

NEW CANADIAN CHANCERIES ABROAD

There are really two categories of new Canadian Chanceries abroad – those that are designed by Canadians and those that are leased or bought from the host country.

NEW CANADIAN DESIGNED CHANCERIES

In the first two issues of *Liaison* we dealt only with the new chanceries that were designed by Canadian architects. These included: Beijing, China (April issue) and Belgrade, Yugoslavia (June issue). In this issue, because we are highlighting Latin America and the Caribbean, we will look at the proposed new chancery for Bridgetown, Barbados.

Others to be covered in future issues are Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (about to open); Washington, D.C.; Lagos, Nigeria; Moscow, U.S.S.R.; and Tokyo, Japan.

LEASED OR PURCHASED CANADIAN CHANCERIES

This second category is also very active. A new Canadian Embassy is about to be opened in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates. Some staff will arrive this September and the chancery is expected to be fully operational by late October or early November. (The building has been leased).

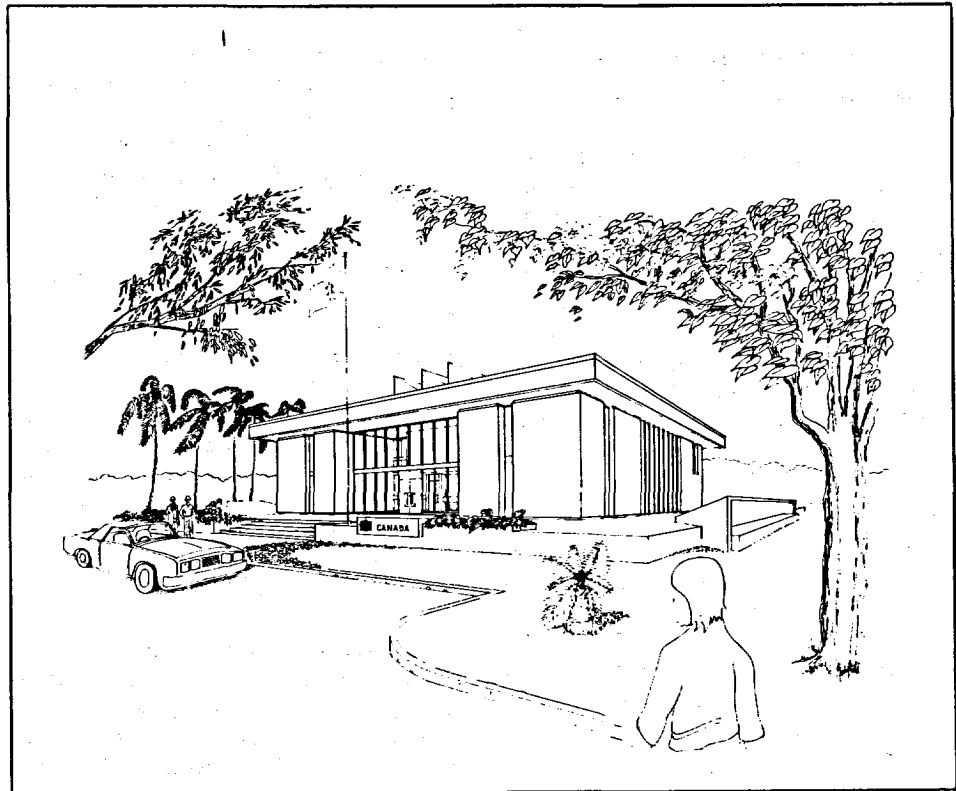
Other chanceries have recently been, or are about to be, relocated. These include: Boston, Budapest, Dallas, Manila, Melbourne, Niamey, Ouagadougou, Paris (OECD) and Philadelphia. We will be highlighting these in future issues.

DID YOU KNOW?

— that in 1982 more first babies were born to women over 30 than ever before in history. The proportion of first babies born to women between 30 and 34 has doubled since 1970 (14% - 25.8%) (Statistics Canada).

— that letter carriers' shins are no longer as tasty as they used to be. Or perhaps Canada's canine population is happier with the postal service than before. Whatever the reason, only 820 dog bites were reported by Canada's 19,000 letter carriers in 1983, down almost 50% from 1982 statistics. Canada Post attributes this to its "Dog Bites Aren't Funny" campaign.

HIGHLIGHTING LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



Proposed new Canadian Embassy in Bridgetown, Barbados.

BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS

The chancery about to be constructed in Barbados is unique. Termed a "Canadian Component Building", it is the first of its kind to be fabricated in Canada then shipped in sections to the host country. This means that while the components are being prepared in Canada, the sitework and foundation can proceed in Barbados. In this way the chancery should be erected in about half the time that is usually required.

This concept has great potential for countries where a chancery is required yet the skills and materials are not available to provide buildings to Canadian standards. Prior to this, Canada had little option but to lease or buy the chancery in the host country.

The design for Barbados was done "in house" by architect Robert Greenfield of MRPC and includes a natural ventilation system whereby a "wind scoop" picks up the prevailing easterly trade wind, pulls it through louvers in the floor then up through the atrium in the centre of the building. This provides a continual flow of fresh air through the atrium, thereby reducing energy use by eliminating the need to air condition that space.

The setting for this new chancery is ideal – the top of a hill surrounded by a natural coral stone wall, with tropical vegetation everywhere. Across from the chancery, a swimming pool, tennis court, change room and small club house will be built.

Should this "Canadian Component" concept work as well as is expected, no doubt many more chanceries will be built in this way in the future.

RECENT PURCHASES OR LEASES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Recently, two official residences were purchased in this area – one in San José, Costa Rica, and one in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

In addition, staff quarters have been purchased in Kingston, Jamaica and Lima, Peru; plus an official residence has been leased in Guatemala City, Guatemala.