

78th Inter-Parliamentary Meet

The 78th Inter-Parliamentary Conference met in Bangkok in October with more than 100 countries attending.

The Canadian delegation of 12 Members of Parliament, Senators and Officials was led by Mr. Benno Friesen, Chairman of the Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. The Deputy Leader was Senator Lorne Bonnell.

The Conference agenda included major

discussions on several substantive items grouped under the general headings of promotion of human rights, and the resolution of the problem of refugees and displaced persons; implementation of independence for colonial countries and peoples, and elimination of apartheid and all forms of racism; and review and debate of the political, economic and social situation of the world.

In recognition of the importance of refugee issues, the Canadian delegation visited a refugee processing centre near Bangkok. Their first-hand observations and briefings are intended to provide background information for use in Canadian Parliamentary reviews of refugee policy.

PHILIPPINES

CIDA funds studies

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has recently funded four additional studies for Philippine concerns. All the studies are being carried out by Canadian consulting engineering firms.

• Monenco-Semirara Coal Corp.

The mining division of Monenco, a Calgary-based company, has been requested to submit a proposal for operational mine planning at the government-owned Semirara Coal Corp.'s producing Unong mines site.

This proposal follows two other projects carried out by Monenco for Semirara. In March 1987, Monenco provided the mine with consulting services regarding coal seam correlation and late last year, Monenco was awarded a five-part coal specification study.

It included a review and validation of existing data on Semirara's three coal reserve sites; mine development planning studies; determination of the coal specifications to be used in the design of the new Calaca 11-300MW coal-fired power project; and estimates for material handling requirements and investment and unit production costs.

• Stothert/C.D. Shultz- PICOP

The modernization and expansion prospects of Paper Industries Corp. of the Philippines (PICOP) will be studied by Vancouver-based firms, Stothert Management Ltd. and C.D. Shultz and Co.

C.D. Shultz will provide detailed statistical and analytical data on the entire wood supply component of PICOP with recommendations for improving management of the resource and expanding wood supply operations.

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Randy Raine-Reush playing the Dulcimer in Manila.

Playing ancient instruments

A novel musical performance awaited Manila audiences of Randy Raine-Reush, a Canadian instrumentalist who specializes in ancient instruments.

Performing at the Cultural Centre of the Philippines, the National Arts Centre and the University of the Philippines, Randy delighted audiences with his original compositions set to such ancient in-

struments as the Hkaen, the Zheng, the Dulcimer, the Pianolin, the Glass Harmonica, and the Kulintang.

Randy's Manila tour, which enabled him to further his research into ethnic music, was made possible by a special grant from the Department of External Affairs.