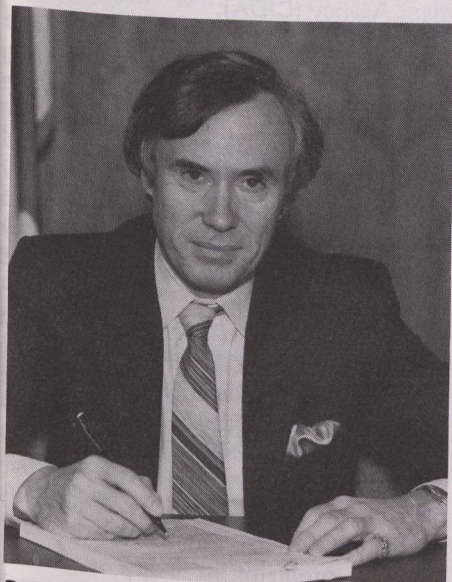


# Canada Weekly

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## Season's greetings from the Minister



*During this festive season, I should like to offer to the readers of Canada Weekly my sincerest good wishes for peace and happiness.*

*To my friends in other countries who regularly read the news bulletin, I should like to express the hope that your interest in Canadian affairs will continue to grow. For the more we know, the more we understand, and it is on this solid foundation of understanding that we can form closer bonds between our countries that will benefit all of us.*

*For Canadians abroad during the holiday season this may prove to be a nostalgic time. Wherever you may be, I send you special greetings.*

*Many of you enhance Canada's image abroad by working in countries where your expert services are required to help further development. At the end of another year, I wish to thank you for your efforts.*

*To all a happy and prosperous New Year*

*Mark MacGuigan, Secretary of State for External Affairs.*

## Ship ends nine-month voyage around North America

The *CSS Hudson* was greeted recently by federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans officials on the vessel's return to her home berth at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography (BIO) at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, after a nine-month voyage circumnavigating North America.

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans oceanographic research ship undertook the voyage to conduct a survey of a safe navigational corridor through the Beaufort Sea and perform a number of oceanographic research projects.

### Safe shipping lane

The major purpose of the trip was to chart a safe passage through the pingo-infested area of the western Arctic's Beaufort Sea. Pingoes are ice-cored, underwater mounds which pose serious hazards to shipping and in some instances rise to within ten metres of the water's surface. These pingoes lie in the general area that deep-draught supertankers will be travelling in the not-too-distant future as they thread their way through to the

Northwest Passage carrying Beaufort oil and gas.

The *Hudson* was sent into the Beaufort from the western approach because ice conditions there permitted an earlier entry to the Beaufort. Travelling to the east provided a later exit time thereby extending the Arctic "weather window" as late as possible into the season. To make best use of the vessel, it also became a platform for scientists from the federal government, the academic community and the private sector to mount research projects on the east and west coasts of Canada as well as in other areas of the oceans traversed by the *Hudson*.

### Seven legs of cruise

The ship's voyage was divided into seven stages. During the first leg, from Halifax to Balboa, Panama, geologists, chemists and biologists studied the nature of the sediments in an area outside Canadian waters typical of some sites being investigated by other nations for the disposal of radioactive waste, and the nature and

Richard Vroom



*Canada's largest oceanographic vessel, the CSS Hudson is seen leaving Halifax on her nine-month, 34,000 nautical mile circumnavigation of North America.*



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