for UN involvement. The Minister subsequently participated in meetings of G-8 Foreign Ministers; these led to the drafting and co-sponsoring of a resolution put before and adopted by the United Nations Security

Council. That resolution formed the basis of the peace agreement signed by the Yugoslav military on June 9.

A peace agreement is only the first step in what will be a long process of refugee resettlement and reconstruction. The international security force, including Canadian personnel, will monitor and enforce the demilitarization of Kosovo, and it will work to establish a secure environment for the international civil presence. To allow for re-integration into the European community of nations, there will also have to be a focus on strengthening democratic institutions, such as a viable police force and a credible justice system, and on good governance practices, an area where Minister Axworthy has indicated Canada is prepared to share expertise.

An RCMP-led forensic crime scene examination team will spend four weeks in the region assisting the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in its investigation of crimes against humanity. The team will include police investigators, pathologists, photographers, and ballistics and mapping experts drawn primarily from the RCMP. Their mission will be to gather forensic and other evidence from the scenes of alleged atrocities, for submission to the Tribunal.

To assist with refugee resettlement, Canada and Belgium are jointly supporting a UN-led mission that will assess the impact of landmines in Kosovo. Mine experts will interview refugees and others

to gain as much information as possible about mine placement and priority areas for demining to allow for resettlement.

Military action

Canada's military was praised for its effective contribution to the air campaign. Eighteen CF-18 aircraft of the Canadian Armed Forces flew combat missions from the NATO base in Aviano, Italy. In April, Prime Minister Chrétien announced that Canada would respond to a NATO request by sending 800 ground troops to the region for peacekeeping duty by late June. This figure was later raised to 1300.

Humanitarian assistance

Canada has supported the efforts of the international humanitarian agencies to provide basic necessities, such as food, water, shelter and medical supplies. Canadian Forces aircraft helped moved emergency supplies within the region and airlifted over 5000 refugees to Canada. From March to mid-June, Canada supplied more than \$35 million in humanitarian aid and \$10 million in economic assistance. A total of \$100 million was earmarked under

the Humanitarian Evacuation Program of the UN High Commission for Refugees, to bring refugees to Canada and help them resettle here. The

government is also granting permanent entry to Canada to a number of Kosovar Albanians with relatives in this country, under the Family Reunification Program. ●



photos: CANAPRESS



photo: Réda Bouskri
Canadian Embassy personnel. Front row, left to right: Corporal Daniel Juteau, CIDA Officer Norman Boukhalife, Ambassador Franco D. Pillarella, Mission Administrative Officer Carolynne Smith, Corporal Ricardo Carr-Ribeiro. Second row, left to right: Political Officer Rick Savone, Ambassador's Secretary Claudette Vachon, Trade Commissioner Gilles Poirier, Warrant Officer Richard Day, Corporal Geoffroy Ethier, Master Corporal Robert Gallant. Missing from the photo: Corporal Pierre Murray.

Serving in Risky Places

The life of Canadian diplomats in Algiers

According to the stereotyped view, diplomats go to cocktail parties and have a good time abroad. Nowhere can this image be further from the truth than in Algiers. For the 12 Canadians posted in the capital city of Algeria and the 51 locally engaged staff, life in this country burdened by seven years of terrorist activity has its fair share of risks.

Bullet-proof vehicles and vests are normal tools for day-to-day activity. Says Political Officer Rick Savone, "While the situation in Algiers proper has calmed in recent months, there was a time when it was not uncommon to fall asleep to the sound of gunfire and exploding bombs." Diplomats are required to travel with armed military escort whenever they leave the fortified compound that houses the Embassy, the Official Residence and the staff quarters. Without the assistance of the six Canadian Military Security Guards, the mission's tasks would become infinitely more complicated.

Diplomats, including Canadians, are always at risk of being targeted by terrorists or of simply being in the wrong place at the wrong time. On numerous occasions, car bombs or explosions in city markets have gone off at almost the same time as they were driving by. And every now and then they have to deal with threats from extremist groups.

Nevertheless, our diplomats manage to provide a full range of services to Canadian and Algerian clients, including consular, visa and immigration services, as well as regularly updated travel advice. The commercial section, for its part, continues to provide assistance to Canadian and Algerian companies interested in trading opportunities. In November 1998, the section organized the first Canada-Algeria Bilateral Commission in several years, and this spring it planned and organized trade and investment missions in both directions. Two-way trade in 1998 was estimated at \$1.2 billion, and Algeria is still Canada's largest trading partner in all of Africa and the Middle East.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is also active in Algeria. Says CIDA Officer Norman Boukhalife, "Canada's support for the establishment of the Algiers Stock Exchange, and support for development projects encompassing environmental and public health priorities are some of the Agency's most noteworthy achievements in Algiers." Also, through the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives and in collaboration with local NGOs, the Embassy has been instrumental in furthering the role of women in society, and in providing for the health and education needs of abandoned and orphaned children.

Ambassador Franco D. Pillarella is proud of his staff and their work: "We go to great lengths to encourage dialogue between Canadian and Algerian civil society. Whether it is through our support to traumatized children or as a result of the frequent visits we organize for Canadian NGOs, we are able to work together with Algerians on political, economic and social issues of common concern."

Ambassador Pillarella and his staff are particularly proud to have received a citation under the 1998 Minister of Foreign Affairs Awards for Consular and Foreign Policy Excellence. "Their efforts have been remarkably successful in piloting our relations," said Minister Axworthy. "Their performance was even more remarkable when one takes into account the exceptionally difficult living and working conditions in Algiers, as the poor security situation forces our staff to live under virtual house arrest."

Adding to the praise is the Algerian government's deep appreciation of the fact that, while a number of embassies closed their doors when terrorist violence reached its peak in 1993 and 1994, Canada's was one of the few that never flinched. ●



Minister Axworthy at Stenkovic 1 refugee camp in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, May 1, 1999



photo: Rick Savone
Canadian and locally engaged staff at the Algiers Embassy



photo: Rick Savone
The newly constructed Chancery (1998) inside the Canadian Embassy compound in the district of Ben Aknoun, Algiers



photo: Richard Day
Political Officer Rick Savone plants an acacia tree in the new botanical garden of the National Institute for the Study of Desertification in Tamanrasset. CIDA Officer Norman Boukhalife and Institute staff look on.

Opening doors to an international career

The Youth International Internship Program

You're a young Canadian with post-secondary education under your belt. You want to make a career in the wider world beyond Canada's borders. What's blocking you is a catch-22: to land that first job it helps to have international experience on your résumé, but without the first job where do you get the experience?

For more than 1100 young people over the past two years, the deadlock-breaker has been the Youth International Internship Program.

The Program is operated by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) as part of the federal government's ongoing Youth Employment Strategy. It is a collaborative effort involving three partners:

- DFAIT administers the program and dispenses funding for internships.
- "Implementing organizations" (65 at latest count) plan and propose internship projects, recruit young people to fill them and place the recruits with host employers. The implementing organizations include Canadian national associations, business councils, chambers of commerce, band councils and non-governmental organizations.
- Also partners in the Program are the employers with whom the interns will work: over 900 Canadian or foreign companies, NGOs or international organizations.

According to co-ordinator Scot Slessor, since the Program started it has placed interns in more than 80 countries. He says, "The goal of the implementing organizations is to give the interns meaningful experience that matches their training and improves their marketability, and to show employers the energy and diversity of young Canadians." Many examples from DFAIT's files make that point.

One intern with a university background in peace and conflict studies worked with an international organization resettling refugees in Croatia. Another intern, whose degree was in sociology, gained relevant experience in Chile, researching the impact of a new highway on Indigenous communities.

For an engineering graduate, the Internship Program provided hands-on experience with a bridge-building project in Ghana. Another participant with business training helped a Canadian company plan its market entry into Venezuela.

In these fields and others, internships run from six months to a year.

Who's eligible

To be eligible for the Program, an applicant must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident aged 30 or under, and this must be the recruit's first paid employment overseas. ●—

Minerva Hernandez-Iraheta: A six-month OAS internship clears a career path

Minerva Hernandez-Iraheta of Toronto was close to graduation from York University when she saw an Internet ad for the Youth International Internship Program from a non-governmental organization specializing in the Americas. It turned out to be the door opener to her chosen career.

A native of El Salvador who came to Canada with her family as a refugee at age 14, Minerva was bent on working in the international field (her degree is in

International Studies) but kept running into the brick wall of "experience required." Applying on-line for an internship, she made it quickly to the interview stage and was then accepted. Within weeks, she became one of 13 Canadian interns at the Washington headquarters of the Organization of American

States, working on proposals for poverty reduction programs in Central America.

Just as that six-month assignment ended, DFAIT called her for an interview and Minerva landed a contract with the Department's Mexico and Inter-American Division. She is now in DFAIT's Hemispheric Summit Office helping to prepare for the Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas, which Canada will host in September 1999.

Minerva is enthusiastic about her internship. "It's been a great starting point for my career," she says. "I have a better picture now of how the countries of the hemisphere co-operate—and how quickly Canada's role in the Americas is growing.

"In addition to that, I've built up a network of people with the same professional interests as myself."

About finding a first job without experience, she says "It's very hard. If you have specialized technical training you may be all right. For instance, mining companies may accept someone with geological training. But for the most part, employers want experience that you just don't have when you are fresh out of university or college."

Canada World View interviewed Minerva in May during the Balkans conflict, and she had a point she wanted to make about her experience. She says she is able to relate to the 5000 refugees from Kosovo who have found sanctuary in Canada: "I was in that position myself 15 years ago. Canada extended its arms to me in a time of need."



photo: DFAIT

CANADIAN DIPLOMACY'S QUIET ACHIEVER

Jules Léger

Calmness, friendliness and an ability to bring overheated temperatures down—in their recollections of Jules Léger, the career diplomat who became Governor General, these are the traits that people mention most often. Useful as such qualities are in diplomacy, by themselves they do not account for success of the kind that Jules Léger achieved in his chosen career. In fact, as the record demonstrates, they were accompanied by an ability to take on and master new and difficult assignments.

Joseph Jules Léger was born in 1913 in Saint-Anicet, Quebec, the younger of two sons of Ernest and Alva Léger. His brother, Paul-Émile, became a cardinal and Roman Catholic Archbishop of Montréal. Their father was a local storekeeper who doubled as postmaster and choir director.

After university studies in Montréal and Paris, Jules Léger joined the staff of the Ottawa daily *Le Droit*, where he became an editorial writer. Even in 1938, the year of Munich and appeasement, Léger's editorials included fierce denunciations of Hitler and the Nazi persecution of Jews.

His writings attracted the attention of a notable Ottawa resident, Prime Minister Mackenzie King, who offered Léger a junior position on his staff. In 1940, after passing the necessary examinations, he joined the Department of External Affairs and was promptly seconded to the Prime Minister's Office, where he served for three years.

Following this assignment, Léger took up the much-travelled life of a career foreign

service officer. In 1943, he helped open Canada's first legation in Chile. After his posting in Santiago, he served both in Ottawa and overseas, including in London. In 1953, at age 40, he was named head of the Canadian Embassy in Mexico City—at that time the youngest Canadian Ambassador ever.

In August 1954, he reached the top rung in his chosen profession when he was appointed Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, the first Francophone to hold the senior job in the Department. This was an eventful period marked by such dangerous moments as the Suez Canal conflict and the Hungarian uprising.

Léger's role in these crises was to ensure that Secretary of State Lester B. Pearson, representing Canada at the United Nations, got solid Departmental support in the form of information and expert advice. He did so with his usual unflappability. Basil Robinson, a retired diplomat who was then in the Department's Middle Eastern Division, remembers a weekend during the Suez crisis, when an urgent problem came up: "Rather than convening an emergency meeting at the office, he had his secretary call to invite some of us who were involved in the file over to his house to talk. This was typical of the low-key, informal way he operated and he got very good results in that mode."

Domestically, Léger's period as head of the Department covered a major political watershed: the change from the Saint-Laurent to the Diefenbaker governments in 1957. Léger handled the Departmental aspects of the transition with aplomb.

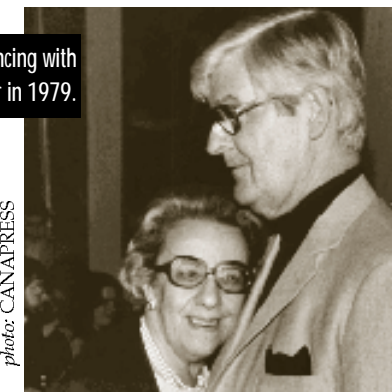
In 1958, he was appointed Canadian Ambassador to NATO. In 1962 he became Ambassador to Italy, and in April 1964 Ambassador to France. He served there until 1968 during the deep chill in Franco-Canadian relations, which reached its lowest temperatures with President de Gaulle's declaration "Vive le Québec libre".

Léger's efforts limited the long-term damage to relations between the two countries. As the writer Jacques Monet later commented, "His tact, patience, splendid judgment and solid, steady nerves did more than keep the lines open between Ottawa and the Quai d'Orsay."

In 1968, Léger entered a new phase of his career with his appointment

Gabrielle Léger dancing with Jules Léger in 1979.

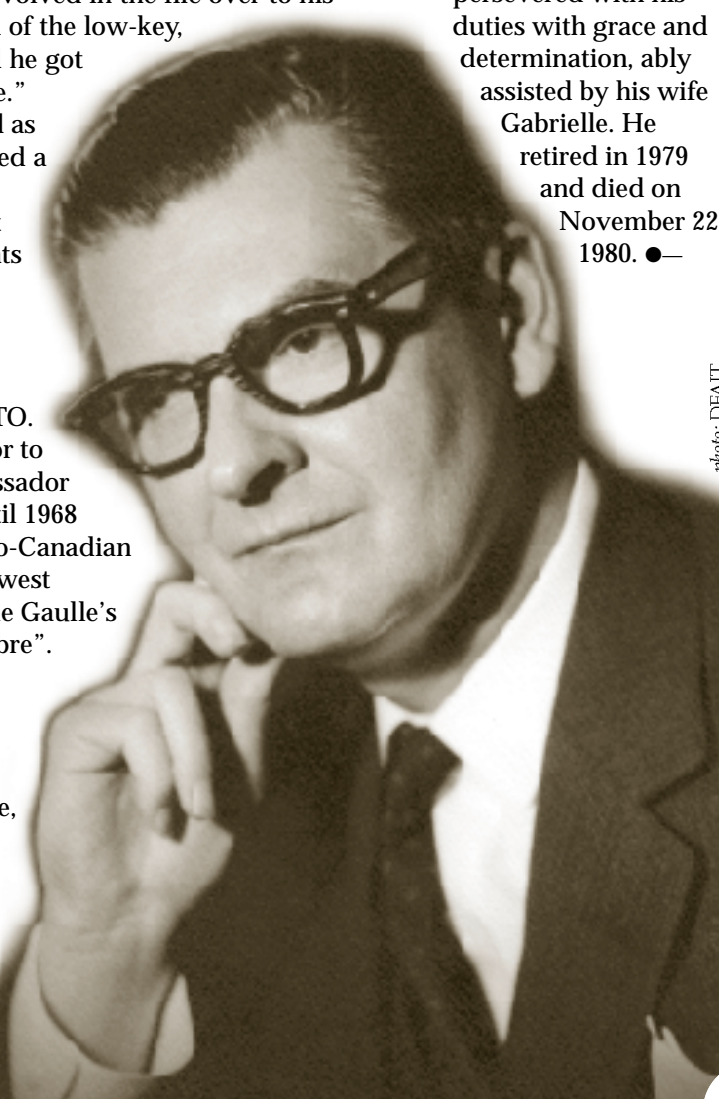
photo: CANAPRESS



to the post of Under-Secretary of State under Gérard Pelletier.

In 1974, while Pierre Elliot Trudeau was Prime Minister, Léger was appointed Governor General of Canada. He suffered a stroke less than six months later, which left him partially paralysed and barely able to speak. But he persevered with his duties with grace and determination, ably assisted by his wife Gabrielle. He retired in 1979 and died on November 22, 1980. ●—

photo: DFAIT



Jules Léger

How to find out more

If you're interested in exploring the Youth International Internship option, a good starting point is the Program's Web site: www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/interns/

For a list of participating organizations with projects currently under way, call 1-800-559-2888 (in Canada) or (613) 944-2415, or e-mail the following address:

yiip-psij@dfait-maeci.gc.ca

Although Canada has long enjoyed close relations with the United States and the Caribbean nations, historically it has been less engaged in Latin American affairs. All that changed in the early 1990s. Why? According to Paul Durand, Director General of DFAIT's Latin

American and Caribbean Bureau, the decisive new factor was a political and economic revolution in the Americas in the 1980s—one comparable to that in Europe: "Military dictatorships gave way to democratic governments, closed economies had become open, and relationships between these countries and their neighbour to the north had become less antagonistic. In short, the reasons for staying out had evaporated and the reasons for getting in were compelling." The new era began officially in 1990, when Canada signed the Charter of the Organization of American States.

Canada returns the favour



Addressing the Mexican Senate in April, Prime Minister Chrétien linked the impressive line-up of hemispheric events in Canada in the coming two years to the strengthening of ties between this country and its neighbours in the Americas.

"The warm welcome I receive wherever I go in the hemisphere is a testament to that," said Mr. Chrétien. "Canada will be returning the favour on a number of occasions over the next two years."

As a sign of Canada's expanding relationship with its fellow nations of the hemisphere, our country will host a series of major events within the next two years.

The XIII Pan American Games will run from July 23 to August 8, 1999, in Winnipeg. Attracting 5000 athletes from 42 nations along with 2000 coaches, trainers and supporting staff, the Games will be the largest celebration of sport and culture ever held in Canada, and the third-largest athletic competition ever for North America.

The Conference of Spouses of Heads of State and Government of the Americas is the latest in a series launched by the First Ladies of the Central Americas in the 1980s as a forum in which to share experiences and co-ordinate activities. The themes for the 1999 meeting will be investment in childhood development and women's health.

The Free Trade Area of the Americas Trade Ministerial Meeting convenes in Toronto early in November 1999. Canada has been chairing the FTAA negotiations during their first critical year and will be pushing to maintain the momentum of negotiations.

Running parallel with the FTAA negotiations will be the fifth annual meeting of the Americas Business Forum, scheduled for October 30–31 in Toronto. The Forum is the main channel through which businesses in the Americas contribute to negotiations on hemispheric free trade. Canada is co-ordinating this year's meeting.

The OAS General Assembly in June 2000 will be the Organization's first assembly of the new millennium. It will take place in Windsor and will mark Canada's 10th year of OAS membership.

Hemispheric leaders have accepted Prime Minister Chrétien's invitation to hold the Third Summit of the Americas in Québec City in 2001. Heads of state and government will consider how they can work together to improve the economic well-being and quality of life of their peoples.

Canada IN THE Americas

THE LINKS
MULTIPLY

Milestones since 1990

- The signing of trade framework agreements with four regional groups: the Central American nations, CARICOM, (the English-speaking Caribbean), the MERCOSUR nations (Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay) and the Andean Community. These agreements provide a framework to enhance trade and investment flows.
- The start of negotiations, currently chaired by Canada, on the Free Trade Area of the Americas. If implemented as scheduled in 2005, the FTAA will involve 34 countries with a population of 700 million people and a combined GDP of \$10 trillion.

Regional security

- Piece by piece, Canada and its hemispheric neighbours have been bolting together a system of regional security, now defined as protection against both external and internal threats to democracy.
- Also in play is an important new concept embodied in the Declaration of Santiago, which calls for an immediate response by OAS members to the overthrow of a democratic government in a member state.
- Latin American countries have been strong supporters of Foreign Affairs Minister Axworthy's human security approach to regional security. This takes as its point of departure the impact on individuals of threats such as landmines and the illicit drug trade.

Political ties

- Political links between Canada and its hemispheric neighbours have multiplied at all levels and now include regular summit meetings of presidents and prime ministers of the hemisphere.

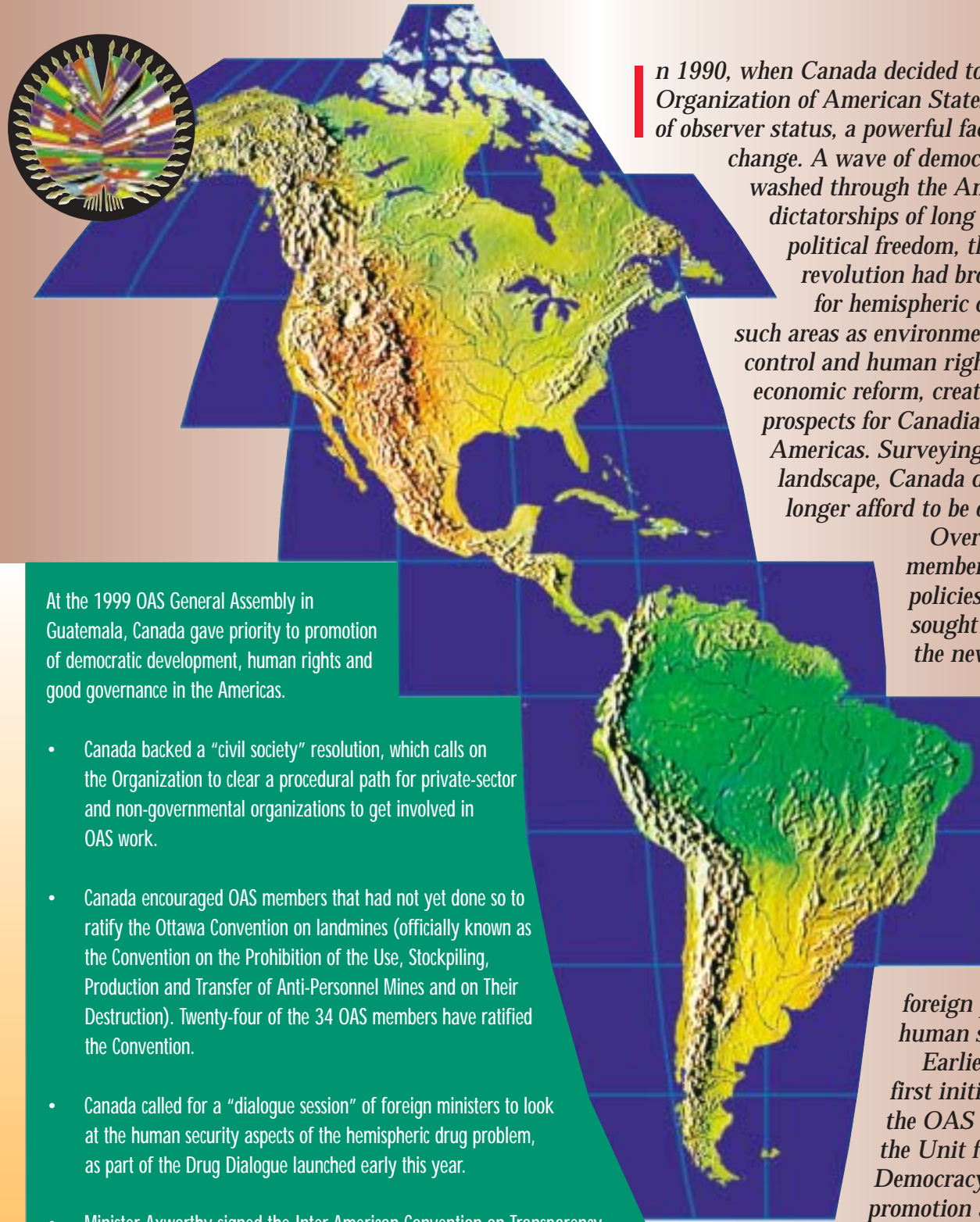
Paul Durand says one reason these relationships are flourishing is because industrially and economically, Canada and the hemispheric community are a good fit.

"This is a unique regional relationship for Canada," says Durand. "Other nations have their regional neighbourhoods. This one is ours. We belong in it." ●—

THE AMERICAS ARE COMING TO CANADA

Canada at the OAS

PROMOTING HUMAN SECURITY IN A HEMISPHERIC FORUM



In 1990, when Canada decided to join the Organization of American States after many years of observer status, a powerful factor was hemispheric change. A wave of democracy had recently washed through the Americas, toppling dictatorships of long standing. Along with political freedom, this largely peaceful revolution had brought new possibilities for hemispheric co-operation in such areas as environmental protection, drug control and human rights. It had also sparked economic reform, creating new market prospects for Canadian business in the Americas. Surveying this changed landscape, Canada decided it could no longer afford to be outside the OAS.

Over its nine years of membership, Canada's policies within the OAS have sought to make the most of the new social and economic

opportunities in the Americas. A current example is its promotion of a "people first" approach by the OAS, consistent with Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy's

foreign policy emphasis on human security.

Earlier, one of Canada's first initiatives after joining the OAS was the creation of the Unit for the Promotion of Democracy, which supports the promotion and strengthening of democratic processes and institutions in member states. ●—

At the 1999 OAS General Assembly in Guatemala, Canada gave priority to promotion of democratic development, human rights and good governance in the Americas.

- Canada backed a "civil society" resolution, which calls on the Organization to clear a procedural path for private-sector and non-governmental organizations to get involved in OAS work.
- Canada encouraged OAS members that had not yet done so to ratify the Ottawa Convention on landmines (officially known as the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction). Twenty-four of the 34 OAS members have ratified the Convention.
- Canada called for a "dialogue session" of foreign ministers to look at the human security aspects of the hemispheric drug problem, as part of the Drug Dialogue launched early this year.
- Minister Axworthy signed the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions. Under its terms, OAS member nations undertake to keep each other informed about new acquisitions of conventional weapons.
- Canada participated in efforts to reform and renew the OAS.

ORFÉO

When *Orféo*, the latest stage production by Montréal-based Lemieux/Pilon Creation, had its U.S. première at the John F. Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., in February, there were many reasons to celebrate this new achievement of Canadian culture. For the first time ever, a Canadian play was co-produced by the Kennedy Center, one of the world's most prestigious art centres and the United States' national centre for the performing arts. One of the busiest performing arts facilities in North America, the Kennedy Center hosts about 2800 performances and attracts over 1.7 million spectators each year.

Canadian culture sweeps the world stage

The play's three-day run was virtually sold out. The Canadian Embassy in Washington, Québec Government House in New York City and the Kennedy Center press office had worked closely together to interest the American and Canadian media, with the result that coverage of the première was extensive. The play received rave reviews in the media in both the United States and Canada.

But the success did not stop there. The Canadian Embassy in Washington had used the Washington première to attract presenters from the mid-Atlantic region and as far afield as Kansas, with a view to selling a bigger tour in 2000. The initiative paid off: after performances in Long Beach, California, in late February, *Orféo* will be presented in Nebraska, Kansas and New York City early next year.

Orféo is a dance-theatre piece

about a young man who refuses to accept the death of his wife. In the play, Orpheus is a living man reaching out to the life-size, moving image of his dead love standing beside him—only to find her a bodiless phantom. Therein lies the main technical challenge of the play: to synchronize choreography between the living and the dead. Michel Lemieux and Victor Pilon have taken up the challenge eloquently using a combination of live actors and high tech to create virtual images.

Judging from Lemieux/Pilon Creation's past successes, we can expect *Orféo* to have a long international career.

What prompted the Kennedy Center to spend more than

US\$50 000 to co-produce and present *Orféo*? The story begins two years ago, when the Canadian Embassy started implementing a strategy to better project Canadian culture in the United States by targeting key cultural institutions. The Embassy booked the Center for what turned out to be a very successful presentation last season of an earlier work by Lemieux/Pilon Creation, *Le Grand Hôtel des Étrangers*. This prompted the negotiations for the co-production of *Orféo*.

The play is a highly futuristic representation of a very old story: the ancient Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice. In the words of Lewis Segal, the *Los Angeles Times*' dance critic, "High-tech Canadian theatre visionaries Michel Lemieux and Victor Pilon have turned the myth into a coldly beautiful neo-Romantic media opera . . . told through a series of haunting holographic images."

The play has also been co-produced by the Théâtre français of the National Arts Centre in Ottawa and Usine C in Montréal. It received financial support from DFAIT's Cultural Program, the Arts Council of Canada and the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec. *Orféo* will be presented in four British cities next spring, including London and Glasgow, and in Hong Kong, Seoul and Taipeh in May and June of 2000. This June, it appeared at the Jerusalem Festival in Israel. ●—

To learn more about DFAIT's Cultural Program, visit our Web site (www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca) and click on Culture. To consult Canada's international cultural calendar, click on Cultural Attaché. To contact us by telephone, call (613) 944-4000.

Canadians share their

People across Canada and throughout the hemisphere can now take part in an open discussion about the future of the Americas. PanAm byDesign

(www.panam-bydesign.net) is an interactive Web site that was featured at the Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development (CCFPD) roundtable on the Americas, held in Calgary on March 17. The 80 participants from business, labour, NGOs and universities used the site to broadcast their day-long discussions to the Internet world.

The site was created by the University of Toronto McLuhan Program in Culture and Technology E-lab. Said director Liss Jeffrey, "We are very grateful for the opportunity to work with the CCFPD, and celebrate your far-sightedness and willingness to go outside the routine."

Taking part in the Calgary roundtable were: Professors Stephen Randall, Barbara Arneil, Maureen Wilson and Mark Dickerson; NGO activists Ricardo Acuna, John Chan and Nola Kate Seymoar; and Anna Nitowska of the Canadian Labour Congress. Presentations were made on human security, democracy and civil society in the hemisphere. DFAIT Assistant Deputy Minister (Americas) George Haynal was the keynote speaker.

To view the presentations and reports from the Calgary discussions, consult the following Web site:
www.panam-bydesign.net/ccfpd

For more information about the CCFPD, visit our Web site at www.cfp-pec.gc.ca or call us at (613) 944-4150/0391.

You can also reach us by fax at (613) 944-0687, or by writing to:
Canadian Centre for Foreign Policy Development
125 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0G2

views On hemispheric relations

The report on the Calgary roundtable recommends a human security focus to Canada's relations with other countries in the hemisphere, a role for the public in setting Canadian priorities, and attention to education, poverty, human rights, sustainable development and economic/trade issues.

The next Americas discussion will be held in Halifax on July 8, 1999. The focus will be on democratic development and civil society. Meetings this fall will be in Whitehorse, Montréal and Toronto. Other meetings will follow in 2000. ●—

Annual report highlights

June marks the third birthday of the CCFPD. Thousands of Canadians have been engaged in a wide range of activities and policy discussions, according to the latest CCFPD annual report, *Foreign Policy*

by Canadians. Public foreign policy development activities have included:

- 18 meetings of the National Forum on Canada's International Relations in 15 cities since 1996;
- 45 issue roundtables in Ottawa with Ministers and senior officials; and
- 75 other roundtables and conferences across Canada.

A total of 160 commissioned papers and policy option reports are available.



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On the Record

Excerpts from Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's speech to the Senate of the United Mexican States, Mexico City, Mexico, April 9, 1999

Ladies and gentlemen, the embrace of democracy and free markets is not only transforming Mexico, it is transforming the Americas. And, as these fundamental values take deeper and deeper root, from Baffin Island to Tierra del Fuego, our hemisphere is becoming not just a group of nations connected by an accident of geography. But by an active identity. With the confidence and maturity to work together toward common goals.

That is why Canada joined the OAS almost 10 years ago. That is why Canada and Mexico took the bold step of negotiating NAFTA with the United States. And that is why hemispheric leaders endorsed a comprehensive vision and plan of action for our common future at the Miami Summit of the Americas in 1994.

In Miami, and last year in Santiago, we affirmed that greater shared prosperity is a centrepiece of that vision. And we endorsed achieving a Free Trade Area of the Americas as a principal means of making that happen.

But, ladies and gentlemen, we also made it clear that economic integration alone could not yield the better quality of life we all want. There must also be an equally strong commitment to consolidate democracy, to promote human rights and to address social inequalities through promoting education and eliminating racial discrimination.

Canada looks upon additional progress in each of these areas as cornerstones on which a truly shared hemispheric prosperity can be built. We believe they go hand in hand with progress on the FTAA. With Canada in the Chair of the Trade Negotiation Committee, we have made substantial progress in the FTAA negotiations . . . I am fully confident that we will reach our goal of concluding the FTAA by 2005.

Ladies and gentlemen, in Miami I spoke of Canada and its partners in free trade as being friends, *amigos*. In Santiago, I was moved to describe the nations of the Americas as having become *una gran familia*.

As we prepare for a new millennium, the time has come to get beyond such nice words. . . . Let us, together, build on the triumphs of the 20th century that are transforming Mexico, the Americas and the world. Triumphs not of ideology or armies. But of the one force that truly drives history and progress. The triumphs of people. ●—

For a full version of the speech, visit the Prime Minister's Web site (<http://pm.gc.ca>) and click on "Publications," or contact the PMO Press Office at (613) 957-5555.

The Canada-France Partnership

The special link between Canada and France goes back to 1534, when French navigator Jacques Cartier landed in the Gaspé Peninsula and took possession of the newly discovered territory. Some 225 years later, after Nouvelle France was ceded to Britain, the link became tenuous but it was re-established informally late in the 19th century.

Full diplomatic relations came in 1928, with the opening of embassies in Paris and Ottawa. Since then, the relationship has grown into a highly complex and diversified partnership involving billions of dollars in trade and investment, scientific exchanges and political co-operation both at the bilateral and international levels, particularly through La Francophonie, the G-8 and the United Nations.

In the economic sector alone, as Ambassador Denis Bauchard noted in a speech in Montréal in June, France is Canada's seventh-largest supplier, with 1998 exports totalling some \$3.4 billion or more than double the 1993 level. Mr. Bauchard expects bilateral trade between our two countries to increase by 10 to 15 percent this year. Adding to his optimism is the fact that over the last 10 years, France was the only foreign supplier (apart from the United States) not to have suffered a loss in Canadian market share; instead its share rose slightly. Further, France is now the fifth-largest foreign investor in Canada.

This close relationship prompted Ottawa and Paris to sign the Canada-France Action Program during the official visit to Canada of French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin in December 1998. The Action Program aims to reinforce Canada-France joint undertakings bilaterally—in such areas as information technology and telecommunications, culture and scientific/technical relations—and multilaterally, in such fields as transatlantic relations and La Francophonie. The Action Program is a follow-up to the Declaration of Enhanced Partnership, signed during Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's visit to Paris in January 1997.

Canada and France have also agreed to work together to explore new approaches aimed at further promoting cultural diversity in a changing world. The two countries want to ensure that cultural goods and services are fully recognized and treated as not just any merchandise. Finally, measures have been taken to increase the exchanges and mobility of persons. In 1998, in the youth sector alone, 5000 young Canadians took part in exchange programs between our two countries.

In other words, the Canada-France partnership is healthy and strong. It is bound to continue expanding rapidly in the coming millennium, as the New and the Old World come ever closer together. ●—

Bon Voyage

Travelling abroad this summer?

But... Each year, Canadians take about 90 million trips to foreign destinations for pleasure, adventure or business. While most of these trips go smoothly, sometimes things go wrong. You could be the victim of an accident, a natural disaster or a criminal act. What can you do when you are far away from home in a country where you don't know a soul or don't speak the language? A situation like that could be quite worrisome.

But wait! Whatever may have happened, Canadian assistance is at hand. Most of Canada's missions offer consular services, designed to protect and safeguard Canadians and their interests abroad. Consular officials can provide services that range from simply replacing a lost or stolen passport to arranging for medical help or assisting your evacuation from a war zone or an area affected by a natural disaster. **Consular services** operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, through a network of over 250 offices in more than 180 countries.

Even where there is no Canadian diplomatic mission, you can still get help. In some countries, Canada has appointed private citizens honorary consuls. While they cannot provide the full range of consular services, they can still be of great assistance.

In other countries, Canadians can seek assistance at an Australian diplomatic or consular mission.

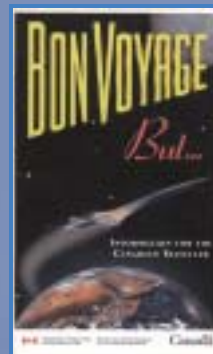
Here is a good example of Canadian consular services in action: While waiting for a taxi outside his hotel on a South Pacific island, a retired Vancouver man was robbed of all his money and identification, and suffered three broken ribs in the assault. An officer from the Canadian Consulate, alerted by the hotel, quickly arrived on the scene. The officer ensured that the man received medical treatment, helped him contact his health insurance company, made arrangements for payment of medical bills and replaced the stolen passport. The officer also arranged for the man to transfer funds from his bank in Vancouver through the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade in Ottawa. The funds were received the same day through the Consulate. ●

To better prepare Canadians for travelling abroad, DFAIT has established the Consular Awareness Program, which provides several free "safe travel" publications and leaflets. They include *Her Own Way: Advice for the Woman Traveller*; *Bon Voyage, But...*; *Crossing the 49th: A Compendium of Bumps on the Road for Canadians Going South*; *Canadian Performers: How to Enter the United States*; *México: ¿Qué pasa?—A Guide for Canadian Visitors*; *China, including Hong Kong: A Guide for Canadian Visitors*; *A Guide for Canadians Imprisoned Abroad*; *International Child Abductions: A Manual for Parents*; *Retirement Abroad: Seeing the Sunsets*; *Working Abroad: Unravelling the Maze*; and the Weekly Travel Bulletin. For copies, visit the Travel section of the DFAIT Web site, or call 1-800-267-8376 (in Canada) or (613) 944-4000.

READ THIS!

When planning a trip abroad, there are countries you would not even think of visiting—nations at war, for example, or areas devastated by natural disaster. If you go anyway, it's at your own risk. In other cases, you plan on visiting a country or must go on a business trip, and you would like some basic information about your destination. In all cases, DFAIT consular services can be of great assistance. There are two types of information available. **Travel Reports** provide information on security and political conditions, health issues and entry requirements for over 200 foreign destinations. **Travel Advisories** (also sent to the media and constantly updated) are warnings to avoid a country or to leave it because the level of danger is too high to ensure your safety. To view reports and advisories, consult the Travel section of the Department's Web site (www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca); fax us at 1-800-575-2500 (in Canada) or (613) 944-2500; or call 1-800-267-6788 (in Canada) or (613) 944-6788.

Wherever you go outside Canada this summer, you know you can count on the efficient and dedicated assistance of the Canadian Consular Services. *Bon voyage... and enjoy the pleasures of a safe trip!*



News BRIEFS

CANADA TO CONTRIBUTE TO INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND

Canada will contribute \$1 million to the International Fund for Ireland over the next three years, in support of international peacebuilding efforts in Ireland.

"This contribution further re-affirms Canada's commitment to the peace process in Ireland," said Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy. "We are especially pleased that Canada's contribution will be applied toward activities which support programs for disadvantaged areas and promote intercommunity links and dialogue."

Canada has a particular interest in securing peace in Northern Ireland since close to 4 million Canadians are of Irish descent.

Canadian efforts toward reaching peace in Northern Ireland also include the participation of some prominent individuals. General (Ret) John de Chastelain is head of the Independent International Commission on Decommissioning; Chief Justice William Hoyt of the New Brunswick Superior Court serves on an international judicial body re-investigating the 1972 "Bloody Sunday" massacre; and Professor Clifford Shearing, head of the Centre for Criminology at the University of Toronto, provides expert recommendations to the Commission on Policing established under the Good Friday Agreement.

CANADA TO CONTROL IMAGING SATELLITES

Minister Axworthy and National Defence Minister Art Eggleton announced in June that, as the ownership of remote sensing satellites moves from the public to the private sector, Canada is developing new legislation to control commercial remote sensing satellites. The high-performance satellites can be used

for cartography, natural resources management and surveillance of the Earth.

"We need to take steps to ensure that photographs taken by these satellites are not used against Canada and its allies," said Mr. Axworthy.

Canada is a world leader in the design, construction and operation of high-performance civilian remote sensing satellites using Synthetic Aperture Radar. Among other things, the policy initiative seeks to maintain and protect Canada's critical industrial base and to promote regional stability together with the private sector.

The legislative process to implement the policy is expected to take up to two years, and implementation would precede the launch of Canada's first commercial remote sensing satellite.

HUMAN SECURITY: THE BERGEN MEETING

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy expressed his satisfaction with the progress accomplished on the human security agenda at a two-day meeting of ministers and representatives of 11 governments in Bergen, Norway, on May 19 and 20. The meeting focussed on the identification of challenges and approaches for addressing major issues, including the elimination of anti-personnel mines, measures to counter the excessive accumulation and transfer of military small arms, prohibition of the use of child soldiers, and efforts to strengthen the adherence to international humanitarian and human rights laws.

The Minister said that the meeting "illustrated a growing commitment to promote the concept of human security and reflected the increasing international importance placed on the security and safety of the individual." Besides Canada and Norway, participants included Austria, Chile, Ireland, Jordan, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Switzerland and Thailand. South Africa attended as an observer.

The Chairman's Summary of the Bergen meeting is available on the DFAIT Web site (www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca), attached to press release no. 117. Also available on the site is *Human Security: Safety for People in a Changing World*, released by Minister Axworthy on May 14. The document sets out a rationale for a foreign policy taking safety and security for people as a central point of reference.

Commenting on the text, France's *Le Monde* said, "Within a few years, this document... may be remembered as one of the first attempts to develop a theory in support of limiting national sovereignty and establishing the right of intervention on humanitarian grounds."

ANTI-PERSONNEL MINE BAN: THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE

The First Meeting of States Parties to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention (the Ottawa Convention) was held in early May in Maputo, Mozambique. Arriving from a visit to a Kosovar refugee camp in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Foreign Affairs Minister Axworthy called on the international community to develop a capacity for rapid, co-ordinated humanitarian mine action in post-conflict situations.

"The tragedy of the Kosovars is compounded by the fact that their lands are now being mined," said the Minister. "The international community must be ready to respond urgently to ensure that when the time comes, they can return to their homes in safety."

To date, 135 countries have signed the treaty and close to 80 have ratified it. The Convention entered into force on March 1, 1999.

• cont'd from page 15

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The DFAIT Historical Section has just released two new publications. *Documents on Canadian External Relations: Volume 21 (1955)* covers a number of subjects, including the Sino-American conflict over Taiwan. It also includes recently declassified documents on secret Canada-U.S. strategic consultations, and Cabinet documents on the Avro Arrow and North American air defence. The price is \$99.95.

Canada and the Early Cold War (1943-1957), a collection of eight articles by Canadian scholars, explores aspects of Canadian foreign policy during the first stages of the Cold War. The price is \$14.95.

To order either publication, write to Canadian Government Publishing, Public Works and Government Services Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0S9. For telephone orders, call (819) 956-4800 or 1-800-635-7943. The publications are also available through bookstores. ●—

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Now you can visit DFAIT. The Lester B. Pearson Building is open to the public for guided tours in both official languages, on Tuesdays and Fridays between 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. Just go to the reception desk and follow the signs.

For more information or reservations, call (613) 992-6164.



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In Our NEXT ISSUE

Our next issue will focus on the concept of human security, plus the Francophonie, Commonwealth and APEC summits. We will also

discuss the film *The Man Who Might Have Been*, a National Film Board documentary about the tragic fate of Canadian diplomat Herbert Norman. ●—

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

Provided negotiations are successful, by 2005 the Free Trade Area of the Americas will link 700 million consumers in 34 countries, with a collective buying power of \$10 trillion a year.

Since joining the OAS in 1990, Canada has become its second-largest financial contributor, providing more than \$12.6 million or 12.4% of the Organization's annual budget.

Most Canadians (63%) believe that hosting international summits gives Canada a chance to show leadership and to play a role on issues of international importance.

A recent poll conducted for DFAIT shows that Canadians still think of vacations, poverty and natural disasters when asked what comes to mind if Latin America is mentioned. The survey was conducted during the Hurricane Mitch disaster. Only 2% think of human rights violations and barely 1% think of trade opportunities.

More than 2200 Canadians are currently imprisoned abroad for various offences. Of these, 60% are in the United States and the rest in prisons in over 100 other countries.

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