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## Algerian minister visits Canada

Algeria's Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Salim Saadi paid an official visit to Canada, November 24-30. Minister of Agriculture Eugene Whelan acted as official host for the visit, which focused on agricultural co-operation and exchanges between Canada and Algeria.

Mr. Saadi visited Ottawa, Manitoba and Montreal. As joint chairman of the Canada-Algeria Joint Commission, he also met with Canadian government officials to discuss their over-all bilateral relationship.

Exchanges between the two countries have increased remarkably over the past decade. In 1982, Algeria advanced to thirteenth among Canada's economic partners in the world.

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## Whale of a tale



*Gigantic outsized whale bones are being dug up in Gloucester, near Ottawa. Why Ottawa? Apparently 15 years ago, staff at the Museum of Natural Sciences buried an entire carcass of a blue whale and parts of several killer whales. Because scientists had no efficient way to clean the flesh from the bones, the whales were buried so that nature would take its course and the flesh would decompose naturally. Museum director David Campbell stressed that the whales which had been washed ashore were already dead of natural causes long before being harpooned into the service of science.*

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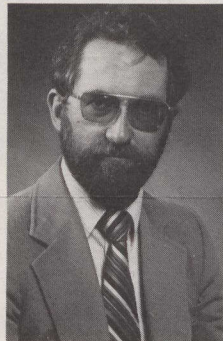
## New research centre

Michael Caughey, vice-president of technology and design resources at Ottawa's Mitel Corp., has taken an eight-month leave of absence from the telecommunications company to become the first president of the newly-formed Ottawa-Carleton Research Institute, a research co-operative which will carry out studies in microelectronics, communications and computers.

A long-term president of the institute is to be appointed by July 1, 1984. The institute will use the talents of students and faculty from Carleton University, the University of Ottawa and Algonquin College — all located in Ottawa — for research projects related to the high-technology industry.

Researchers will work closely with industrial affiliates of the institute — companies which will pay an annual fee to share the results of new research and make suggestions for projects of interest to the hi-tech industry.

Mr. Caughey said his first priority will be to contact federal and provincial government funding agencies to give the institute a firm financial base. Local industry, government and the three academic institutions have already contributed \$122 000 in seed money for the institute.



Michael Caughey

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## Line of credit with Mexico

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has signed a \$20-million (US) line of credit agreement with Nacional Financiera, S.A. (Nafinsa) and a \$10-million (US) line of credit agreement with Banco Nacional de Comercio Exterior, S.A. (BNCE) to support the sale of Canadian goods and services to Mexico.

The line of credit agreements will help Canadian exporters competing for sales in Mexico by providing their public or private sector buyers with simple and easily accessible credit facilities for small transactions through Nafinsa and BNCE.

Nafinsa, established in 1934, is Mexico's national development bank. BNCE is owned by the Mexican federal government.

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## Trade mission to Pacific Rim

Canada's Minister for International Trade Gerald Regan headed a trade mission of 15 Canadian businessmen to Australia and New Zealand recently.

The purposes of the mission were to seek out opportunities for increased Canadian sales in these markets and to enhance the perception by Australians and New Zealanders of Canada as a secure and reliable supplier of sophisticated and high quality manufactured goods.

He began his visit in Perth where he officially opened a new Canadian consulate, Canada's fourth trade post in Australia and met with senior members of the government.

In Canberra, Mr. Regan met with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade Lionel Bowen. Both ministers reaffirmed the strong desire of their countries to expand their trade relationship, particularly to develop their potential in high technology and defence equipment manufacturing. They also stressed the need for stronger commercial, industrial and technical links between the private sectors in Canada and Australia.

One of the most important results of the discussions concerned the Canada-Australia Trade Agreement. Both ministers have asked that officials explore the question of the stability and security of the preferential tariff arrangements that exist under the agreement, which provide an incentive for both countries to increase bilateral trade.

Mr. Regan also visited Sydney and Brisbane where several successful discussions took place leading possibly to sales of high technology products, including Telidon. Discussions could also result in new joint ventures for the production of oil and gas equipment, industrial co-operation in the Submarine Replacement Program and the procurement of armoured personnel transport equipment.

In Melbourne, at a "round table" sponsored by the Victoria Chamber of Manufacturers, Mr. Regan held frank discussions with 15 senior Australian businessmen on the possibilities of increased mutual industrial co-operation.

In New Zealand, Mr. Regan visited a number of senior businessmen to discuss Canadian interests in several major capital projects.

He also met with Prime Minister Muldoon and other senior Cabinet ministers, including New Zealand's Minister of Trade Warren Cooper.