

stability. The test results are displayed in graph form on the computer display. The physician is able to obtain a "hardcopy" of the results from the attached printer. The doctor has the option of leaving the data in the computer memory for retrieval at a later date.

The Genucom is being used in one Montreal institution, and very shortly will be moved into a new sports clinic opening in the Montreal area. Also, a 100-patient study is being conducted in Toronto. Thus far, the results indicate that the Genucom is a beneficial diagnostic tool that before long will have wide applications.

The device costs approximately \$60 000 and is available to any physician, sports clinic, sports team or researcher.

Previously, the physician's assessment of knee injuries has been mainly subjective. The patient would complain of painful or unstable knees and the physician would manually manipulate the knee in order to determine the extent of the instability.

Most sports-related injuries occur at the knee joint. They may account for up to 70 per cent of all injuries in a sport, depending upon which sport. Classical treatment has been with bracing, muscular rehabilitation and/or reconstructive surgery. "The treatment depends upon the extent of the injury," says Dr. Fraser, "this new device may mean significantly less guesswork by the physician and much less unnecessary suffering for the patient."

### Aid for protection of world environment

Canada will make an initial contribution of \$200 000 to the World Commission on Environment and Development, it was announced recently.

Set up by the United Nations thirty-eighth General Assembly last fall, the World Commission on Environment and Development will recommend an agenda for action to protect or enhance the environment into the next century, and to increase international environmental awareness and co-operation. The issues addressed by the Commission concern both developed and developing countries, and include acid rain, the management of toxic wastes, deforestation, and the expansion of deserts into previously fertile areas.

The chairperson of the World Commission is Dr. Gro Harlem Brundtland, former prime minister of Norway, and the vice-chairperson is Mansour Khalid, former deputy prime minister of Sudan. Both have been

involved at the highest level in environment and development issues.

The selection of other commissioners is under way, and Canada is represented by Maurice Strong.

The first meeting of the World Commission took place at its Geneva headquarters in May.

The departments of the Environment and External Affairs have supported the establishment of the World Commission, which has been invited to hold a meeting in

Canada. Consultation will take place with the scientific, environment and development communities, federal and provincial officials, industry and the Canadian public in preparation for this meeting.

The report of the World Commission will be completed in two years and will then be considered by international organizations and national governments. In addition to Canada's contribution, funding will come from the voluntary contributions of other governments, and from private sources.

### Canadian-made farm machinery to Sudan



James Seeley

Four-wheel-drive tractor being loaded in Montreal harbour for shipment to Sudan.

The freighter *Hinglaj* left recently from Montreal carrying \$750 000 worth of Canadian-made farm machinery.

The cargo of four-wheel-drive tractors, combines, ploughs and trucks is destined for the Clay Plains of the Eastern Sudan in North Africa.

The equipment will be used on a 4 000-hectare mechanized farm run by Agrodev Canada Inc., a private Ottawa-based agricultural consulting firm specializing in food and livestock production in lesser developed countries.

The \$12-million Sudan project, funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), is assigned to help the Sudanese people produce sorghum, their main food crop, and train them to operate and maintain modern farm machinery, said Nelson Bevard, an Agrodev vice-president.

While the Sudan should eventually be able to export part of its sorghum crop, thus earning foreign currency, the project also benefits Canadian farm-equipment manufacturers. Mr. Bevard said more than

60 per cent of the equipment and materials used to build houses and water and power systems is Canadian-made.

The Clay Plains project, now in its third year, will be turned over to the Sudanese government in December 1986. By that time Bevard expects the farm to have produced five crops.

With about 20 employees in total, Agrodev, a wholly owned subsidiary of Vancouver-based Envirocon Ltd. since it was brought out two years ago, is small compared to many of the large consulting companies in Canada, the United States and Europe who aggressively compete for funding from CIDA and other world funding agencies. However, it gets a good share of the grants.

Agrodev is running a livestock and pasture rehabilitation program in an overgrazed area of northeast China under the United Nations Development Program. The company also operates agricultural development projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America.