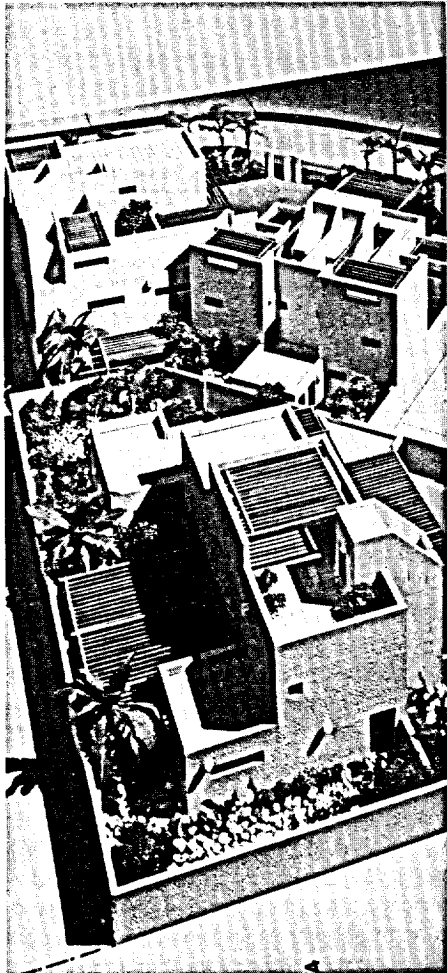


# NEW CANADIAN CHANCERIES AND RESIDENCES ABROAD

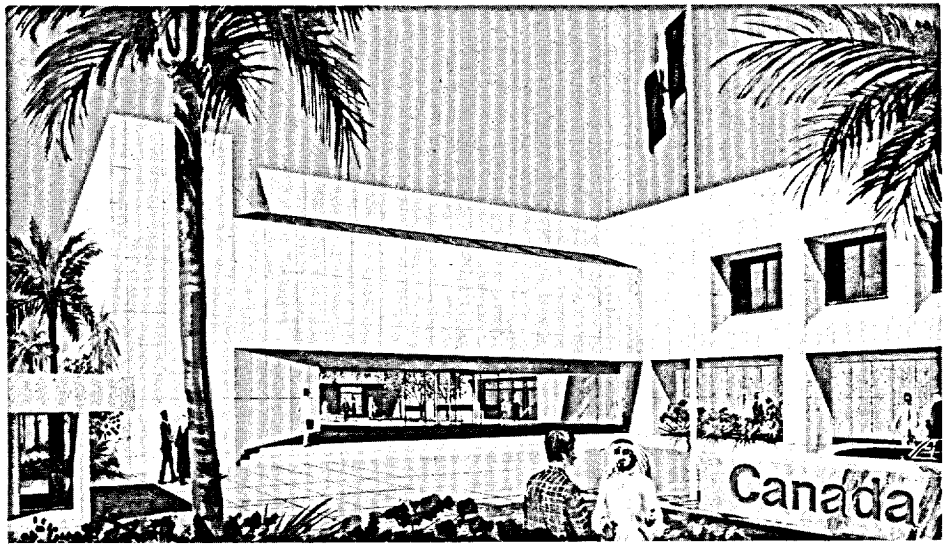
## HIGHLIGHTING AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

There seems to be more activity in this part of the world than anywhere else. At the present time there are four Canadian designed chanceries (some with residences) either just coming off, or just going onto, the planning boards. Riyadh, Saudi Arabia is in the final stages now; Lagos, Nigeria has been designed and construction is scheduled to begin in mid-1985 for occupancy by mid-1988, plus land will be purchased this fiscal year for a new chancery in Kinshasa, Zaire and land has been identified in Algiers, Algeria for the construction of a new chancery and residences there.

In terms of leased or purchased property, our new embassy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates has just opened and our "Offices of Embassies" in Niamey, Niger and Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso (formerly Upper Volta) have just been relocated. In Niamey we moved from an apartment building into a larger commercial building where we have leased the top floor. In Ouagadougou, we moved from one villa to a larger one in a residential area.



Canadian residences in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



New Canadian Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

### The New Canadian Complex in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Our chancery is almost ready, our residences are in the final stages and by early 1985 our representatives will have moved in. The Koreans and Chinese are already there, and within the next year all 85 of the foreign embassies will have moved from Jeddah to this "Diplomatic Quarter" in the capital city of Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. (The concept for this development was formulated back in 1970, designed in 1978 and will be completed by 1985.) Eventually it will house over 25,000 foreigners plus several thousand Saudis and will have an international school, several kindergartens, shopping facilities, an olympic sized pool, tennis courts, riding stables, diplomatic club and sports arena. In addition, it is close to the University and the new airport (scheduled to open in December 84) and is 8 kilometers from downtown Riyadh.

The Canadian complex consists of a chancery, an official residence and (about 1 kilometer away), 15 detached or semi-detached residences on five different locations intermingled with the other diplomats.

The design for the housing is intriguing, yet it obviously required a great deal of thought. As the architect, Lloyd Sankey said, "To create, in a desert environment, a complex of buildings which reflects the best standards of contemporary Canadian architecture yet which is still in harmony with fundamental Islamic values and traditions...was a challenge".

In fact, the housing had to be designed three times before it met the Saudi's

strict requirements about privacy — they object strongly to visual intrusions, so the design had to be such that there was absolute privacy. This was achieved by means of trellises, screens, recessed openings and offset views from windows (which also maximized the amount of shade). Externally the houses have a traditional Arab appearance with walls of stuccoed concrete (actually Quebec granite) and small shuttered windows. Also in keeping with the Arab tradition of welcoming guests generously, the entrance ways are dramatically recessed and in the distance the enclosed atriums with their foliage seem to visually invite visitors in. Once inside, the decor is more contemporary with extensive use of glass, skylights and wood, plus each unit has a roof terrace so that the cool evening breeze can be enjoyed.

Our chancery is a two storey building with a basement and an enclosed atrium that serves as an entrance hall and reception centre and is overlooked by offices on the ground and second floors.

The official residence has a private garden and living and entertaining areas on the ground floor with family quarters on the second floor. In addition, a small recreation facility consisting of a pool, a tennis court, change facilities and kitchenette has been provided for the use of the Canadian staff.

Life in Saudi Arabia may be somewhat restrictive for women and difficult at times, yet living in this new complex will no doubt offset, to a certain extent, some of the hardships encountered.