

Relations established with Guinea

Canada has established diplomatic relations with the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan has announced.

Canada's Chargé d'Affaires a.i. at the United Nations J. Reid Morden and the Permanent Representative to the United Nations of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea Ambassador Carmelo Nvono-Nca, signed a joint *communiqué* on August 20 stating their governments' decision to establish diplomatic relations.

The ceremony represents another step in the development of relations between the two countries which were officially initiated in 1968 following the Republic of Equatorial Guinea's accession to the United Nations. The Canadian Ambassador to be accredited to the Republic of Equatorial Guinea will be resident in Yaoundé, Cameroun.

Canadian food aid to East Africa

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan has repeated his appeal to members of the World Food Council to make more emergency food aid supplies available to African countries affected by drought.

Mr. Whelan first made the appeal early in June to the World Food Council meeting in Arusha, Tanzania. To back up his appeal, Mr. Whelan announced the commitment by the Canadian government, of \$10.5 million in Canadian food aid to five countries seriously affected by the African drought.

Canada is contributing wheat valued at \$3 million to Tanzania, \$1.5 million to Ethiopia, and \$1.5 million to Mozambique. Wheat flour valued at \$3 million and \$1.5 million will be sent to Somalia and the Sudan. This aid will be provided through the Canadian International Development Agency.

Mr. Whelan stressed the importance of directing aid to those countries hardest hit by the drought. He appealed to all countries and international agencies to undertake special emergency food assistance to Uganda, Somalia, Zambia, Kenya, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Botswana and the Sahelian countries. As a long-term solution, Mr. Whelan proposed that priority assistance be given to these countries to help them prepare and implement their own national food strategies.

Provisions for lifting discrimination

The federal government, where requested to do so by Band councils, will suspend certain sections of the Indian Act which discriminate against Indian women, who marry non-Indians, and their children.

The Indian Act now provides that, where Indian women marry non-Indians, they and their children lose the legal status and rights of Indians. However, where Indian men marry non-Indians, their status as Indians is unaffected and their spouses gain Indian status.

"This situation has come under attack from many quarters, both among Indian people and among non-Indians," said Minister of Indian Affairs John Munro.

"In light of this situation, the government feels that it must be prepared to act upon the wishes of Indian Bands. If they desire changes in this provision now and request the government to act, we will endeavour to accommodate them," he said.

The Indian Act has had for some time the provision that the government may declare that any portion of the act does not apply to any Indians or group or Band of Indians. In particular circumstances, this provision has been applied from time to time.

Petro-Canada adopts logo

Petro-Canada, a federal Crown corporation, will put its name on 420 service stations that it inherited with the purchase of Pacific Petroleum Limited of Calgary two years ago.

The red-lettered logo, printed on the white background of a stylized maple leaf, will be imprinted on credit cards later this year as well as being used on products, vehicles and marketing paraphernalia. The need for the new corporate identification arose from the terms of the \$1.7-billion acquisition, which permitted the use of the Pacific 66 trademark until 1980.

Andrew Janisch, Petro-Canada president, said that no plans exist at this time to expand retailing of gasoline or other refined products east of Thunder Bay. However, the possibility of such future expansion "has not been ruled out".

Petro-Canada's service stations now account for about 5 per cent of the gasoline market in the four western provinces.

Its sole refinery at Taylor, British Columbia, is currently being enlarged by 4,000 barrels a day, at a cost of about \$12 million, to a capacity of 22,000 barrels a day of gasoline and distillates.

EDC signs financial protocol with Yugoslavia



The Export Development Corporation (EDC) and the government of Yugoslavia signed a \$500-million (U.S.) financial protocol recently calling for the establishment of lines of credit between EDC and the Association of Yugoslav banks. At the signing ceremony are (from left to right): Dimitrije Culafic, Counsellor, Embassy of Yugoslavia; Mitko Calovski, Yugoslavia's Ambassador to Canada; Sylvain Cloutier, chairman of the board and president of EDC; and Verne McKay, EDC's executive vice president and chief operating officer.