Canada Welcomes Appointment of Foreign Minister Tolentino

Canada's new Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Hon. Jean Chrétien had an early opportunity at the recent ASEAN Post Ministeral Conference in Jakarta to get to know his new ASEAN Dialogue Partner, the Hon. Arturo Tolentino, Foreign Minister of the Philippines— the Coordinator Country for the Canada-ASEAN Dialogue relationship. Both Ministers took office on the same day, 30 June, and Mr. Chrétien expressed the hope, in meeting Dr. Tolentino, that the day would prove an auspicious one for both of them.

Arturo Tolentino is not new to foreign affairs, nor to ASEAN. As Minister of State for Foreign Affairs in the Interim Batasan Pambansa, he attended several ASEAN Ministerial Meetings and was one of the three Philippines Representatives on the ASEAN Task Force. He is best known to Canadians, however, for his able contribution, notably on the Archipelago Doctrine, to the work of UN Conferences on the Law of the Sea-where his cooperation was much appreciated by successive Canadian Delegations. In the Philippines, he is most widely respected for his long time service



Minister of Foreign Affairs A. Tolentino.

to the nation as a parliamentarian and constitutional lawyer.

His erudition, his diligence, his integrity and his ready wit will again make him one of the most closely observed members of the new Batasan. New Asst Minister for ASEAN Affairs

Canada also welcomes the recent appointment of Counsellor Romualdo A Ong as Acting Assistant Minister for ASEAN Affairs in the Philippines Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In this capacity, Counsellor Ong will play a key role in fostering Canada's Dialogue Relationship with ASEAN.

He recently played host in Manila to the ASEAN Preparatory Meeting for the Second Annual Joint Consultative Committee meeting (JCC) which will meet in Manila September 26 to 27 under his chairmanship to review progress under the Canada-ASEAN Economic Cooperation Agreement signed in 1981 and consider new initiatives for cooperation.

Counsellor Ong has had considerable experience with ASEAN affairs in his long career with the Ministry and is particularly knowledgeable in the area of international economic cooperation and development, having served four years in Geneva, working principally with UNCTAD, and as director of the responsible division in the MFA from 1982 to

Canada looks forward to working with its new colleagues.

Canadian Maestro Conducts Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra

Victor Feldbrill of Toronto undertook an active ten day program in Manila which included performances and workshops with the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra. The visit was organized under the joint sponsorship of the Canadian Embassy and the Cultural Centre of the Philippines (CCP).

A concert on July 14 at the Main Theatre of the CCP was the highlight of his visit. Working with the 81-person Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra (PPO), Mr. Feldbrill conducted a program which included Pierre Mercure's "Kaleidoscope", Robert Strauss' "Death and Transfiguration" and Brahm's

Symphony No. 2.

Mr. Feldbrill is at present on assignment in Tokyo where he has been invited to hold various teaching and conducting assignments and concerts. In 1979, responding to an invitation from Geidi, Tokyo's University of the Arts, Mr. Feldbrill spent a period of three months conducting orchestras connected with the University in a comprehensive rehearsal programme in addition to public concerts. He is the only Canadian conductor to be so honoured by one of Japan's foremost music schools, and his work there was so successful that he was



Mr. Feldbrill rehearsing Orchestra.

invited to return in 1980, 1981 and this year in various capacities. He was engaged for guest conducting assignments with the Tokyo Metropolitan Orchestra and in Sapporo with that city's Philharmonic. Mr. Feldbrill also holds the distinction of being the first Canadian to be named to the post of Professor at Tokyo's University of the Arts.

Mr. Feldbrill first studied violin and later conducting. He conducted his first student concert at 18, directing the Toronto Symphony under the auspices of Sir Ernest MacMillan. He has held various positions, including Concert-master and Assistant Conductor of the Royal Conservatory Symphony Orchestra and the Royal Conservatory Opera. For 10 years, he was the Music Director of the Winnipeg Orchestra, and on several occasions, conducted the National Youth Orchestra.

The winner of several awards, Victor Feldbrill was the first recipient of the Canadian Music Citation, given by the Canadian League of Composers.

After his Philippine tour, he will return to Canada on another conducting assignment with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra where he worked in the past as a resident conductor.