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Thailand-Canada Links Expanding

The Honourable John Crosbie, Canada's Minister for Transport, made an official visit to Thailand in early February.

Mr. Crosbie's visit contributed to co-operation between Thailand and Canada in the fields of transportation and communications. The Minister's visit follows numerous other high level exchanges between the two countries in recent years.

Exports up 40%

The visit comes at a time of rapidly expanding commercial links between Thailand and Canada. In 1987, Canadian

exports to Thailand increased by 40 per cent and Thai exports to Canada increased by 27 per cent. The value of two-way trade in 1987 was approximately C\$370 million.

During his visit to Thailand, Mr. Crosbie met Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda, and the Ministers of Communications and Interior. He discussed projects relating particularly to mass transit, railways and telecommunications.

Mr. Crosbie was accompanied by representatives from major Canadian companies during his meetings including Lavalin International Inc., Consortrim International Inc., Alta Telecom International Ltd., Canadian Pacific Consulting Services Ltd., and CAE Electronics

Ltd.

He also addressed the Thai Foreign Ministry's Centre for International Studies speaking on the recently completed trade agreement between Canada and the United States.

The Minister's visit coincided with the Canadian Advanced Technology Mission that brought to Thailand representatives of 13 leading Canadian firms in the fields of remote sensing, data networks, telecommunications and industrial process control. (See story page 3).

Minister Crosbie also visited the Fisheries Media Development Centre at Khon Kaen, a project supported by the Canadian International Development Agency.



The Honourable John Crosbie (right) meeting with Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila.