

Business tours offered

A Canadian airline has organized a series of tours that will allow foreign and domestic groups to examine the Canadian business community.

Pacific Western Airlines, in co-operation with De West Tours Limited, has packaged 40 study tours on such topics as forestry and lumber, mining, nuclear energy, photography, transportation and communications.

The tours are designed to provide corporations, special interest groups and associations with increased knowledge of the Canadian market as well as valuable contacts in each field.

Travel itineraries include guided tours of major plants and factories across Canada. Participants will also talk with management personnel, industry experts and researchers. Although some economic sectors may not be included in PWA's packages, the company will create and modify tours on request.

Northern Telecom gets U.S. contract

Northern Telecom Limited's United States subsidiary, Northern Telecom Incorporated, has signed a \$100-million (U.S.) three-year agreement with Continental Telephone Corporation of Atlanta, Georgia, for the supply of telephone switching systems.

The contract is for Northern Telecom's Digital Multiplex Systems (DMS) With DMS central office switches, telephone companies are able to handle more traffic with less administration and maintenance than with older generations of switching equipment. Northern Telecom digital switching systems serve nearly six million equivalent telephone lines in telephone companies around the world.

Continental Telephone Corporation, with 3.2 million telephones, is the third largest independent operating company in the U.S. It operates telephone companies in 37 states and two Caribbean countries.

Northern Telecom Limited is the largest manufacturer of telecommunications equipment in Canada and the second largest in North America. It is also a significant manufacturer of information processing equipment. Revenues in 1981 were \$2.6 billion. It employs more than 35 000 people throughout the world and has 51 manufacturing plants in Canada, the U.S., England, Republic of Ireland, Malaysia and Brazil.

Canada-Cameroun talks

Four agreements totalling \$6 million were signed at the Canada-Cameroun Mixed Commission meetings held in Yaoundé, April 28-30.

The Canadian delegation to the talks, which centred on trade and cultural co-operation, was headed by Minister of State Serge Joyal who co-chaired the session along with Cameroun Minister of Economy and Planning Bello Bouba Maigari. Canadian Ambassador to Cameroun Jacques Denault and Cameroun's Ambassador to Canada Lucas Nkweta Zam also participated in the meeting.



Minister of State Serge Joyal.

The four agreements signed during the talks were: \$10 000 for medical equipment; \$2.6 million to the National Centre for Forestry Development; \$3 million as an amendment to a loan supplying locomotives to the Cameroun Railway Authority; and \$150 000 provided by the Canadian Exporters Association for the centre for assistance to small- and medium-size business.

During his stay in Cameroun, Mr. Joyal met with Prime Minister Paul Biya; Minister of State responsible for Foreign Affairs Paul Dontsop; Minister of State responsible for Territorial Administration Victor Ayissi Mvodo; Minister of Mines and Energy Philémon Yang Yundji; Minister of Posts and Telecommunications Ibrahim Mbombo Njoya, Minister of National Education René Ze Nguele; Minister of Agriculture Felix Tonye Mbog, and Minister of Information and Culture Guillaume Bwele.

The chairman of the two delegations held discussions on general bilateral relations between Canada and Cameroun and reviewed the results of development co-operation and commercial and cultural exchanges since the inter-governmental meetings in July 1979. They noted the increase in co-operation between the two countries and discussed economic and cultural co-operation in relation to Cameroun's fifth five-year plan and Canadian interests and priorities.

The Canadian side of the commission reviewed the activities of the Canadian International Development Agency within Cameroun. CIDA's programs are primarily in the areas of rural development and human resources.

The Cameroun side presented the strategy of Cameroun's five-year plan and identified projects for which they wish Canadian assistance. In the area of trade the two delegations outlined a draft of a double taxation agreement, and a line of credit to Cameroun through the Canadian Export Development Corporation.

At the same time a Canadian trade mission of 16 businessmen visited Cameroun to meet with Cameroun government officials and business representatives. The Canadian delegation expressed satisfaction with the opening of an economic and commercial mission attached to the Cameroun embassy in Ottawa.

The mixed commission also examined Canada-Cameroun cultural co-operation and outlined a number of projects that could be undertaken in this area.

Firms hopes rest on computer

A British Columbia company is building a microcomputer that it hopes will spark international sales.

Innovative Electronic Technology Limited of Vancouver is basing its future on the *Proteus* computer. The computer can fit on a printed circuit board 15 centimetres by 20 centimetres and can store 128 000 characters.

Peter Luckham, the microcomputer's designer, said he has solved one of the major problems of microcomputers — their inability to adapt to other systems economically and efficiently.

With the new computer, two users can utilize the same computer board and their relative efficiency is reduced by a factor of only a few percentage points. In addition, the system can grow in two user steps to 64 or more users, all with the same basic efficiency as with the two-user system.

Jean-Marc Carisse