

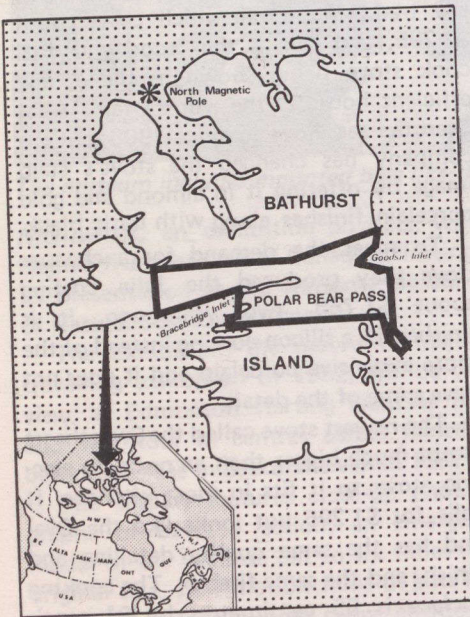
Wildlife area given protection

Polar Bear Pass on Bathurst Island in the Northwest Territories has been named a national wildlife area by the federal government and will receive long-term management and protection.

The decision to make the site a wildlife area came as a result of recommendations by the International Biological Program (IBP). Polar Bear Pass has been an ecological site under the program, which is a co-operative effort by 58 nations, including Canada, for the preservation of natural areas for scientific study.

As a national wildlife area, Polar Bear Pass will come under the jurisdiction of the Canada Wildlife Act and Environment Canada and will be managed jointly with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and the government of the Northwest Territories.

Polar Bear Pass is the first IBP site approved in the North. A large number of other sites have been proposed but these and others yet to be identified will be considered in the broader context of the northern land use planning policy of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada and a new northern conservation strategy.



The site, located some 150 kilometres northwest of Resolute, has been called an "Arctic oasis" by biologists because its unusually rich vegetation and ponds support a wealth of Arctic wildlife, including muskox, Peary caribou and some 50 species of bird. Polar bears cross the island westward from Goodsir Inlet to Bracebridge Inlet through the fertile core of the site, the lowland pass, hence its name.

Players chosen for world all-stars

Three Canadian baseball players were selected to the all-star team at the world amateur baseball championships held in Seoul this year. It was the first time Canadians have been chosen world all-stars.

The Canadian players were: Larry Downes of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario as the best catcher; Rod Heisler of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan as best left-handed pitcher; and Doug McPhail of Edmonton, Alberta as all-star centre fielder.

Competing against nine other countries, Canada finished the round-robin tournament with five wins in nine games to place fifth. Canada led the tournament in batting with a .317 team average.

New bomb sniffer developed

A new more reliable and sensitive bomb detector, housed in an attaché case and able to verify the presence of a bomb in minutes, has been developed and tested in airplanes across Canada and is expected to be on the market within the year.

The bomb sniffer was designed and financed jointly by the National Research Council and the Department of Transport at the request of Canadian air carriers, which are troubled by bomb threats. Two more prototypes of the device are being produced for further testing by government and private agencies for uses in other sites.

The Department of Transport's superintendent of electronic airport security, George Seman said that the "device is portable, compact, relatively inexpensive and more sensitive than anything else on the market".

Cost competitive with other devices

The detection device is expected to cost some \$10 000 to manufacture, making it cost competitive with other such instruments, according to project manager Don Wilson. The Canadian sniffer is more reliable and sensitive, however, and does not "react to cigarette smoke and shoe polish" which cause false alarms with other commercial devices, said Mr. Seman.

Highly trained dogs are used by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in explosives detection work but they cost about \$40 000 each a year to keep and suffer from a short attention span while on the job.

On aircraft the device could be built into the design or carried aboard when

a bomb is suspected. Mr. Seman said the device can detect bombs in an aircraft within minutes and once the bomb is located, the device gives an indication what size of explosive is involved.

A hand-search of an aircraft can take between two to six hours and is an expensive operation. The cost of keeping a Boeing 747 grounded can run up to \$10 000 an hour.

A reliable device that can detect a bomb within minutes can save an airline money and increase the level of safety of airlines and the confidence of the travelling public, said Mr. Seman.

Other sites where the bomb sniffer could be used include embassies, nuclear stations and government installations.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Department of Customs and Excise, the Department of National Defence and the Canada Post Corporation are participating in an inter-departmental committee with the Department of Transport and the National Research Council, feeding in their own design specifications to keep the bomb sniffer as versatile as possible.

Sporting goods sell at fair

A number of Canadian sports firms succeeded in selling their products at the four-day Ispo '82 international sporting goods fair held in Munich, Germany in September.

Ispo is a large semi-annual fair which this year featured equipment and apparel that will be on the market for next summer's sports season. Seventeen Canadian firms, whose participation was coordinated by the Department of External Affairs, were among the 1 100 exhibitors from 83 countries.

Cygnat Sporting Goods Limited of Ottawa, specializing in golf clubs, sold their complete stock and everything in production.

The company's president John Cheng said that the largest golf suppliers from Germany and Austria bought from them for the first time. Sales for Cygnat amounted to \$25 000 (US) and are expected to exceed \$100 000 next year.

Other successful Canadian firms at the fair included Astro Daco Archery of Newmarket, Ontario which did some \$60 000 worth of business and The World of Billiards of Toronto which received orders for their pool tables from a number of countries and were asked for quotas from a number of others.