

SUMMIT IN TOKYO; Canada's Leader Enters Global Arena

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TORONTO, July 6— Less than two weeks into her administration, Kim Campbell, the first woman to become Prime Minister of Canada, has a dream photo opportunity in Tokyo as the newest kid on the block of the Group of Seven.

Although she hopes to be around for many more summit meetings, her chief political opponent, the Liberal Party leader, Jean Chretien, quips that she merely has a "summer job" until the elections that must be called by fall.

Opinion polls indicate that the Tories still trail the Liberals, but a Gallup survey released last week suggested that Canadians thought she would make a better Prime Minister than Mr. Chretien. A Chance to Shine

While the summit meeting offers her a chance to shine before the elections, especially as the only woman, her every move and word will be amplified. Her biggest challenge may be to avoid tripping up.

As her recent Tory leadership campaign demonstrated, Ms. Campbell has a tendency to speak out, sometimes with excessive candor, and then regret it.

Still, the former Vancouver lawyer, who had served as Justice and Defense Minister in the earlier Progressive Conservative Government, left here confident she would look good compared with the other leaders, who all have their own problems.

The Japanese Prime Minister, Ki ichi Miyazawa, is on his way out of office after a defeat that led to the calling of elections later this month. Carlo Azeglio Ciampi of Italy is a transitional President. Prime Minister John Major of Britain has seen his popularity plummet. The Socialist Party of President Francois Mitterrand has collapsed. Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany has rising economic worries from German reunification.

At 46, Ms. Campbell is the same age as President Clinton, also facing his first Group of Seven summit meeting. The two North Americans represent a new generation of leadership. Knowledgeable About Russia

Although she has been cramming, the new Canadian chief already had a familiarity with some of the issues, including Russia's economic rehabilitation. Before turning to law, she studied Soviet politics and economics at the London School of Economics and later taught political philosophy in Vancouver. President Boris N. Yeltsin of Russia will join the meeting on Friday.

Ms. Campbell has sought to encourage a more open process of government, what she calls the "politics of inclusion," in which all elements of society would have their say in decision-making.

The ideas are a bit vague, but one example of her new style of leadership emerged on Sunday evening when she invited the provincial premiers to sit down with her for dinner to talk economics and summit preparations.

It was the first time a Prime Minister had coordinated with the provinces before attending the annual meeting. The encounter, which signaled a determination to work cooperatively to keep a lid on government spending, was intended to enhance her authority in Tokyo.

Canada's trade and monetary policies have generally won praise abroad. But its public debt, the highest of any major industrial country except Italy, has brought criticism. Promises End to Deficit

Ms. Campbell is now expected to tell her industrial country partners, who are Canada's main lenders, that the federal and provincial governments have seriously begun to cut back. She has promised elimination of the deficit in five years.

Eight of the 10 premiers attended. Ontario's Bob Rae declined, saying the dinner would just be a photo opportunity to help the Tories win re-election. Newfoundland's Clyde Wells failed to make a connecting flight in Halifax.

Before the dinner, Ms. Campbell was barnstorming Canada to help celebrate its national birthday, which came three days before Independence Day in the United States. A 23-hour odyssey saw her wake up in Ottawa, attend a sunrise ceremony in St. John's, Newfoundland, and a sunset ceremony in Vancouver. Her message: to build an "even better Canada."

All along, her political antennas have been high. Her first Cabinet meeting a week ago was taken up with talk about polls, trends and the preoccupations of Canadians, whose joblessness at more than 11 percent is half again as high as that of the United States, and worst of the Group of Seven countries.

She has also appeared to use to her political advantage a perceived slight by President Clinton, who did not give her advance notice of the American missile attack on Baghdad on June 26. Mulroney Was Close to U.S.

Her predecessor, Brian Mulroney, who prided himself on his close relationship with the United States, was usually the first ally whom American Presidents called when planning any major international action. Yet his closeness to the United States made him a target here and contributed to his low standing in the polls.

Mr. Clinton telephoned Ms. Campbell on June 25, the day of her inauguration, to congratulate her on her new job, but kept mum about the impending raid. A White House spokesman, Paul Clark, said in Washington that no slight was intended. "We did our best to contact as many leaders as possible," he said.

Canada's pique at being ignored was intimated by Foreign Minister Henry Perrin Beatty, who told reporters, "One hopes it won't happen again." Opposition spokesmen said the incident

<http://www.nytimes.com/1993/07/07/world/summit-in-tokyo-canada-s-leader-enters-global-arena.html>

showed that Canada was out of the loop and that Americans were now taking Canadian subservience for granted.

But Ms. Campbell instinctively played the matter down. Many analysts said she was not at all unhappy to see the loop loosen. This could help the Tories politically. To win over voters disaffected by Mr. Mulroney, Tories are trying to show that a Campbell Government is different.

"She was exploiting the chance," wrote Richard Gwyn, a columnist for the Toronto Star, "to edge herself out of her own loop with Mulroney."

Photo: Kim Campbell, the new Prime Minister of Canada. (Reuters)