
Canada chairs disarmament group

Canada has assumed the chairmanship of the chemical weapons working group for the 1983 session of the Committee on Disarmament, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen has announced.

Canada's Ambassador to the Committee on Disarmament Donald S. McPhail will chair the working group which is engaged in negotiating a ban on chemical weapons.

The negotiation of a chemical weapons convention has long been a priority of Canadian arms control and disarmament policy. Canada has been an active participant in the Working Group since it was first established in 1980.

Canada has allocated funds to enable Canadian technical experts to participate for longer periods beginning with the 1983 session. Canadian expertise is being applied on the essential and difficult verification issues.

The chemical weapons working group is one of several such groups established by the 40-member Committee on Disarmament, the multilateral negotiating body in Geneva, which meets each year from early February until late August. The working groups have facilitated consideration in depth of issues on its agenda.

Consortium to build equipment for African dams

The Canadian International Development Agency has granted \$33 million to the Senegal River Improvement Authority to assist dam construction in Mali.

In response to a call for tenders in Canada, the Man-Soméfal consortium has been awarded a contract to manufacture hydraulic equipment for dams. The consortium consists of a number of companies, the main ones being Marine Industrie, Soméfal and the Man Company.

Canada's intention to participate in the funding of the project was announced in 1978 by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, making Canada one of 13 sources of funding for the initial stages of construction.

The present project includes the construction of two dams: one at Diéma, Mali, to be completed in 1986, and another at Manantali, Mali, targeted for completion in 1988. The contract obtained by Man-Soméfal is for the Manantali project.

Researchers awarded Killam prizes

Dr. Brenda Milner of the Montreal Neurological Institute has been awarded the 1983 Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Prize in recognition of her outstanding contribution to neuropsychology.

In addition, another 23 Canadian scientists and scholars have been named recipients of awards, totalling \$1.2 million, in the sixteenth annual Killam competition sponsored by the Canada Council.

The Killam awards are made possible through a bequest of the late Dorothy J. Killam before her death. They are intended to support scholars of exceptional ability engaged in research projects of outstanding merit in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, medicine, engineering and interdisciplinary studies within these fields.

The Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Prize, worth \$50 000, is the most prestigious of the awards. Dr. Milner, this year's winner, is internationally recognized as one of the world's leading research workers in neuropsychology — the field that bridges the study of the brain and behaviour. Her work has provided a better understanding of the brain mechanisms of behaviour; it has also helped develop valuable screening tests for protecting patients with epilepsy from undue risk to speech or memory as a result of surgery.

A frequent contributor to international meetings and conferences, Dr. Milner was plenary speaker at the First



Canada Council chairman Mavor Moore (right) presents the Killam Prize to 1983 winner Dr. Brenda Milner.

World Congress of the International Brain Research Organization which met in Lausanne, Switzerland in 1982.

The Montreal researcher has received a number of international honours and awards. Dr. Milner was named Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1976 and Fellow of the Royal Society in 1979; she is also one of only six foreign associates in the field in the National Academy of Sciences in the United States. In 1964, Dr. Milner was appointed a Career Investigator by the Medical Research Council of Canada.

Mexican minister visits Canada

Mexico's Foreign Minister Bernardo Sepulveda Amor visited Ottawa in March to discuss bilateral relations and multilateral issues with Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen and other Canadian ministers.

In addition to his meetings with Mr. MacEachen, Mr. Sepulveda held talks with Finance Minister Marc Lalonde, and Minister of State (International Trade) Gerald Regan before being received at Parliament by Speaker of the House of Commons Jeanne Sauvé.

At a luncheon given by Mexican Ambassador to Canada Agustin Barrios Gomez, Foreign Affairs Minister Sepulveda had the opportunity to speak with a number of Canadian members of Parliament and government officials, including Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Jean Chrétien.

Before his departure on March 17, Mr. Sepulveda called on Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau for a discussion on Canada-Mexico economic and co-operation issues.

Relations between Canada and Mexico have grown in the last few years marked by an increase in commercial exchanges. A number of important agreements have reinforced the bilateral relationship, in particular in the areas of industry, agriculture, energy and culture. In addition, a joint ministerial committee meets every two years.

Canadian exports to Mexico increased from \$236 million in 1979 to \$450 million in 1982. These exports consist primarily of dairy products, railway materials and asbestos. Canada would like to sell more oil and gas equipment and communications equipment to Mexico. Mexico is an important source of oil for Canada with about 20 per cent of gas imports to Canada coming from that country.

Neurophotography, MNI