

Photography featured in Thailand

Canadian Tableau, a collection of photographs assembled by the National Film Board of Canada, was recently exhibited by the Canadian embassy in Bangkok in association with the Hilton Hotel.

The exhibition was launched March 5 at a reception attended by Prime Minister General Prem Tinsulanonda and remained open to the general public until March 15. It provided a fitting foreshadow for Prime Minister Prem's forthcoming visit to Canada.

The *Canadian Tableau* was the first major exhibition of Canadian photography ever held in Thailand and was organized as part of Canada's effort to broaden the range of Thai-Canadian relations in the cultural field. It featured such well-known Canadian photographers as John de Visser, Freeman Patterson and Pierre Gaudard, and offered Thai viewers the opportunity to discover Canadians at work and at play against a background of land, sea and city, illuminated by sunshine and veiled by rain and snow.

The success of *Canadian Tableau* is an excellent complement to the progress of Canada's trade, aid and political relations



John Paynter, Canadian ambassador to Thailand (left) with Thai Prime Minister, General Prem Tinsulanonda at the official opening in Bangkok of *Canadian Tableau*. The exhibit was a fitting prologue to General Prem's forthcoming visit to Canada in April.

with Thailand. The interest it has generated will be enhanced in the coming months with further activities in the cultural field. These will include an exhibi-

tion of Canadian abstract graphic art entitled *Lines, Circles and Squares* in April and a visit by Les Grands Ballets canadiens to Bangkok in June.

News briefs

Ontario's eighth trade and investment office in the United States was officially opened in Boston recently by Ontario's Industry and Trade Minister Frank Miller. The office, staffed by ministry international representative A. Bruce Wilson, will promote Ontario's economic interests in the New England region including the states of Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Basic Software Group Inc. of Vancouver has announced a French word processing program designed for the IBM PC. *Easywriter II - Version Française pour le Canada* has French-language documentation and messages, and simplified typing of accented characters. First shipments are scheduled this month.

Canada will provide an additional \$2.5 million in emergency relief to the northern areas of Ethiopia, one of the hardest hit nations in the current African drought. Already this year Canada has provided \$10 million in food aid to Ethiopia and \$1.7 million in international humanitarian assistance.

As well, ongoing Canadian development projects in the country amount to more than \$13 million.

Novatron Information Corp., a Halifax-based computer services company, has begun marketing what it calls "electronic yellow pages" for the petroleum industry that its developers say is the first of its kind in the world. The system, called *Supplyline*, allows any company with a computer terminal to scan a directory of industry products and services. Companies may then send an order or make an inquiry automatically. Novatron is working on an updated system that will not only provide printed information but also still pictures and video presentations.

Scannar Industries Inc. of Cornwall, Ontario has signed a contract to design and build a specialized sonar system for use in underwater medical research vessels. The order was placed by the American Institute of Aerospace Medicine, the body responsible for all medical research associated with treatment and conditioning of US astronauts. The Scannar sonar will be used with a mini-submarine that will simulate space conditions at depths of up to 1 000 metres.

Canadian cross-country skiers, led by Olympic team member Pierre Harvey, swept all four categories in the opening day of competition in the North American West series held in Montana. Harvey, 27, of Stoneham, Quebec, led a top-three sweep of the senior men's ten-kilometre race with a time of 32 minutes 18.1 seconds. He was followed by Richard Weber of Cantley, Quebec and Yves Bilodeau of Quebec City.

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