

### THAILAND

## Advanced Technology Forum

A Canadian Advanced Technology mission visited Thailand in February.

Canada is generally known as a world leader in the development and application of advanced technology. Thirteen companies participated in the visit, representing a wide spectrum of the Canadian advanced technology industry from data communication and remote sensing, to telecommunications and industrial process control.

The highlight of the mission was a forum consisting of a series of seminars focussing on three different industry segments: telecommunications and computing products; remote sensing; and instrumentation/process controls. Presentations were made to an audience of officials from various state enterprises, government departments, universities and private companies.

The topics included the application of advanced technology in areas as diverse as management of forestry resources, machine readable passport and visa issuance, data networks for financial institutions and air traffic control.

Following the forum, the visiting business executives called on representatives of local government and private enterprise marketing their products and services and exploring possible agency relationships and joint venture opportunities.

## Capitals of the World Meeting

Bangkok's Deputy Governor, Lt. Hansa Kaewbandit, represented the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) at the "Capitals of the World" Conference hosted by Ottawa's Mayor James Durrell.

Attending on behalf of Bangkok's Governor Chamlong Srimuang, Lt. Hansa and BMA International Liaison Director Ms. Parichat Sanghiran, joined in discussions on a range of subjects swapping notes with fellow mayors on shared problems and solutions.

Lt. Hansa presented a special audio-

visual account of the transport and traffic problems facing Bangkok and some of the unique solutions available including use of river and canal transport.

In addition to the Conference meetings, Lt. Hansa met with Canadian International Development Agency officials dealing with Canada's development assistance program for Thailand, and joined in a range of meetings and social activities arranged by the Thai Embassy in Ottawa.

At the end of their Ottawa program, Lt. Hansa and Ms. Parichat also visited Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver.



Canada participated in the Bangkok International Trade Fair organized by the Department of Export Promotion to mark His Majesty the King's 60th Birthday. Rory McAlpine, Second Secretary (Commercial) of the Canadian Embassy presented a basket of British Columbia apples to HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn.

## Canada's New Ambassador to Thailand

Lawrence A. H. Smith, a senior career diplomat presented his Letter of Credence to His Majesty Bhumibol Adulyadej, King of Thailand, in a January ceremony at Chitrlada Palace, the residence of the Thai monarch.

Mr. Smith, previously Canadian Ambassador to The Netherlands, has served with the Department of External Affairs since 1957, both in Ottawa and

abroad. He served as High Commissioner to Barbados from 1973 to 1977 and as Ambassador for North-South Relations from 1982 to 1983, prior to his appointment as Ambassador to the Netherlands in 1983.

Mr. Smith is also accredited to Vietnam and Laos.

Ambassador Smith and his wife Virginia have five children.



Ambassador Smith