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To ensure Telidon's continued momentum in building a commercially viable videotex industry with capabilities to compete in export markets, the Canadian government recently committed an extra \$27.5 million in funding to the program. ♦

Around the Region

Canadian Activities in ASEAN Countries

INDONESIA

THE Republic of Indonesia chose Canadian surveying expertise and facilities to carry out the two-year geodetic survey phase of its national resource evaluation program scheduled for completion this year. McElhanney Surveying and Engineering Limited of Vancouver, British Columbia, was awarded Phase I of the project—to establish a 230-station geodetic control network throughout the large islands of Kalimantan and Sulawesi.

Referred to as the Resource Evaluation Aerial Photography (REAP) Project, the \$21-million, multi-phase program was designed to set up an institutional and physical capability to handle an accelerated program of forest and mineral resource portrayal, inventory, and development.

The program is funded through a Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) loan agreement and administered by the Indonesia National Co-ordination Agency for Surveys and Mapping (BAKOSURTANAL).

Implementation of the survey required extensive and methodical planning, as well as close co-operation and considerable assistance from BAKOSURTANAL. Nine tonnes of equipment and supplies were air freighted 8,000 miles (12,875 km.) from Canada to Kalimantan, where the survey personnel established their project headquarters at Balikpapan.

With the completion of the fieldwork, the McElhanney survey personnel are withdrawing and all satellite receivers, conventional survey equipment, and data documentation passes to the Indonesian authorities. This operational capability combined with earlier on-site training will advance their surveying technology into the satellite era.

MALAYSIA

As part of its long term expansion

program that started in 1977-78, the Aluminium Company of Malaysia Berhad (Alcom), a member of the Canadian Alcan Aluminium Limited Group of Companies, is to invest in its most ambitious project so far. Alcom plans to build a new aluminium sheet rolling facility and to install an aluminium foil mill plant which together are expected to cost \$55 million.

The up-to-date facilities will have a rated annual capacity of 24,000 tonnes of aluminium sheet products while the foil plant will be able to produce 6,000 tonnes of products a year. The project will be carried out on a new site at Bukit Raja, Kelang, Selangor, by a team of project engineers from the Indian Aluminium Co., Ltd. (Indal), an Alcan subsidiary which owns and operates a fully integrated aluminium industry in India.

After Alcom's new plant comes on stream in 1982-83 its present sheet rolling facilities at Petaling Jaya near Kuala Lumpur will be phased out and the plant developed as a fully-integrated aluminium extrusion and anodising plant. Alcom's head office will remain at Petaling Jaya but the new operation at Kelang will be developed as a self-contained sheet and foil business centre.

With this expansion Alcom will be consolidating its position as the leading aluminium semi-fabricator in Malaysia and will become one of the largest in the region.

Alcom is the largest of Alcan's three operating plants in Southeast Asia, the others being an extrusion plant in Bangkok, and an extrusion, roofing and fabricating plant in Jakarta. Alcan also has its area management office in Hong Kong and international sales offices in Singapore, Hong Kong and Tokyo, as well as a network of agents and distributors throughout the region.

Alcom, like its sister Alcan companies in the region, draws the bulk of its metal supply from Alcan's aluminium smelter at Kitimat, British Columbia, Canada.

The Shawinigan group, international energy consultants with roots in the early history of Canadian hydroelectric development, continues its 17 years of involvement in Malaysia's power development with a new government contract to carry out a feasibility study, with engineering design and costing, of 41 mini-hydro projects in the Western Malaysia.

A team of eight Shawinigan specialists, working in association with support staff from Minconsult, a local consulting engineering company, have set up offices in Ipoh and Alor Star to execute the assignment.

More recently still, other government agencies and the private sector have approached Shawinigan to submit proposals on other similar undertakings in Malaysia. (See "Energy Scene" pg. 5)

PHILIPPINES

Canada is the second largest non-regional shareholder of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), headquartered in Manila, and it is the fourth largest contributor to the Asian Development Fund. Many projects throughout Asia are thus financed with Canadian contributions, although this may not be apparent always as the use of ADB loans is not tied to procurement from any particular country.

Canada and the ADB co-operate in many ways in their common objective of helping to develop the area's lower and middle income countries. A continuing dialogue on development programs and policies between the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the ADB facilitates the effective planning of both agencies. Both Canada and ADB are members of the various consultative or aid groups, including those for the various ASEAN countries.

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Mar Fishing, the joint-venture company of a Canadian packing firm and a partly Canadian-owned mining corporation in the Philippines, inaugurated its \$10-million tuna loining and canning plant in Zamboanga City, Philippines, on February 11, with the Philippine Minister of Natural Resources Jose J. Leido as the guest of honour.

The initial capacity of the plant is rated at 50 metric tons of raw tuna per day, but this can be increased to 150 tons per day by installing additional processing equipment. This would place Mar Fishing as one of Asia's most modern and largest tuna processors.