

### Gold of Ancient Colombia at the National Gallery

El Dorado: The Gold of Ancient Colombia, an exhibition of more than 200 Precolumbian gold objects from the Museo del Oro, Bogotá, Colombia, will be on view at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa until 29 February.

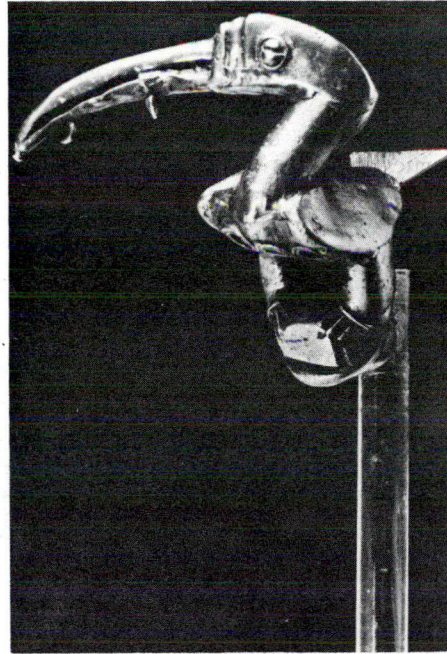
The art of gold craftsmanship in Colombia is believed to have originated about 800 B.C., flourishing over a period of almost 2,000 years prior to the Spanish conquest.

The exhibition includes objects from seven archaeological areas, each different in period and craftsmanship.

Objects from Calima are among the largest and perhaps the most remarkable pieces: they include funerary masks, large pectorals and raised faces with ornate dangles typical of the region. A rare selection of gold-working from the Narino area, discovered only five or six years ago, is composed of several plaques, a bell, a shell and a seated figure.

The exhibition also includes lime containers from Quimbaya; stylized pendants of Tolima with smooth, flat shapes and strong outlines, and small finely-detailed figures from Muisca, found in cache vessels as burial offerings.

The exhibition, which opened January 23, is co-sponsored by The American Federation of Arts and the Center for Inter-American Relations, New York, and has been travelling to major art galleries and museums in North America for two years; it is supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (U.S.A.).



*Piece entitled Finial Bird in ancient Columbian gold exhibition at National Gallery.*

### Northern Ontario pipeline safe

Allegations made by a former TransCanada PipeLines contractor over the past two years that a gas pipeline constructed in 1971-1972 may be unsafe have been carefully investigated by the National Energy Board, and found to be without foundation.

The statement was made on February 10 by National Energy Board chairman Marshall A. Crowe, who also rejected outright any claims that the Board's investigations had been superficial.

Mr. Crowe said that allegations that a portion of the TransCanada pipeline is unsafe because of defects in welding have been made by Tom Arnesen in letters addressed to the Board, as early as March 1974. The pipeline in question runs from Winnipeg to Toronto through northern Ontario, but until now Mr. Arnesen's evidence which he

claims to support his allegations, is only related to about 50 miles of 36-inch diameter pipe near Kapuskasing, Ontario.

"The National Energy Board repeatedly responded to Mr. Arnesen's allegations and after an exhaustive examination of the charges found nothing which would support the allegations that the pipeline is unsafe. On the contrary the Board firmly believes, on the basis of the knowledge it has, that the pipeline is safe," Mr. Crowe stated.

The statement was made because of further recent allegations made in public by Mr. Arnesen on the Canadian Television network.

"If Mr. Arnesen has any serious undisclosed evidence of a defect in the pipeline which he has failed to make known to the Board, he has acted in an irresponsible way and has an obligation to the Canadian people to provide

such evidence immediately," Mr. Crowe said.

Should Mr. Arnesen or any other member of the public have such evidence, the Board will immediately investigate and assess this evidence and hold a public inquiry if warranted, the chairman added.

### One defect

The Board found one defect which is known as hollow bead. This defect is restricted to excess metal on the inside of the girth weld and does not affect the strength and the integrity of the pipeline.

The Board wrote to the president of CTV on 28 January, 1976 and subsequently to the manager of the Canadian Welding Bureau, TransCanada PipeLines and Mr. Arnesen asking that they provide any evidence in their possession which may have a bearing on the safety of the pipeline.

The chairman of the Board pointed out that all the welds in the pipeline were radiographed during construction and that the line was successfully tested for 24 hours at 125 percent of maximum operating pressure. These tests were filed with the Board as a basis for granting a leave-to-open order which authorizes the operation of the pipeline.

The operating experience of this line since the time of construction in 1972 has been good. If there had been unsafe welds, these would likely have resulted in pipeline failures or serious leaks, and so far none has been reported.

### TRIUMF research centre opens

TRIUMF, the \$36-million nuclear research centre located at the southern end of the University of British Columbia campus, was officially dedicated on February 9, by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

TRIUMF, a joint project of UBC, the University of Alberta, the University of Victoria and Simon Fraser University, will also be what is believed to be the world's most advanced radiation treatment centre for cancer. The first patients are expected to be treated there by early 1978.

Core of the TRIUMF project is a par-