

Relations with Solomon Islands

The Secretary of State for External Affairs has announced that Canada and the Solomon Islands, which recently achieved independence, have established diplomatic relations.

Canada will accredit its High Commissioner in Australia, J. Alan Beesley, as High Commissioner to the Solomon Islands. The Solomon Islands will, at a later date, decide upon the matter of its accreditation to Canada.

New work for successful satellite

Having met its design lifetime objective of two years, *Hermes*, Canada's experimental satellite, is operating so well that plans for a bonus third year of experiments are being implemented.

Hermes was launched at 6:27 p.m., January 17, 1976, from the Kennedy Space Center in Florida under a joint Canada-U.S. program in which Canada had designed and built the spacecraft and the United States had provided its experimental, high-power transmitting tube and carried out the launch. Both countries have used the satellite for experiments in teleconferencing, community interaction, broadcasting, telemedicine, tele-education, government operations, computer communications and communications and spacecraft technology.

In Canada, 21 of 26 experiments have now been completed, with another two in progress and a third yet to begin. Twenty-one new proposals for using *Hermes* during 1978 are before an independent evaluation committee, chaired by Dr. H.E. Duckworth, president of the University of Winnipeg.

The next phase in federal plans to foster introduction of such new social applications of advanced technology satellites will be the *Anik-B* program. Using communications capacity leased from Telesat Canada and the Telesat spacecraft *Anik-B*, to be launched late this year, a series of pilot projects will be undertaken. They will be limited in number and will last longer than the comparatively short and more diversified *Hermes* experiments. *Anik-B* will thus help bridge the gap between the experimental demonstration of new applications by *Hermes* and their introduction as commercial service offerings.

Atlantic salmon under study

Funds totalling \$1.25 million from the Canada Works program will be available for work directed towards the enhancement of the Atlantic salmon fishery in the Maritimes and Newfoundland during the current fiscal year.

Approximately \$750,000 will be spent in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia on design and feasibility studies for new salmon hatcheries.

Part of the funds, also, will be used to complete the new fishway at Tusket River Falls, Nova Scotia, and some \$100,000 will be devoted to major fish-passage feasibility studies on the Nepisiguit and Tetagouche Rivers in New Brunswick.

As well as specific projects, some \$150,000 of the Canada Works funds will be spent on general surveys of stream obstructions and fish habitats in New Brunswick. Almost \$500,000 will be spent on similar studies in Newfoundland.

The projects are part of a comprehensive review and analysis of the Atlantic salmon fisheries started last year by the Federal Government. The review, expected to be completed later this year, is examining the biological, economic and social factors associated with the Atlantic salmon fishery and will lay the groundwork for a comprehensive management plan.

Commercial fishing for Atlantic salmon in the New Brunswick and Quebec-Gaspé areas has been banned since 1972 as a conservation measure.

Trial of Soviet dissidents

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Don Jamieson, expressed concern on July 12 that the Soviet Union had chosen to ignore Canada's offer to accept Anatoly Shcharansky and to proceed with his trial. The fact that Mr. Shcharansky's attempt to emigrate to Israel and to monitor Soviet implementation of the Helsinki Final Act had led to charges of treason, could not but have serious negative consequences for *détente*, Mr. Jamieson said.

The trial directly contravenes the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act by which all signatories agreed to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms. In question also is the commitment of the Soviet Union to the Final Act and the process of *détente* that is linked to it.

The presence in Canada of a number of Mr. Shcharansky's relatives and wide Canadian concern for him make it inevitable that Canada-U.S.S.R. relations will suffer as a result of the trial.

At a time when we should be working towards increasing confidence and eliminating sources of tension, the repeated trials of Soviet citizens for activities in defence of their basic human rights were harmful and counter-productive in that they served only to foster distrust, said the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

The Canadian Government was equally concerned to learn that Alexander Ginzburg had been brought to trial on July 10.



Dr. B.B. Migicovsky (left), former Assistant Deputy Minister for Research at Agriculture Canada, has been elected to fellowship in the Royal Society of Canada. By the time of retirement in 1977, he had earned an international reputation for research in extraction of radioactive particles from milk, on cholesterol and on the importance of vitamin D.

Dr. Migicovsky joins a select group of distinguished Canadians who included Sir William Dawson, first president of McGill University, Montreal; Louis Fréchette, poet; Sir Sandford Fleming, engineer and originator of Standard Time, and Sir William Osler, physician. He is one of the few agricultural researchers in the world who is well-known in medical circles.