

Emergency relief for South Vietnam and Cambodia

"To help meet the urgent need for humanitarian relief programs in South Vietnam and Cambodia, arrangements are being made to provide emergency assistance immediately and in the longer term," Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen announced on April 4.

"The first phase of Canada's response to this changing situation will consist of a total of up to \$6.25 million."

Mr. MacEachen had previously stated on March 27, that \$1.75 million would be contributed to UNICEF, UNHCR and Red Cross emergency relief programs. An additional \$2 million would, he said, be contributed through the Canadian International Development Agency to these organizations.

"We also plan to provide \$2.5 million in food aid based on need and the availability of secure distribution points. A second phase of relief assistance is also being planned and the specifics of this phase will be announced later."

Mr. MacEachen said that the Canadian Government deplored the suffering being caused for civilians by the war in South Vietnam and while Canada was not in a position to play a significant political role in the situation, there were some things that Canada could and should do. "We can and should do what we can to alleviate the suffering of the civilian populations in the affected countries," he said. "We can and should do something to meet the desires of refugees for whom departure from those countries seems necessary, and the desires of Canadians who wish to take them into their own families in Canada. I am thinking especially of orphans and of the close relatives of Canadian citizens and residents of Vietnamese origin."

On April 6, 61 Vietnamese orphans arrived in Vancouver and, in Ottawa on April 7, the Minister of Manpower and Immigration, Robert Andras, stated in the house of Commons that a further 50 to 150 children may come to Canada.

Canada/U.S. discuss environment, sign weather agreement

Canadian Minister of the Environment Jeanne Sauvé visited Washington on March 26 and 27, at the invitation of the United States Government for talks with Russell Train, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, Russell Peterson, Chairman of the Council on Environmental Quality, Christian A. Herter Jr., Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Environmental and Population Affairs, and Richard D. Vine, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Canadian Affairs.

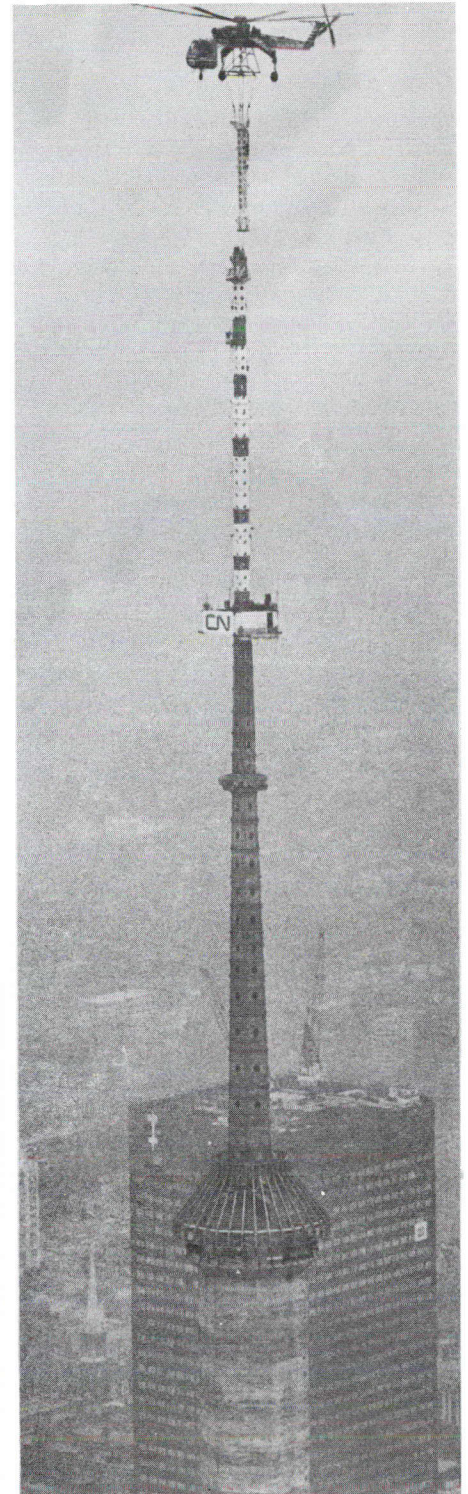
The visit was highlighted by the signing of an agreement between the two countries on exchange of information, advance notification and consultation concerning weather modification. Even though the technology of weather modification is as yet rudimentary, Canada and the U.S. believe that co-operative measures are already required, as expressed by the agreement. They noted that some of these techniques had already been used to induce rainfall, alleviate drought, quench forest fires, or to suppress hail.

The discussions were wide-ranging and candid. They covered environmental policies in the current economic and energy situation and the environmental activities of international organizations such as NATO's committee on the challenges of modern society, United Nations environmental programs, Economic Council of Europe and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. A number of specific bilateral concerns were also discussed.

Energy and environment no conflict
Messrs Train, Peterson and Mrs. Sauvé agreed that the current concern in both countries for energy sources need not be in conflict with good environmental management. The growing public awareness of the limits of non-renewable resources should encourage the pursuit of conservation techniques.

Following discussions of the implications for each country of the other's

(Continued on P. 6)



CN Tower topped off in record time

The last section of CN Tower's 335-foot antenna mast is put in place, April 2, 26 days after work began with Olga, the Sikorsky Skycrane. The CN Tower in Toronto, now over 1,815 feet high, is the tallest free-standing structure in the world. (See Canada Weekly, combined issue, April 2 and 9.)