



communiqué

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LETTER TO PAULINE JEWETT, M.P.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Right Honourable Joe Clark, today released the following text of a letter dated October 9, to Miss Pauline Jewett, M.P.:

"Dear Miss Jewett:

I am writing in reference to the question you raised in the House on Tuesday, October 2, concerning the possible sale of a digital terrain model to the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research of South Africa.

As you are aware, MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates Ltd., of Richmond, B.C. is a world leader in development and sales of remote sensing technology for earth resource applications, and markets its products around the world. The company has confirmed to officials of the Department that it is carrying out research work in the field of digital terrain modelling but that no product has yet been developed for sale. Therefore the question of a sale to the South African customer has not arisen.

The National Research Council (NRC) through the Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP) and through the Program of Industrial Laboratory Projects (PILP) provides funding to industry for research and development. The National Research Council does not have any formal bilateral relationship with the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research of South Africa.

The digital terrain model development at MacDonald Dettwiler is a subproject of a larger IRAP project and is not yet completed. Both PILP and IRAP conditions for participation restrain MacDonald Dettwiler from the release of control and of ownership of technology rights for a five-year period after the completion of NRC