

sist of short features on subjects of interest to specific target areas.

#### **Recorded programs**

RCI also uses its recorded programs to assist the careers of Canadian singers, composers and musicians. It produces 90 music albums a year, divided equally between pop and serious music. Most of these are by young Canadian performers making their recording debuts. In the past, these efforts have yielded impressive results. Glenn Gould, Maureen Forrester and Oscar Peterson are just some of the Canadian artists first recorded by RCI.

More recently, RCI has been active in promoting Canadian music through its massive *Anthology of Canadian Music* series, which, when complete, will include 300 recorded works by 36 composers, together with biographical material and background notes. RCI also uses its shortwave services to promote concerts by Canadian artists in its various target areas. "We are not in competition with the industry," RCI's director Betty Zimmerman said, "but we believe that supporting Canadian artists is one of our most important roles. We will do everything we can to lend our support, and we're happy to do co-productions with anyone." In 1981, the Canadian Music Council presented RCI with its Firm of the Year Award in recognition of its work in promoting Canadian music.

It is virtually impossible to obtain accurate ratings as to listenership for shortwave broadcasts. RCI uses a combination of audience response data (some 50 000 letters received each year) and surveys conducted by other broadcast services and the Gallup organization to conclude that about 10 million people each week listen to RCI programs around the world.

#### **Most popular broadcaster**

Perhaps the most popular broadcaster on RCI is Ian McFarland, host of a weekly show called *Shortwave Listener's Digest*, which deals with all aspects of the communications industry, but is primarily devoted to the joys of shortwave. For the past three years, it has topped an American broadcasting magazine's poll as shortwave listeners' favourite program. Mr. McFarland also hosts a weekly show targeted for Africa, which features a "mailbag" section where he reads and answers listeners' letters.

*(Program schedules may be obtained from Radio Canada International, P.O. Box 6000, Montreal, Canada H3C 3A8.)*

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### **Support for peace initiatives in Central America**

Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen has announced Canada's full support for the peace initiatives in Central America that are being promoted by the foreign ministers of Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Venezuela (the Contadora Group).

The ministers met with the foreign ministers of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua in Panama Apr. 20-21 to discuss ways of reducing the violence in Central America and of achieving a peaceful settlement of the difficulties there.

Canada believes that resolution of the problems in Central America requires much discussion and reconciliation between and among the various governments concerned and it considers that the meeting sponsored by the Contadora Group in Panama was an important first step in that direction. While the ministers reached no specific conclusions at their Panama meeting, they agreed to continue discussions at another meeting.

Canada is hopeful that there will be agreement on positive measures to begin the process of reconciliation and settlement and is prepared to do whatever it can to facilitate and encourage the discussions, providing the countries directly involved believe Canada's role would be useful.

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### **Canada-West Germany science and technology meeting**

The seventh Canada-Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) science and technology consultative meeting was held in Ottawa on May 4-5, 1983.

Under the aegis of the Canada-Germany Agreement on Scientific and Technological Co-operation which was concluded in 1971, the consultative meetings are held every two years, alternating between Bonn and Ottawa. The purpose of the meetings is to review ongoing programs and proposals of scientific and technical co-operation between the two countries.

Under the 12-year-old agreement, there has been science and technology co-operation in areas ranging from marine biology to telecommunications. The co-operation has led to a number of joint projects in the field of marine research and geosciences.

This year's discussions concerned the possibilities for intensifying research and technological co-operation in coal processing, biotechnology, environmental research and development and remote sensing. On this occasion, a memorandum of understanding on research co-operation in the field of remote sensing was signed between the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing (CCRS) and FRG's Deutsche Forschungs- und Versuchsanstalt fuer Luft- und Raumfahrt (DFVLR).

Both sides also exchanged views on the problems of transferring research results into industrial applications, and how international bilateral science and technology co-operation could benefit the industrial development and commercial interests of the two countries. In the course of the opening sessions, both delegations underlined the importance of closer integration of science and technology with national economic policies, as well as the most cost-effective spending of the limited financial resources available for research and development.

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### **Offshore oil exploration**

The federal government has reached six exploration agreements with BP Exploration Canada Limited, a unit of BP Canada Incorporated of Toronto, and its partners providing for about \$260 million of exploration work in the Grand Banks-Labrador Shelf region.

The six agreements cover 5.3-million hectares and require the drilling of six wells. Four of the agreements have four-year terms and two are for five years.

BP Canada's partners in the agreements are Columbia Gas Development of Canada Limited, Petro-Canada, Chevron Canada Limited and Gulf Canada Resources Limited. Columbia Gas is a unit of Columbia Gas System Incorporated of Wilmington, Delaware while Chevron is owned by Standard Oil Company of San Francisco, California. Gulf Resources is a subsidiary of Gulf Canada Limited of Toronto.

William Rompkey, federal Minister of State for Small Business and Tourism, said the signing of the agreements demonstrates "that the federal government is committed to moving ahead with exploration and development of the offshore despite the fact that the provincial government broke off negotiations for a settlement of the offshore issue two weeks ago".