

News briefs

Canada's ten provincial premiers at their twenty-fifth annual conference in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, called for renewed federal-provincial co-operation that would include regular consultation to set priorities for Canada's sustained economic recovery. In a communique issued at the end of the conference in August, the premiers stressed the high priority that must be given to meeting the economic challenges facing Canada.

AOCO Limited of Toronto, Ontario has been awarded a \$382 000 contract to supply combat spectacles to the Netherlands Department of Defence. These combat spectacles have undergone extensive trials involving field training, night driving and firing exercises, parachuting and operational flying. Helmets and oxygen masks were worn at the same time. The contract was awarded by the Canadian Commercial Corporation.

MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates Limited of Richmond, British Columbia was awarded a \$219 000 (US) contract to supply a film recorder to NASA. It will be used to receive digital data from satellites and transform it into images of the earth. The contract was awarded by the Canadian Commercial Corporation.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) and a consortium of Canadian and foreign banks with Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce as agent, have signed financing agreements totalling \$228.2 million (US) to support sales of Canadian goods and services to the Trinidad and Tobago Telephone Company, Limited (TELCO) for the third phase of its modernization program. EDC's loan of \$132.7 million and the bank loan of \$95.5 million will support the sales of a number of Canadian exporters including Northern Telecom International Limited, Northern Telecom Canada Limited, Bell Canada International and GM Gest Group. TELCO is responsible for all domestic communications on the island of Trinidad and Tobago.

TPK Solar Systems Incorporated of Nepean, Ontario has signed a contract worth more than \$3 million with the People's Republic of China. Under the contract, TPK is to provide the equipment and technology for an integrated photovoltaic (solar energy) manufacturing plant to be established in the Chinese province of Yunnan. TPK is also to train the technicians. The contract is scheduled for completion by early next summer.

Statistics Canada reports that Canada

When your car lands in the water — just set sail



With "a pull of a handle and the flick of a switch", Mark Belair of Ottawa, Ontario changes his amphicar from a car to a boat. He has enjoyed driving his 1962 amphicar in and around the area waterways this summer, surprising passers-by as he drives into the water and sets sail. He says the amphicar is fun because it's such a novelty. According to Mr. Belair, the change from car to boat is very easy. Before driving into the water, he pulls up tightly on an extra set of handles on the doors to make the vehicle watertight. The car has two sets of gear shifts: one for the driveshaft, one for the propeller. Once the car is deep enough in the water to float, the car engine is put in neutral and the propeller is switched on.

exported \$2.1 billion more in goods than it imported in July this year. The over-all July figures show that exports increased by 2.9 per cent or \$280 million during the month to \$9.8 billion. The July increase followed a \$60-million decline in June and a \$650-million increase in May. Imports also increased during July, by 3.9 per cent or \$290 million to \$7.7 billion, after declining \$475 million in June and increasing \$680 million in May.

Prince Felipe de Borbon, the 16-year-old heir to the Spanish throne is enrolled in the Lakefield School, 130 kilometres from Toronto, Ontario. After completing nine months of studies in Canada, he will return to Spain for military training.

Imperial Oil Limited of Toronto has established a private satellite network for business communications linking Toronto, Calgary, Norman Wells, Alberta, and Tuktoyaktuk, Northwest Territories. Imperial is the first domestic company to create such a system, using equipment from Telecom Canada and satellite capacity leased from Telesat Canada, the domestic satellite operator. The service uses a recently developed satellite digital transmission technology.

Canadian food stores and fountain locations have become the North American test market for Minute Maid Orange Soda and diet Minute Maid Orange Soda, two new orange-flavoured soft drink beverages produced by Minute Maid Canada Inc., a subsidiary of Coca-Cola Ltd. of Toronto. According to John Brennan, vice-president of marketing, the move is a response to a 22 per cent increase in orange soft drink sales during the past year. The orange segment share of all soft drinks is now 6 per cent and "shows signs of expanding in the future", he said.

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