

News briefs

Secretary of State for External Affairs

Joe Clark, reaffirmed the strong support the Canadian government will continue to give the United Nations, on the occasion of United Nations Day, October 24, 1984. In a message to the UN Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar he said Canada "is committed wholeheartedly to support and strengthen the United Nations". He also said Canadians were looking forward to celebrating the UN's fortieth anniversary in 1985 and Mr. Cuéllar's proposed visit to Canada "will be the highlight of our commemoration of the anniversary".

Minister of Agriculture

John Wise and Minister of State (Canadian Wheat Board) Charles Mayer recently met with US Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block in Ottawa to discuss a range of bilateral and multilateral agricultural trade issues. After their meeting they announced plans to schedule semi-annual agricultural trade meetings at the ministerial level. They said the purpose of the consultations would be to strengthen the countries' mutually beneficial trading relationship. Current two-way trade is valued at over \$5 billion (Cdn) per year.

Nova Scotia Premier John Buchanan led the Conservative Party to victory in the thirty-first general provincial election on November 6. Obtaining more than 50 per cent of the popular vote, the Conservatives elected

42 members in Nova Scotia's 52-seat House, a gain of four seats over their performance in the 1981 election. The Liberals elected six members, capturing 30 per cent of the popular vote, a loss of seven seats and four percentage points in the popular vote. The New Democratic Party maintained its popular vote and elected three members, two more than in 1981. The leader of the Cape Breton Labour Party was also re-elected.

Governor General Jeanne Sauvé

received an honorary degree and gave the address at the November 6 convocation ceremonies at the University of McGill in Montreal. Other recipients of honorary degrees were: Conrad Harrington, McGill's chancellor from 1976 to 1983, who in 1984 became the first Canadian to be named a distinguished friend of education by the US-based Council for the Advancement and Support of Education; and Dr. Frances Oldham Kelsey, a pharmacologist who prevented the marketing of thalidomide in the US.

The Canadian Commercial Corporation

has signed a \$5.8-million contract with the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) for the supply of six simulators for training RAAF maintenance technicians on six operational systems for F-18A aircraft. The Canadian manufacturer is Atlantis Flight Research Inc. of Downsview, Ontario. One of the simulators was designed and developed by the firm to meet the requirements for the Canadian configuration of the CF-18 aircraft.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has announced three financing transactions totalling \$9.4 million (US) to support sales of Canadian goods and services to Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and Hungary. The transactions include: a \$4 887 500 allocation under a line of credit with Ceskoslovenska Obchodni Banka, A.S. of Czechoslovakia to support a sale of goods and services for a pulp mill by H.A. Simons (Overseas) Ltd. to Technopol, a Czechoslovakian foreign trade organization; a forgoing of ten promissory notes valued at \$3.25 million to support a sale of five R-170 off-highway trucks by Euclid Canada Limited of Guelph, Ontario, to Rudarsko-Topioncarski Basen Bor (RTB Bor) of Bor, Yugoslavia; and a \$1.26-million allocation under a line of credit agreement with Magyar Nemzeti Bank of Hungary to support a sale of nuclear valves by Velan Inc. of Montreal to Eromu Berahazasi Vallalat, an Hungarian foreign trade organization.

Three Canadian travel companies, Holidays by Wardair and Thomson Vacations, both of Mississauga, Ontario, and Paramount Holidays of Toronto, have agreed to combine their vacation packages to form the country's largest travel wholesale group. They will use Wardair's computerized reservations system to pool bookings, but they will retain their individual identities by conducting their own advertising campaigns and negotiating commission rates with travel agents separately.

Norm McIvor, a Smiths Falls car dealer, has sold 200 General Motors of Canada (GMC) Brigadier tractor trucks to a private trucking firm in Guatemala, a deal worth more than \$10 million. Mr. McIvor was the only General Motors dealer to tender a bid to the Canadian Commercial Corp., which acts as an intermediary between foreign governments and Canadian private sector companies, for the Guatemalan contract. He has also made deals with trucking companies in India, Romania and the Honduras over the past few years.

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Perfect perch in pumpkin paradise



Four-year-old Ross Clarke feels right at home amid a sea of pumpkins harvested on his parents farm near Ottawa, Ontario. The pedigree pumpkin to Ross's left weighs more than 200 pounds.

Canada

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