

Canadair soars at air show

Canadair Ltd., of Montreal, Quebec, signed a multi-million-dollar contract with Lockheed-Georgia Co. of Marietta, Georgia, USA, it was announced during the recent Paris International Air Show.

Gerald Regan, Minister of State for International Trade, said the deal would provide work for some 700 Canadians by 1986. By the end of this year, 186 people will be employed on the project.

"I am pleased that this five-year program will create new employment and tighten our links with Lockheed," Mr. Regan said.

Canadair, a Crown-owned corporation, will provide components for the new Lockheed C-5B military air transport plane building the plane's rear cargo doors, specific wing components and leading edge ribs.

The first deliveries of the C-5B planes, of which the United States Air Force plans to purchase 50, are set for 1984.

Mr. Regan said also that Canada was willing to help finance the development of the new 150-seat Airbus A-320. Discussions are continuing between the Toronto-



At the recent Paris International Air Show Canada's Minister of State for International Trade Gerald Regan (left) announces the signing, by Canadair Ltd., of a multi-million-dollar contract with Lockheed-Georgia Co. of Marietta, Georgia. With him at the press conference are (right) Armand Blum, Minister-Counsellor (Commercial) at the Canadian Embassy in Paris and Yvon Bureau, Deputy-Spokesman (International Trade).

based de Havilland Aircraft of Canada Ltd. and the European consortium, Airbus Industrie, following an agreement in principle signed in Ottawa last year.

Canada's aeronautics industry, which

ranks fifth in the world, was represented by 32 companies at the Paris Air Show, held May 26 to June 5 (see *Canada Weekly*, Vol. 11, No. 20, dated May 18, 1983).

Canada's humanitarian aid

Canada's official humanitarian assistance for the 1982/83 fiscal year amounted to \$34.5 million, \$7.8 million over that of the previous year, Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs announced recently. This figure accounts for Canadian government contributions through the International Humanitarian Assistance (IHA) program of the Canadian International Development Agency.

A large portion of the increase was due to the growing number of refugees from Afghanistan, South East Asia, Africa and Central America. Well over two-thirds of the IHA budget for the year was directed to assisting refugees.

The IHA budget comprises two types of allocation. At the beginning of the fiscal year, \$9 225 000 was dispersed in regular program support funds among five United Nations refugee and relief agencies as part of their operating costs. The remaining \$25 275 000 was set aside in the Disaster Relief Fund and was dispersed in response to appeals for assistance due to a wide variety of man-made and natural disasters: floods, volcanic eruption, earthquakes, drought,

cyclones, as well as conflict and civil strife.

One highlight of the year's expenses was support of a disaster preparedness program for Latin America and the Caribbean which aims at saving lives and property and lowering recovery costs in future disasters.

Mr. Regan visits USSR

Minister of State for International Trade Gerald Regan led a Canadian delegation to Moscow for the third Canada-USSR Mixed Economic Commission from June 1 to 3, during which meetings between officials of the Canadian Department of External Affairs and the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Trade covered the whole range of bilateral commercial issues. Mr. Regan emphasized Canada's continuing interest in supplying grains to the USSR and he also stressed the quality and competitiveness of Canadian manufactured goods, particularly for oil and gas machinery and equipment and products associated with agri-business.

Discussions were also held on export development financing of Canadian exports and Jean Arès, senior vice-president

of the Export Development Corporation (EDC), reiterated the corporation's wish to assist in facilitating the sale of Canadian capital goods to the USSR. All applications by Canadian exporters are considered individually by the EDC.

Mr. Regan was accompanied by ten Canadian businessmen representing a variety of products and services from five provinces who had individual meetings with Soviet foreign trade organizations and client users. Special meetings were arranged at the Soviet State Committee for Science and Technology and with officials at the Ministry of Foreign Trade. One business representative, Ken Whitelegg, president of Corod Manufacturing Ltd., of Nisku, Alberta, signed a contract for the supply of oil drilling equipment. The Canadian Chamber of Commerce was represented by chairman of the Board, George Urquhart, who met with the chairman of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

During his stay in Moscow, Mr. Regan met with Mikhail Gorbachev, Member of the Politburo and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and with Soviet ministers interested in procuring Canadian products.