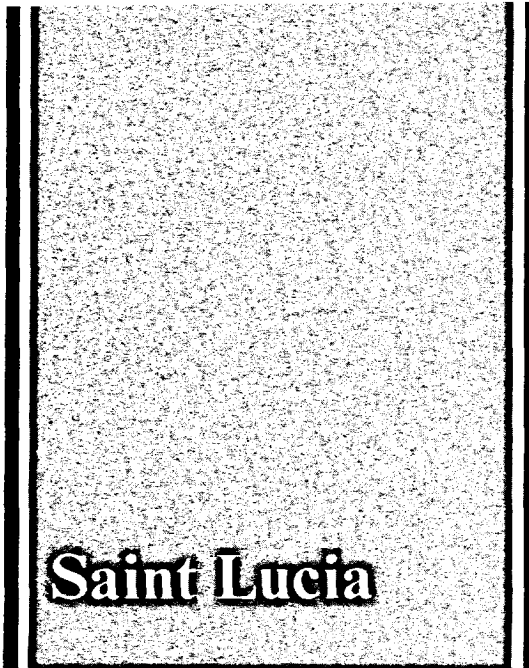




Saint Lucia

Population:	125,500
Capital:	Castries
Head of Government:	The Right Honourable John Compton
Gross National Product:	US\$34.9 million (1982)
Per capita GNP:	US\$1,075 (1982)

Canada/St Lucia Relations: Canada is viewed very favourably in St Lucia, both by the government and by the public. Canadian investment in St Lucia is substantial, particularly in the banking and tourism industries. There is a direct air link and some 20,000 Canadians visit the island annually. Canada and St Lucia recently signed a bilateral air transportation agreement. In 1984, CIDA spent close to \$2.1 million in St Lucia. The Canadian development assistance program is focussed primarily on forestry, fisheries, agriculture and drinking water supply. The largest project to date, the construction of the Hewanorra air terminal building, has just been completed.

The Right Honourable John Melville Compton, Prime Minister: Born in St Vincent in 1929, John Melville Compton studied in St Lucia and in England. He is married and has five children. First elected to the Legislature in 1953 as a member of the St Lucia Labour Party, he broke with the SLP in 1961 and founded his own party, which later joined the main opposition party to form the United Workers' Party (UWP), under Mr Compton's leadership. The UWP won the 1964 election, and Mr Compton headed the government until St Lucia gained independence in 1979. Defeated by Allan Louisy's SLP party in 1979, Mr Compton was returned to power in May 1982, winning 14 out of 17 seats.