

## Canada announces aid to Jamaica

While in Jamaica, Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan met with Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga to discuss increased assistance to Jamaica. Dr. MacGuigan told Mr. Seaga that Canada would provide at least \$3 million in addition to the \$7 million regular Canadian bilateral development assistance in 1980-81.

Dr. MacGuigan also indicated to Prime Minister Seaga that:

- Canada intends to increase its regular programmed bilateral development assistance to \$8 million in 1981-82;

- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) officials would discuss a second \$10-million development line of credit for the agricultural sector with a major portion of disbursements in 1981-82 and 1982-83;

- CIDA would send a major planning mission to Jamaica in February to develop a longer-term development assistance program consistent with the economic recovery program being discussed with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the priorities established by the Jamaican government; and

- under CIDA's industrial co-operation program \$247,000 has been allocated to a Canadian firm, CEDSI Inc. (Canadian Energy Development Systems International), to collaborate with the Jamaican Ministry of Mining and Energy to plan the development of small scale hydro-electric units for rural communities. This project will also contribute to the establishment of a program of energy self-sufficiency and energy development for agricultural production and rural development of Jamaica.

The additional economic assistance of at least \$3 million is to help Jamaica purchase essential imports of food and commodities. Dr. MacGuigan noted that Canada would also consider providing emergency bilateral balance-of-payments support to Jamaica when the discussions between the government of Jamaica and the IMF are satisfactorily completed.

This additional bilateral assistance will be provided in the form of a concessional loan by CIDA to Jamaica for the purchase of essential imports within the next three to six months. The specific level of additional assistance is being discussed by Canadian and Jamaican officials in Kingston.

## Message to President Reagan

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau sent a congratulatory letter to President Ronald Reagan on his inauguration as President of the United States, January 20.

In his letter Mr. Trudeau said: "The challenges of this decade are indeed daunting. The need to improve the lot of mankind, however, has never been greater nor the obligation to act more clear.

I look forward to working with you in preserving the values we hold in common. Together, the United States and Canada can re-affirm a relationship which stands as an example of the benefits of peaceful co-operation between free peoples."

## Sanctions on Iran reviewed

Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan has welcomed the safe release by the Iranian authorities of the 52 Americans, who have been held hostage in Iran since November 4, 1979.

In expressing his relief that the long ordeal of the hostages and their families was now over Dr. MacGuigan noted that this happy outcome is a vindication of international law, which Canada and other countries have sought to uphold. He congratulated the United States government on the patience and wisdom it has shown in the negotiations for the hostages' release and the government of Algeria for acting so effectively as a go-between in the final months.

## Measures reconsidered

The Secretary of State for External Affairs confirmed that the Canadian government would review all those measures to curtail relations with Iran which have been implemented since the hostage-taking began. He noted that at the time a number of these measures were announced, on May 22, 1980, the government indicated it would act to remove the restrictions then being imposed once the hostages were released. The question of reopening the Canadian Embassy in Tehran will also be examined.

The termination of sanctions would in no way constitute a change in Canada's wish to remain strictly neutral in the conflict between Iran and Iraq or in Canada's support for the United Nations Security Council Resolution calling for mediation between the two sides.

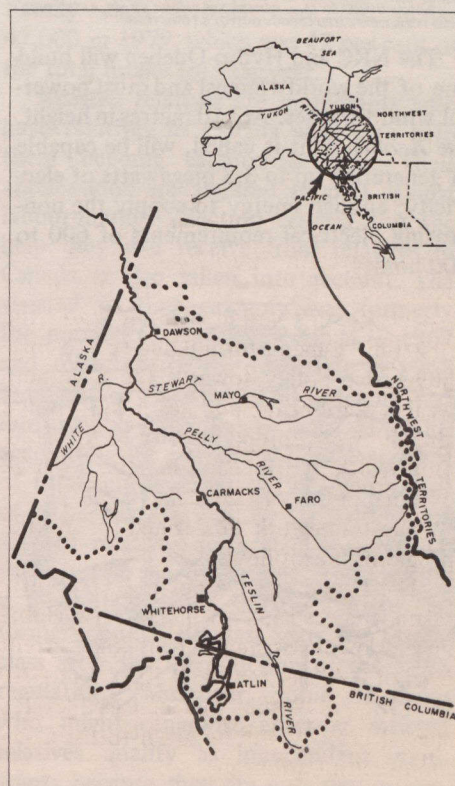
## Yukon River studied

The water resources of the Yukon River Basin will be studied jointly by the federal government and the Yukon and British Columbia governments as a result of a new agreement under the Canada Water Act.

The Yukon River Basin is the fifth largest in North America in terms of both land area and average water discharge. The river rises in British Columbia and, with its tributaries, drains most of southern Yukon before it crosses the Canada-U.S. border into Alaska.

The purpose of the agreement is to study current and potential uses of the water and related resources, to highlight specific areas where further investigation or resolution of conflicts is needed and to provide a framework for future resource management decisions. The study program will involve public consultation and exchange of information among governments and agencies.

The \$2.2-million study will be directed by the Yukon River Basin Committee - four members representing Environment Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and the governments of the Yukon and British Columbia - and is scheduled to be completed by 1983.



Yukon River Basin in Canada