



At the conclusion of the inauguration of an agreement between the Canadian University Services Overseas (CUSO) and Thailand's Department of Technical and Economic Co-operation (DTEC) to implement a project to assist citizens living in north-east border regions of Thailand, DTEC's Director General Apilas Ostananda (l) and Canadian Ambassador Fred Bild shake hands. Director of CUSO Thailand, Paul Turcot, looks on.

Canadian University Services Overseas (CUSO) entered into an agreement with Thailand's Department of Technical and Economic Co-operation (DTEC) in October to implement a \$3.5-million project to assist citizens living in north-east border regions of Thailand.

The project is designed to achieve integrated village development in Surin province by increasing productive employment in rural areas. The rural people themselves will participate in establishing priorities, creating plans, and the management of programs. Individual programs will consist of interrelated components, including health, education, agricultural development, and income-generating activities. Villagers, young and old alike, will be actively enlisted, with a resulting improvement to the quality of life of some 30,000 Thai citizens living in 53 villages along the Thai-Kampuchea border.

The funding to carry out this project will be provided over a four-year term by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), while the implementation will be conducted jointly by CUSO, on behalf of Canada, and DTEC, on behalf of Thailand.

Ambassador Fred Bild, who represented the Government of Canada at the inauguration ceremony held at DTEC, said that he was most pleased to see this concrete demonstration of concern for Thai citizens who have borne the brunt of the continuing refugee problem along Thailand's eastern border. He also said it is hoped that the project will double the incomes of the villagers involved while providing expanded health care facilities, assisting schools, and improving water resources in the area. But, most important, it is planned that this project be both self-generating and

self-sustaining so that the Thai people will continue to benefit in the future.

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The Senior Vice-President of **de Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited**, Mr. Douglas Annan, visited Thailand for three days early in December, 1981 to meet members of the Thai aviation community.

De Havilland produces a range of short take-off and landing aircraft for civilian and military use, including the DASH-7, the Twin Otter, and the Buffalo.

Elsewhere in ASEAN, the Indonesian company P.T. Pelita Services is scheduled to take delivery this month of the first

of three DASH-7 aircraft purchased to serve in the country's oil operations.

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The National Defence College of Canada is visiting Thailand in late January as part of its field study tour of Asia and Africa.

Led by the commandant of the college, Major General L.V. Johnson, the 52-member group will receive briefings on the political, economic and military situations in the region from the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Security Council, and the staff of the Canadian Embassy.

The National Defence College is the senior Canadian government institution for learning and development for senior Canadian Forces' officers and executives from both the private and public sectors in Canada.

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Thailand's new **Ambassador to Canada** is Mr. Vitthaya Vejajiva who has replaced H.E. Chinda Attanan. Mr. Vitthaya is a 45-year-old lawyer who trained at Cambridge and later at Harvard where he received his Masters of Law. His previous overseas assignments included Singapore and London.

In the Foreign Ministry Mr. Vitthaya has worked within the Treaty and Legal Department, Political Department and Passport Department. He was Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs from 1973-75 and subsequently Director of the Policy and Planning Division. Prior to being named Ambassador to Canada Mr. Vitthaya was Director-General of the ministry's Economic Department. He is married to Mrs. Orasa Vitthaya.



Mr. Douglas Annan (l), Senior Vice-President of de Havilland Aircraft of Canada Ltd., uses a model to describe the Buffalo aircraft to the Managing Director of Thai Airways Co., Air Marshal Prayuth Prachoubmor, and the newly-appointed Thai Ambassador to Canada, Mr. Vitthaya Vejajiva (r) at a reception in Bangkok.