

Canada-China dinosaur hunt

Canadian and Chinese scientists began a search for dinosaur fossils in the North this summer during a two-and-a-half week expedition to Axel Heiberg and Ellesmere, two of Canada's Arctic islands. Although no dinosaur fossils were uncovered, the scientists did find petrified wood and other plant fossils, invertebrate fossils and fossil remains of plesiosaurs, marine reptiles that lived during the age of the dinosaurs.

The expedition in the Canadian North was part of the Canada-China Dinosaur Project, organized by the Ex Terra Foundation of Edmonton. The Tyrell Museum of Paleontology in Drumheller, Alberta, the National Museum of Natural Sciences in Ottawa and the Chinese Institute of Paleontology and Paleo-Anthropology in Beijing are also involved.

As part of the exchange program, Canadian scientists will work in dinosaur beds in Xinjiang and Inner Mongolia in China in 1987 and 1988. Following completion of the scientific project, an exhibit which will include dinosaurs from the Alberta Badlands, the Chinese provinces of Szechuan and Hunan and from the Gobi Desert area, will travel to major museums throughout the world ■



John Major, The Citizen

Scientists on the expedition. Front row from left: Yu Chao (China), Brian Noble (Edmonton) and Dale Russell (Ottawa). Back row: Charles Gruchy (Ottawa) and Dong Zhiming (China). Philip Currie (Edmonton) is not in the photo.

Recent export controls

Following a review of Canada's export controls policy, new guidelines restricting sales of military and strategic goods were announced on September 10. While Canada is not a major manufacturer of offensive military equipment, it is an important producer of defensive military equipment, particularly of components and sub-assemblies of larger military systems.

Under the guidelines, military equipment cannot be exported to countries whose governments have a persistent record of serious violations of the human rights of their citizens, unless it can be demonstrated that there is no reasonable risk that the goods might be used against the civilian population.

The export of civilian strategic equipment is restricted to destinations proscribed by the Co-ordinating Committee on Multilateral Strategic Export Controls, whose membership includes Japan and most of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization ■

Canada Reports is published by the External Communications Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0G2.

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