

Calgary exhibits Costa Rican treasures

An exhibition of priceless national treasures from Costa Rica opened recently at the Glenbow Museum in Calgary.

More than 300 artifacts in gold, jade, ceramic and volcanic stone, drawn from the collections of Costa Rica's Banco Central, the Banco Nacional and the Museum of Jade, will be on display until June 10.

They reveal the remarkable artistry of this precolombian Central American civilization in carvings, pottery and metalwork, dating from 500 B.C. until the landing of the conquistadors in 550 A.D.

Duncan Cameron, director of the Glenbow Museum, calls the exhibition "absolutely one of the great shows of the decade". It was made possible by a grant from TransCanada Pipelines.



A ceramic anthropomorphic vessel, part of an exhibition of Costa Rican treasures at Glenbow Museum.

News briefs

Two federal government contracts totalling \$1.1 million have been awarded to Nautical Electronic Laboratories Limited to manufacture navigational beacons for Transport Canada. These beacons will be installed at various locations across Canada and will transmit navigational signals to pilots and navigators of aircraft and ships.

Donald Johnston, Minister of State for Science and Technology and for Economic and Regional Development and Minister responsible for space policy, recently announced a new space expenditure plan of \$122.2 million for the years 1984/85 to 1986/87. This 38 per cent increase brings the government's commitment to space over this period to almost \$446 million. The funds will be used to enhance the application of space technology to meet Canadian needs in communications, remote sensing and space science.

Contracts totalling more than \$13 million have been awarded to Canadian firms for projects that will improve 192 kilometres of the Nacala railway line in Mozambique. Sydney Steel Corporation of Sydney, Nova Scotia will receive

\$12 021 023 to manufacture 17 710 tonnes of light rail sections while ABEX Industries Ltd. of Niagara Falls, Ontario will manufacture rail sections and 70 sets of turnouts. A turnout is that portion of a track designed to permit traffic to "turn out" from one rail line to another. The awarding of the contracts marks the first involvement of Canada in a major project of the South African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC).

Radio Canada International shortwave service will broadcast a stronger, clearer signal into Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union within two years as a result of an agreement announced recently with British Broadcasting Corp. The \$5-million project includes delivery, installation and maintenance until 2008 of two new transmitters in Daventry, England. Radio Canada International now uses 40-year-old BBC transmitters in Daventry to deliver its signal to Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Mainline Construction Equipment of Woodbridge, Ontario, has been awarded its first contract valued at \$749 000 (US) by Canadian Commercial Corporation for the supply of ten Liftking rough terrain forklift trucks to the United States Defense Construction Supply Center. The

vehicles will be delivered by the end of October 1984.

I.P. Sharp Associates Limited of Ottawa, Ontario, has been awarded a \$495 000 (US) contract through Canadian Commercial Corporation for the supply of a Euclid based verification system to the US Navy. This system will enhance the accuracy of computer systems on board ships. The US Navy is purchasing this system under the Canada/US Defence Production Sharing Arrangement.

More than \$2.57 million was raised for cancer research in the 1983 Terry Fox Run, it was announced recently. As of January 31, a total of \$2 575 200 was raised by 223 563 Canadians who ran, walked or jogged at 1 518 organized run sites across Canada. This year's run has been scheduled for September 23.

An integrated office system based on its SL family of digital private-branch exchanges is planned this year by Northern Telecom Ltd. of Mississauga, Ontario. In its annual report, Northern Telecom says the products will form a modular voice and data system; and they will include a star-configuration local-area network, mass memory storage systems, integrated voice and data work stations, file servers and printers.

Two nearly-blind Toronto journalists have launched a large-print, tabloid newspaper to inform other visually impaired Canadians of vision aids. The project is being funded with a \$5 000 grant from the Gannett Foundation to the Low Vision Association of Ontario on the recommendation of Mediacom Inc., said Bill Carroll, editor of the tabloid, which will be called the *Low Vision News*. He said that beyond the 240 000 Canadians who are visually impaired, the quarterly tabloid is aimed at eye care professionals and family doctors.

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