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National Research Council fosters scientific advances

The year 1979-1980 was a time of high productivity in scientific and industrial research for the National Research Council of Canada, according to the Council's 1979-80 Report of the President. During the year continuing priority was given to industrially-oriented research and development, to energy research and development and to technology transfer and assistance to the industrial sector, says the report, excerpts from which follow:

A significant milestone for Canadian science was the official inauguration of the Canada-France-Hawaii telescope (CFHT) on Mauna Kea in Hawaii on September 28, 1979. Located at one of the best observing sites in the world, this telescope provides Canadian astronomers for the first time with access to a major optical telescope with the most up-to-date instrumentation. According to the Tripartite Agreement between the National Research Council (NRC), le Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) of France and the University of Hawaii, the design and construction of the telescope was the joint responsibility of NRC and CNRS with the University of Hawaii providing the site and local services. Canada and France will each have 42.5 per cent of the observing time of the telescope, with 15 per cent allocated to the University of Hawaii, which will contribute the same percentage to the on going operational costs.

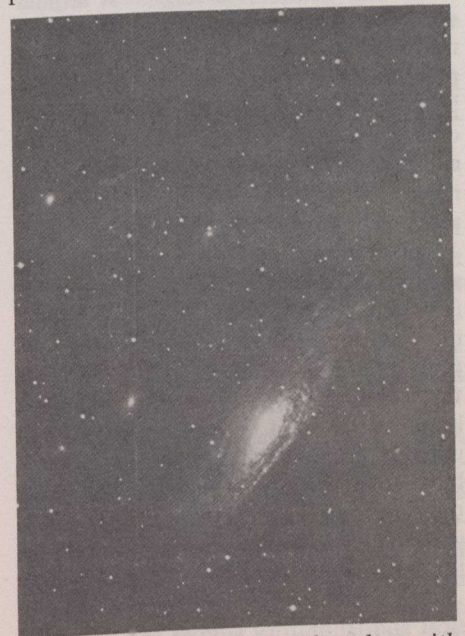
The entire project is being managed by a non-profit corporation set up by the three founding partners and incorporated in the state of Hawaii with headquarters at Waimean, Hawaii. NRC's share of the capital cost of the telescope was \$17.6 million and its share of the annual operating cost (in 1980 dollars) will be approximately \$1.05 million. A scientific advisory council having proportionate representation of astronomers from the three founding members, as provided for under the Tripartite Agreement, assists the CFHT Corporation in the scientific exploitation of the new telescope facility.

The Remote Manipulator System (RMS) for the NASA Space Shuttle, for which NRC has responsibility and which is being developed and constructed by a Canadian industry consortium, is in its

final stages of completion.... The delay in schedule does not affect the over-all schedule for the Space Shuttle which itself has had delays and the first Shuttle flight is now tentatively scheduled for late 1980 or early 1981. Unfortunately, the delay in the completion of the RMS has resulted in an increase of the total project cost from \$100,083 million to \$118,186 million.

Marine research

Two major projects, which had been approved in 1978, were reviewed last sum-



One of the first photographs taken with the Canada-France-Hawaii telescope which was inaugurated officially in September last year. Taken at the prime focus by a Canadian astronomer, the photo shows a group of distant galaxies, the dominant member of which is the giant spiral galaxy NRC 7331.

Twenty-two years ago today...

Blanche Margaret Meagher became the first Canadian woman to be named to an ambassadorial post; she was appointed Ambassador to Israel.