
Hostage situation (Cont'd. from P. 2)

asures from the draft Security Council Resolution of January 10, which the Government, in concert with European Economic Community governments and other countries, has decided is appropriate to the circumstances.

In putting forward the legislation, Dr. MacGuigan emphasized that these new measures are in no way meant to indicate hostility towards the Iranian Government and people, with whom Canada wishes to have friendly relations. Rather their purpose is to underline that breaches of international law of the magnitude of the hostage-taking in Iran inevitably erode cooperative links between the country perpetrating that breach and the rest of the international community. They are also meant to indicate Canada's concern about the humanitarian aspects of detaining persons in this way for so long.

The action under the Export and Import Permits Act in line with the draft Security Council Resolution of January 10 and the actions of like-minded countries, provides that export permits will normally be denied except for the shipment of food, medicine, medical supplies, other humanitarian goods and certain personal items. Export permit applications for any shipments to Iran will need to be made to the Office of Special Import Policy of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

The Government will follow closely developments in the hostage crisis in the hope that the election of a new Parliament and the appointment of a new Government in Iran will facilitate the release of the hostages. Once the hostages are released, the Government will act to remove the restrictions imposed by the measures in the legislation and by the implementation of export controls against Iran.

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News briefs

The Federal Government has awarded a \$20-million contract jointly to Boeing of Canada Ltd., Arnprior, and Boeing Vertol Co. of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for work on the second phase of the Canadian Armed Forces SARCUP project. SARCUP (search and rescue capability upgrade project) involves the upgrading of 11 Boeing helicopters and an improved maritime search and rescue standard by mid-1984. First phase of the program, begun in 1978, involved navigation avionics, improvements in communication and the installation of high-powered searchlights.

Great Lakes Forest Products Ltd. of Thunder Bay, Ontario, will receive a \$38-million grant from the Ontario and federal governments to assist it in a five-year, \$335-million capital expenditure program to modernize its plants at Thunder Bay and Dryden, Ontario. Great Lakes will spend \$245 million to rehabilitate existing equipment at Dryden, and \$90 million for environmental projects and upgrading newsprint operations at Thunder Bay.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has announced the signing of a one-year \$5-million (U.S.) line of credit with the Bank Leumi Le-Israel B.M., to finance up to 85 per cent of the sale price of Canadian goods and services. The line of credit is intended to assist Canadian exporters competing for sales in Israel by providing the Israeli buyer with a simple and easily accessible credit facility available through the buyer's own bank. EDC expects that the main beneficiaries of this facility will be small- and medium-size Canadian manufacturing companies. Contracts for sales from Canada will be considered for loan support on a case-by-case basis.

Under a new program designed to encourage undergraduate students in Canadian universities to pursue research as a career path, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council has awarded 1,000 grants totalling \$2 million. The NSERC awards provide Canadian citizens and landed immigrants registered in an honours bachelor's degree program in the natural sciences or engineering with an opportunity to gain research experience by participating in a research program at the Canadian university of their choice during their four-month (summer) break from regular studies. The awards are

valued at \$550 a month plus possible travel allowance and may be supplemented by the host university, department or supervisor.

The National Energy Board has announced that it will hold an inquiry this autumn into the supply of oil, natural gas and other forms of energy in relation to the domestic demand for all forms of energy, and the supply/demand balances for hydrocarbons and electricity.

A survey of 118 companies showed that in the first quarter after-tax operating earnings totalled \$2 billion, up 52.2 per cent from \$1.31 billion in the corresponding period last year. The strongest sectors were oil and gas, mines, and textiles and chemicals. Improved product prices and the low value of the dollar were cited by many firms for the advance in earnings. The only sectors to post overall declines in profits were trust and finance companies and utilities, both due to soaring interest rates.

General Motors of Canada plans to spend \$250 million on its St. Catharines, Ontario axle plant to produce front-wheel-drive transmission components. President F.A. Smith said that by 1983 the plant will be the only GM supplier of the components. A spokesman said that employment at the plant would remain unchanged.

The Canadian Government has selected Blind River near Sudbury in northern Ontario as the site for construction of its new uranium refining facility. Construction will be carried out by Eldorado Nuclear Limited, a federal Crown corporation. Canada is the second largest producer and the largest exporter of uranium in the world.

Alexander McDonald, a former leader of the Liberal party in Saskatchewan, died recently in Ottawa. He was 61. Mr. McDonald, who was chairman of the Canadian NATO Parliamentary Association was Liberal leader in Saskatchewan from 1954 to 1959 and held his seat in the legislature until 1965 when he was appointed to the Senate.

Canadian Cliff Thorburn recently became the first player from outside Britain to capture the world professional snooker championship. Thorburn of Toronto took the title beating Alex Higgins of Northern Ireland in the final night of the two-week event held in London, England. Thorburn, who was runner-up in the 1977 championship, collected \$35,000 for the win.