

current fifth Five Year Plan of the Royal Thai Government.

The team recommended to the Canadian Government that emphasis be placed on industrial development and alleviation of rural poverty; that, within the industrial sector, assistance from Canada be focussed on mineral exploration and exploitation, energy development, and the promotion of trade and investment; and that the primary mechanism employed be the development of human resources and formation of institutions which will aid Thailand's continued growth.

It is proposed that Canada's contribution to the alleviation of rural poverty be concentrated in Northeastern Thailand on programs implemented in co-operation with the Royal Thai Government to improve the quality of life and social development through the use of

community participation and self-help projects.

Implementation of the aid program will commence shortly with an initial expenditure of up to \$10 million per year.

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As part of its contribution to the celebration of the bicentennial of the founding of Bangkok and the Chakri Dynasty, Canada has agreed to assist in the establishment of a **Canadian studies program** at Chulalongkorn University.

Canadian Ambassador Fred Bild, presented a cheque to the Minister of University Affairs and Rector of Chulalongkorn University, Dr. Kasem Suwanagul, to initiate the program.

The objectives of the program will be to promote academic research and writing on Canada and Canada-Thai relations;

to purchase Canadian books and scholarly publications; to translate important Canadian publications into the Thai language; to organize conferences and seminars; and to stimulate academic exchanges between Thai and Canadian universities.

In addition to developing closer bilateral ties between Canada and Thailand in the academic field, the program will also give special attention to promoting research into relations between developing and developed countries in the context of the North-South dialogue, as well as the study of problems of the Third World.

The program will be established under the auspices of the Office of the Rector of Chulalongkorn University. The Interim Director of the program will be Dr. Wiwat Mungkandi, Professor of Political Science at the university.

News Briefs

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is providing a \$2,375 million cash grant to four international organizations for humanitarian relief in Thailand.

The four international agencies are: the United Nations Children's Fund, (\$300,000); the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, (\$800,000); the International Committee of the Red Cross, (\$375,000); and the World Food Program, (\$900,000).

Canada's contribution will be aimed specifically at the plight of refugees inside Thailand and on the Kampuchean border as well as Thai nationals displaced by the influx of refugees.

The grant brings Canada's official humanitarian relief for Kampuchean refugees in Thailand to a total of \$22 million.

Bombardier Incorporated of Montreal has received a \$27.8 million order from the Pakistan government to rebuild and upgrade 42 diesel electric locomotives. Shipments of the first rebuilt kits will start within a year and will continue for about 18 months.

As well, the company recently received a \$17.5 million order from the Iraq Republic Railway Organization for the manufacture and supply of spare parts to be used in the maintenance of Bombardier-built diesel electric locomotives in service in that country.

Two of the CANDU nuclear reactors operating in the Canadian Province of Ontario led the world in performance in 1981, with capacity factors of 96.4 per cent and 91.2 per cent. Another four units belonging to Ontario Hydro were

among the 10 best performing nuclear plants. They had capacity factors ranging from 88.5 per cent to 89 per cent. The remaining two units were among the top 20 in the non-communist world. In 1981 Ontario's 8.6 million people used 42 million megawatt hours of nuclear power.

AES Data of Montreal, one of Canada's foremost producers of word processing equipment, has just signed an agency agreement with the Jakarta firm PT Saptayasa Utama to market their products in Indonesia. AES Data is now actively marketing its AES PLUS, C 20, and ALPHA PLUS systems in 52 countries around the world.

Toronto's Litton Systems Canada Limited has won an additional \$60 million contract to supply LN-35 Inertial Navigation Systems to the United States, Department of Defense.

Arranged by the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC), the contract was won under the U.S./Canada Defence Production Sharing Arrangement, and brings the value of the original contract awarded to Litton Canada last March to more than \$110 million.

The CCC contracts with foreign governments and international agencies on behalf of Canadian suppliers of goods and services. Last year CCC achieved sales of over \$400 million, involving 500 Canadian companies and more than 50 foreign buyers.

Canada's federal government has signed contracts expected to be worth \$64 million to supply canola oil to Algeria from plants in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The contracts signed through the federal government's export supply

centre are the first in a series that will run until December, 1982 and will result in \$140 million in export business to Algeria, a new customer for Canadian canola oil.

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