

Mexican president visits Canada

The President of Mexico, Miguel de la Madrid, arrived in Ottawa recently for a two-day official visit, his first such visit outside Latin America.

The 49-year-old president met twice with Prime Minister Trudeau, and they released a 10-page communiqué expressing concern at "the increasing tension, the regional arms race, destabilizing activities and the foreign military presence in Central America".

They warned that foreign intervention is undermining Mexican-led efforts to find peaceful solutions to conflicts in countries such as Nicaragua and El Salvador. Besides signing agreements to extend \$100-million of credit for Mexican purchases of Canadian



Mexican president Miguel de la Madrid (left) with Prime Minister Trudeau outside Mr. Trudeau's residence in Ottawa.

products, for promotion of tourism and to broaden trade in items such as fresh Mexican fruit and vegetables, officials agreed to resume talks on nuclear co-operation and more direct flights to Mexican sun spots.

The Mexican president delivered a 20-minute address to Parliament. He also met with a group of academics at Government House, the governor general's residence, where he stated that, before democracy flourishes, there must be peace for Central America and then economic expansion. Latin America needs markets for its products, not arms, from the rich industrial nations, he said.

Mr. de la Madrid praised Mr. Trudeau's international peace effort and Canada's support for the peacekeeping effort in Central America by Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama — known as the Contadora group after the Panamanian island where they met in January, 1983.

Agreements were also signed to ease customs clearance rules, to promote tourism, and for Mexico to buy urban transit equipment, telecommunications, agricultural, electrical utility and pulp and paper goods, and for Canada to buy more auto parts, fresh fruit and vegetables, and petrochemicals.

Mining centre established

A new centre to help Canada keep pace with technological trends in mining and exploration will be set up at the University of Ottawa.

The Centre for Geoscience Studies is a joint program of the university, Ottawa's Carleton University and Geological Survey of Canada.

The centre will bear the name of Duncan Ramsay Derry, a prominent Canadian in the field of economic geology. The research staff will include six principal investigators and four other scientists to train and retrain geologists in mineral exploration and geochemistry.

The team is headed by Jan Veizer, of the University of Ottawa geology department.

Law training centre established

University of Ottawa (U of O) law professors met with their Papua, New Guinea, counterparts recently to establish a law training centre for 13 Pacific nations.

The centre, to be attached to the University of Papua New Guinea's law school, would be the only such school in the South Pacific.

Under an agreement signed in October, the University of Ottawa will exchange staff, students, information and documentation with the Papua university. Bradford Morse, vice-dean of law, said the program may cost \$1 million over five years.

One aspect of the joint project is to train lawyers to draft legislation for South Pacific governments.

In addition, they would like to set up a computer library to receive legal information — statutes, regulations and court decisions — from all over the world. The library will be used by the region's lawyers, jurists, students and governments.

Part of the agreement has already been put into effect. Posman Kisakiu, a University of Papua teacher, is enrolled in the University of Ottawa's graduate legislative drafting program. He will be returning to Papua after the school year to begin establishing a legislative drafting program with the help of U of O law professors and researchers.

Logs for Expo 86



Nineteen giant western red cedar logs arrived recently in Vancouver intended for construction at Expo 86's Folklife Festival. The logs, felled in the Alberni region of Vancouver Island, will be used to form the roof beams, lintels and columns for the Native Theatre, a West Coast Indian longhouse.