

issues including Cambodia and the large number of refugees in Thailand. Mr. Clark announced that Canada would increase its humanitarian assistance to the non-Communist elements of the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea and would contribute an additional \$2.7 million in multilateral aid to Thailand this year to aid Indochinese refugees along the Thai-Kampuchean border. The funds are being made available through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) which will provide \$1 million to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, \$1 million to the United Nations Border Relief Operation and \$700 000 for the International Committee of the Red Cross.

In addition Mr. Clark said that Canada has already accepted some 100 000 refugees from Southeast Asia and "will continue to do our fair share in the future". He added: "In this regard, we attach a very high importance to maintaining a dialogue with ASEAN countries concerning all issues surrounding refugee settlement policies."

During his visit to Thailand, Mr. Clark visited a Cambodian refugee camp on the Thai-Cambodian border, where there are thousands of Cambodian refugees and displaced Thais.

Economic progress

Discussions also focussed on international economic issues and on recent economic developments in the Pacific region. Mr. Clark underlined the importance Canada attaches to the economic progress and stability of ASEAN and the wider Asia/Pacific region as well as Canada's need to expand commercial links with the area.

Both at the conference and in meetings with ASEAN leaders, Mr. Clark stressed that the issues of global trade and finance were



Mr. Clark surveys components for motor graders at the opening of the Champthai manufacturing plant, a joint venture between Canada and Thailand.

of vital importance to the future prosperity of all countries and emphasized "the high priority that Canada places on building international consensus to rejuvenate the multilateral trading system".

ASEAN-Canada trade reached almost \$1.5 billion (Cdn) last year. ASEAN exports to Canada increased more rapidly than Canadian exports to ASEAN, resulting in an almost balanced two-way trade flow.

Taxation agreement

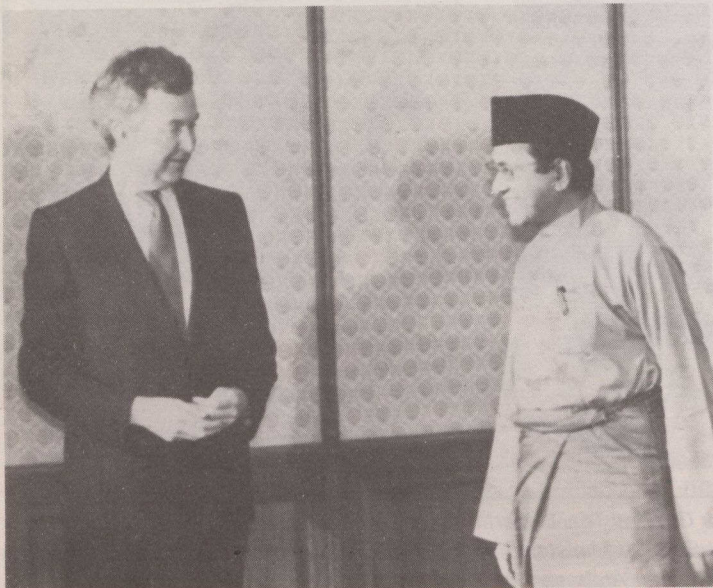
In Thailand, Mr. Clark signed a double taxation agreement to assist and encourage businessmen to increase commerce between Canada and Thailand. Canadian businesses are particularly active in the development of the energy, transportation and communications technology sectors of the Thai eco-

nomy. Recent agreements include contracts for two Canadian companies, Babcock and Wilcox and Combustion Engineering, to supply seven boilers at the Mae Moh project.

On July 15 in Bangkok, with Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila, Mr. Clark officially opened the Champthai manufacturing plant. It is joint venture, 49 per cent owned by Champion Road Machinery Group Limited of Goderich, Ontario and 51 per cent by Italthai Group of Thailand.

Initially the plant will manufacture parts for certain components used in motor graders that are built at Champion's Canadian plant. Eventually complete motor graders will be produced in Thailand using components made in Canada; they will be sold in Thailand and throughout Southeast Asia.

Mr. Clark remarked that "the overall lower



Mr. Clark with Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamad in Malaysia and with President Soeharto in Indonesia.