Canadarm (Continued from P. 2)

sun heating tests. In each test the tail and then the nose were pointed to the sun for extended periods to see if the *Columbia* and the Canadarm could endure extreme temperatures. Surfaces on the side of the sun endured temperatures of 100 degrees Celsius while areas in the shade cooled down to about minus 130 degrees Celsius.

There had been some concern on the second day of the mission when the astronauts discovered that 37 of the silica tiles of the 30 000 which prevent the space shuttle from burning up on re-entry, had been torn away from the fuselage. None, however, had been damaged below the so-called sear line where the heat would be the greatest.

A fourth test flight is expected in June and provided all goes as expected, the shuttle will begin hauling cargo into space for military and commercial customers in November. At that time two satellites — one of them a Telesat Canada telecommunications satellite — are due to be carried into space.

NASA expects the successful third test of *Columbia* and Canadarm to generate more customer interest in the space shuttle but the 70 flights until September 1987 are fully booked with communications, weather and military satellites, planetary missions, science labs, and materials-processing payloads.

News briefs

Environment Minister John Roberts was the keynote speaker at a recent meeting of the United States National Wildlife Federation held in Milwaukee. Mr. Roberts speech on the subject of acid rain called for balanced and co-operative efforts to reduce acid rain which would result in benefits for both Canada and the United States.

The federal and Nova Scotia governments with the co-operation of industry, will establish a pilot plant to test technology for the construction and operation of an energy-efficient fluidized bed combustion generating plant. The pilot plant is planned as a preliminary and essential step in an over-all plan to build a 150 megawatt fluidized bed generating plant in Nova Scotia using this technology.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has signed a \$97.6-million (U.S.) financing agreement to support a sale by The de Havilland Aircraft of Canada





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Patients at the Rideau Veterans Home in Ottawa cuddle puppies as part of a program by the Ottawa Humane Society which brings small animals — puppies, kittens and rabbits to the home. The result is a mutually beneficial sharing of joy and affection. The program, started in 1980, is intended to help aging veterans practise their social skills and keep their minds active by "giving of themselves" to the homeless pets.

Limited of Downsview, Ontario to Egypt. The \$128-million (Cdn.) sale of ten *Buffalo* aircraft, spare parts and product support services is expected to generate 2 770 person-years of employment mainly at The de Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited.

Federal tourism minister Charles Lapointe has announced a \$5.4-million Prince Edward Island tourism development program and a \$900 000 industrial development program. Both are part of a \$92.2-million federal economic development strategy for P.E.I. originally announced last October by the federal and provincial governments.

The Special Parliamentary Committee on the Disabled and the Handicapped has produced two publications designed to advance the cause of disabled people in Canada. The first is a streamlined school edition of its *Obstacles* report which presents profiles of disabled people across the country along with some of the committee's recommendations to the government on improving conditions for the disabled. The second publication is entitled, *Follow-up Report: Native Population*, which addresses the special problems of disability among Canada's native people.

Quebec and New York State have signed a 13-year, \$6-billion hydroelectric power export contract. Hydro-Quebec and the Power Authority of the State of New York are exploring new ways of financing substantial capital costs of major hydro-electric developments.

A University of Waterloo professor has sold the rights to his technology for converting agricultural and forest wastes into animal food supplements to a French company. Innotech will pay \$2 million for the rights to the process which will be used in its conversion plants in Europe. The process, developed by Murray Mooryoung, a chemical engineering professor at the university, uses fermenting containers and a fungus to break down undigestible husks, leaves and wood into a high-quality protein supplement animals.

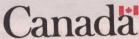
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