



CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 18

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 1961.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green, announced today that the Government of Canada and the Government of the Union of Burma have reached agreement concerning the allocation of a total of \$1,250,000 under Canada's Colombo Plan programme in Burma.

Under this agreement Canada will allocate \$900,000 to the construction of a bridge which will link Rangoon with the satellite town of Thaketa where new industries and housing are being built. This amount will be used to obtain materials and equipment in Canada, to engage the services of a Canadian engineering firm and to provide Canadian personnel required to assist in the construction of the project. To cover the local costs of the project, the two governments have agreed to the allocation of counterpart funds in an amount equivalent to \$950,000. These counterpart funds arose from the sale of wheat provided by Canada to Burma under the Colombo Plan. They were set aside by Burma on the understanding that they would be used for agreed economic development purposes.

The remaining \$350,000 of the \$1,250,000 total allocation to Burma is being used for the provision of Canadian wheat and shipment has now commenced.