

## Politics

### Mulroney brings new faces into his Cabinet

Following his election victory last autumn, Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney has carried out an extensive reshuffle of his Cabinet. Six new ministers have been appointed, while 19 others have been given new or additional portfolios.

Lucien Bouchard has been appointed Minister of the Environment, an indication of the government's commitment to environmental issues; while former Defence Minister Perin Beatty has become Minister of National Health and Welfare. Joe Clark continues to hold the External Affairs portfolio.

Among the new ministers are two women: Mary Collins, who becomes Associate Minister of National Defence, and Kim Campbell, who has been made Minister of State for Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Both come from British Columbia.

At the same time Mulroney has reorganised the Cabinet committee structure and decision-making system in a bid to place more emphasis on tighter economic management and social policy.

## Museums

### Canada's national aeronautical collection gains new premises

Perhaps no nation on earth has relied so heavily on aviation as Canada. Since Canadians began the first commercial bush flying operations after the First World War, the aeroplane has played a key role in opening up the remote areas of the country.

It is therefore small wonder that, over the years, Canada has built up one of the finest aeronautical collections in the world. Yet until recently it was housed in World War II hangers which hardly did it justice.

Now the collection has a new home. The display of aircraft and aviation artifacts has been moved to a brand new facility at Rockliffe Airport just a few miles from the centre of Ottawa.

'Aviation is very special to Canadians and it has touched many of our lives,' says Robert Bradford, Associate Director of the National Aviation Museum. 'At long last we have a chance to appreciate this important part of our history.'

## Tourism

### New Canadian airline enters the leisure travel market

A new Canadian airline will be jetting holiday-makers across the Atlantic this summer. The recently formed Odyssey International plans to offer charter flights between Britain and Toronto from the beginning of May.



Odyssey will be flying from four relatively uncongested British airports, Stansted, Bristol, Leeds/Bradford and Newcastle, with its brand new Boeing 757s, and aims to offer the highest standards of cabin service. Meals, for instance, will be served on bone china and accompanied by Odyssey's own-label wines. Return fares will start at £199.

The services will be sold and marketed exclusively by Transcanadian Holidays, part of the Horley-based travel group, Target Marketing. Transcanadian offers holiday add-ons to the flights, such as car hire, camper and motor home hire and hotel voucher schemes.

Chief Executive of Transcanadian, Malcolm James, believes the current exchange rate makes Canada excellent value for money as a tourist destination. 'The Transcanadian / Odyssey combination will be unbeatable,' he says.

### Midlands gains better air links with Canada

Birmingham is to get a direct airlink with Canada this spring when Air Canada starts a twice-weekly scheduled service to Toronto. The Tuesday and Saturday flights will be operated by Lockheed 1011 or Boeing 767 aircraft.

Business people travelling on to the US will be able to clear US Customs and Immigration at Toronto Airport.

The new service reflects the importance of the Midlands in generating revenue for the airline. Passenger traffic between the UK and Canada has boomed since the signing of a new air agreement over a year ago, which permitted greater competition and has resulted in lower fares.

In another move, Air Canada has introduced a new fare level with an advanced-purchase requirement of 21 days, instead of the seven days required for the Maple Leaf Fare. The new SAPEX fares will offer return flights to eastern Canada for £288.

## Technology

### Canadian group invests millions in Lancashire cable TV

Maclean Hunter, the Toronto-based communications group, is to build a TV cable network in East Lancashire which will cover 168 000 homes. The Canadian firm will be putting up £10 million in equity and guaranteeing £20 million in loan finance for the scheme.

Maclean Hunter, whose other interests include publishing, printing and broadcasting, already has more than one million cable subscribers on its networks in Canada and the US. Cable TV is a mature and profitable concern in North America, and the company is by no means the first to look across the Atlantic for cable opportunities in the UK.

The group has set up a subsidiary, Cable Systems Development, to apply for more franchises in the UK. The Chairman of Cable Systems Development is a former Conservative Minister, Peter Blaker.



The Avro Canada C-102 established Canadian leadership in jet airliners. The first jet transport to fly in North America; it first flew on August 10, 1949, only two weeks behind the de Havilland Comet, exceeding 500mph within a few flights. The museum has the nose section on display, which is unfortunately the only major part of the aircraft remaining intact.