

Japan and Canada review trade, investment opportunities

Canada and Japan recently concluded the second meeting of the Canada-Japan Joint Economic Committee, held in Tokyo. The committee, created under the terms of the "Framework for Economic Co-operation" signed by the two heads of government in 1976, reviewed international and bilateral economic issues.

The Canadian delegation included officials from the Departments of External Affairs; Agriculture; Industry, Trade and Commerce; Energy, Mines and Resources; and Finance.

Delegates affirmed the importance of successful conclusion to the Multilateral Trade Negotiations and exchanged views on the issues likely to be discussed at the upcoming UNCTAD V. Both delegations agreed that their countries would co-operate closely with each other and with other member countries of the forthcoming Tokyo Summit.

The Canadian side noted that opportunities existed for investment, trade, and economic co-operation with Japan in secondary manufacturing, specialized technologies, energy-intensive processing and up-grading facilities, energy and mineral resources, fisheries and consumer products. The Japanese delegation referred to its own growing market for manufactured products and both delegations welcomed the establishment of the Canada-Japan Business Co-operation Committee, whose next meeting would take place in Toronto in May.

The delegations reviewed the problems and opportunities in the trading of and investment in textiles, electronics, automobiles and parts, petrochemicals, aerospace and ocean industries. Canada welcomed the establishment by Japan of the Manufactured Imports Promotion Organization (MIPRO) at the World Import Mart in Ikebukuro, Tokyo, whose facilities will be used by the Canada Trade Centre.

The delegations also exchanged views on the demand/supply situation in forestry products in the two countries, and on trade and investments concerning such products. Both sides agreed to encourage further exchange of information on agricultural issues.

The delegations agreed to hold the next meeting of the Joint Economic Committee in Canada at a mutually convenient time in 1980.

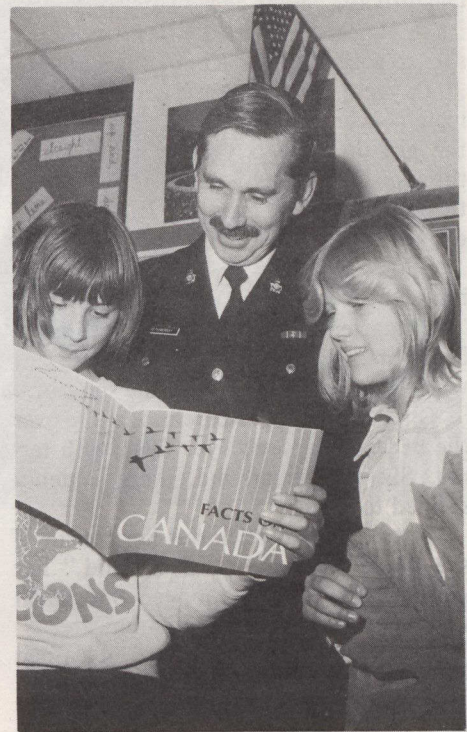
Facts on Canada

"The lessons on Canada were boring until you came along, but now I hope I can get a good grade."

That comment appeared in a recent letter from a sixth-grade student from Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S., to Canadian Forces Major Peter Keith-Murray, one of 65 Canadians assigned to Headquarters, North American Air Defense Command.

The study of Canada is part of the local sixth-grade social studies curriculum, and an appearance by Major Keith-Murray, aided by two 16mm colour films and teachers' kits made available by the Canadian Consulate in San Francisco, heightens understanding of the "northern neighbour".

Doug Blake (left) and Michelle Keil study a booklet on Canada, published by the Department of External Affairs, with Major Keith-Murray.



U.S. Air Force

Miraculous recovery makes headlines

A child who in early February fell into icy water, where she remained submerged for 15 to 30 minutes, has made a recovery that doctors at Victoria, British Columbia's Royal Jubilee Hospital thought impossible.

By all accounts, three-and-a-half-year-old Kimberley Vis was dead when a neighbour pulled her from the water below the ice in a ditch near her home in Port Alberni.

Physicians now say they were ready to give up the fight to save the unconscious youngster — her brain starved for oxygen, her lungs filled with fluid and her kidneys stopped. In fact, almost all of them call what happened a miracle.

The child is now alert and speaking. Her memory, personality and brain function appear unscarred.

"If it had been an adult, well, forget it," said anaesthetist Dr. John Green.

But young children retain a capability known as the "dive reflex" — first discovered in sea-going mammals which can dive to great depths and stay there for extended periods before surfacing for air. Blood circulation to the extremities stops and circulates only in the body core and brain, keeping the vital organs warm and oxygenated. In addition, a low body temperature slows body functions, reducing

the need for oxygen to as low as a quarter the normal level.

Dr. Green's former colleague, Dr. Matt Spence of New Zealand, discovered that rapidly rewarming a patient who had drowned in cold water did more harm than good because brain cells swell when deprived of oxygen. When warmed, the swollen cells die because they need even more oxygen.

Dr. Green credits Port Alberni doctors with making important initial attempts at resuscitation, including keeping the youngster cool. When she arrived in Victoria, her body temperature was 34 degrees Celsius, compared with the normal 37.

The doctor cooled Kimberley even more, then gave her an anaesthetic to reduce her brain's need for oxygen.

She lay in a state of virtual suspended animation for three days before the doctors decided to risk warming her in the hope that her brain had recovered from the long period without oxygen.

Her lungs, which were filled with stagnant water, had contracted pneumonia. Her kidneys — also affected by the lack of oxygen — had stopped.

Desperate measure succeeds

"I thought she was going to succumb to respiratory problems," Dr. Green said. "But we still had a heartbeat, so we de-