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## Scientific advances (Cont'd from P. 2)

ference on Science and Technology for Development, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation and the UNESCO International Co-ordinating Council for Man and the Biosphere.

At the request of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the President of NRC headed the Canadian delegation to the Scientific Forum held in Hamburg, Germany, to enhance co-operation between the scientific communities of Eastern Europe and the West, and at the meeting in Moscow of the Mixed Commission for Canada's General Exchanges Agreement with the Soviet Union, NRC's Vice-President (External Relations) chaired the Canadian scientific sub-committee.

NRC continues to co-operate with other countries in International Energy Agency research and development projects in the fields of renewable energy, conservation and nuclear fusion. During the current year, co-operative projects were initiated in forest biomass energy, advanced heat pumps, and central solar heating plants with seasonal storage. The number of projects in which NRC is involved now totals 14.

As in the past, members of NRC staff continue to serve on interdepartmental committees concerned with policy towards scientific and technical co-operation with other countries, such as Germany, China and Japan, and with the scientific and environmental activities of intergovernmental organizations such as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the United Nations and its associated organizations....

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## News briefs

**Prince Philip** recently attended the twenty-first triennial conference of the British Commonwealth Ex-Services League held in Ottawa. During his three-day visit, the Prince, who holds the office of grand president of the league, officiated at the meeting and laid a wreath at the foot of Canada's war memorial in honour of the Commonwealth's dead. The league ties together veterans' organizations from 47 countries, acting as a post office for them and helping needy veterans, their widows and children. There are about 800,000 Canadian veterans, of whom 40,000 all past the age of 80 are survivors from the First World War.

**Indian and Northern Affairs Minister** John Munro recently returned from a five-day visit to Denmark and Greenland. Mr. Munro was accompanied by Peter Ittinuar, member of Parliament for Nunatsiag, Northwest Territories and by Deputy Minister for Northern Affairs Paul Tellier and his Assistant Deputy Minister Neil Faulkner. During the visit, the Canadian delegation met with Jonathan Motzfeldt, Premier of Greenland and Jorgen Peder Hansen, the Danish Minister for Greenland. They also met with members of the Greenlandic Home Rule Cabinet and the Legislative Assembly to discuss the Arctic Pilot Project and the recent Inuit Circumpolar Conference.

**Vietnamese groups** from across Canada have formed a national organization to co-ordinate efforts to help immigrants and refugees adjust to life in Canada and to preserve their culture. The Canadian Federation of Vietnamese Associations held its founding convention in Ottawa recently with delegates from eight groups across Canada attending. The federation hopes to have 20 member groups within a year.

**A consortium** of five Ontario companies has won an \$80-million contract for the final planning and design of a \$2.86-million university complex in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The five Ontario companies in Campus-Consortium Consultants Limited, the group which won the bid, are: Webb, Zerafa, Menkes, Housden; Mechanical Consultants Western Limited; Quinn, Dressel Associates; Arthur Erickson Associates Limited and Project Planning Associates Limited.

**The Export Development Corporation** (EDC) announced the conclusion of a

\$4.7-million (U.S.) financing agreement to support the sale of a flight simulator by CAE Electronics Limited of Montreal to Singapore. The loan, to Singapore Airlines Limited (SIA) supports the \$5.5-million (U.S.) sale of an A-300 Airbus simulator unit, including on-site installation, calibration, support services and spare parts. The simulator will be installed at the airline's new training centre at the Changi Airport. In addition to its own use, the simulator will be used to train pilots from other Southeast Asian airlines.

**The Melbourne University Press** in Australia recently published the prison journal of the exiled Canadian *patriote* François-Maurice Lepailleur. The book entitled, *Land of a Thousand Sorrows*, recounts the exile of Lepailleur, who was one of the popular leaders of the Canadian rebellion of 1838. Exiled from Lower Canada and sentenced to two years in an Australian prison, Lepailleur kept a journal from the date he learned of his exile until he was reunited with his family over five years later. The journal provides new and detailed information of life in the convict settlements — the daily routine, the corruption of the prison authorities, the brutality of the police, the hate inspired by collaborators and the loneliness of exile.

**The Alberta government** has collected more than \$620 million in bonus payments for petroleum and natural gas rights in the first half of the year. In 1979 the industry paid a record \$996 million for the full year in bonuses for oil and gas leases and licences.

**The Royal Bank of Canada** is expanding its present corporate banking activities in West Germany into the consumer finance area. Through an existing West German subsidiary, Burgardt and Nottebohm Bank AG, it has bought an interest in Bankhaus Bohl of Freudenstadt, which operates in the area of consumer finance.

**Dr. Solbert Permutt** of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland has been named the 1980 recipient of McGill University's Louis and Artur Lucian Award for research into circulatory disease. The \$40,000 prize is awarded annually by the university for the best published research on circulatory problems. Dr. Permutt was selected for his work on the physiology of pulmonary circulation. Dr. Permutt is serving as a consultant to the cardiovascular division of McGill's Faculty of Medicine until December 15.