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News briefs

Stephen Lewis, Canada's ambassador and permanent representative to the United Nations in New York, led the Canadian delegation to the San Francisco conference, June 24-25, commemorating the fortieth anniversary of the signing of the UN Charter. In addition to assessing the performance of the UN, delegates considered how it might improve its contributions to world peace. A joint appeal, urging a recommitment to the UN and the principles of the Charter, that was signed by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and the heads of government of Argentina, Austria, Jordan, Malaysia, Senegal, Sweden and Tanzania, was submitted to UN Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar.

Statistics Canada reports that sales of all new motor vehicles in the country totalled 157 645 units in April 1985, the highest monthly total ever registered, surpassing the previous most active sales month of May 1978, when 151 884 units were sold. Sales in April 1985 were 29.9 per cent higher than in April 1984. Sales of North American manufactured passenger cars increased by 25.7 per cent to 95 193 units while those for commercial vehicles rose by 35.3 per cent to 34 060 units.

NCR Canada Limited of Mississauga, Ontario, introduced a low-priced and compact version of its Tower microcomputer at the Montreal Computer Show in June. The new model has software compatibility with all other models in the Tower family.

William Neilson Limited, a Toronto based company and one of Canada's largest ice cream makers, has recently launched a new soybean product, Tofutti. Richard Cowcill, vice-president of marketing for Neilson, a subsidiary of George Weston Limited of Toronto, said it will be sold as an alternative to regular dairy-based ice cream in supermarkets, restaurants and confectioneries across Ontario and possibly Quebec. Company officials hope that Tofutti will prove popular because they maintain it tastes like a high-quality ice cream, but has few calories, little cholesterol and no lactose.

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