

CIDA Funding for Technonet Asia

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), through its Industrial Cooperative Division, recently approved a grant of \$1.27 million to TECHNUNET ASIA, a Singapore-based regional network of 14 participating organizations from 11 Asian-Pacific countries (including the ASEAN members). The grant, covering the period 1 April 1983 to 31 March 1986, is the second to be approved by CIDA.

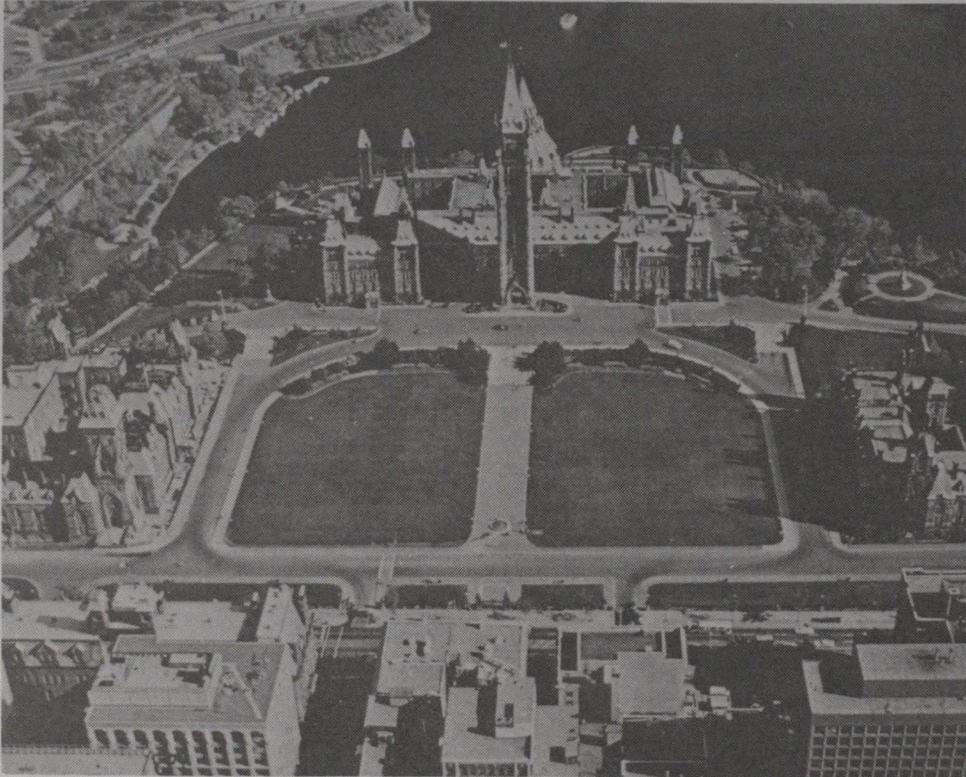
The fund will enable TECHNUNET ASIA to undertake activities under the following program areas:

- transfer/sharing of appropriate technologies;
- development of indigenous entre-

preneurs and new enterprises; and - network meetings, conferences and seminars.

These activities are aimed at improving the quality and efficiency of small and medium scale industrial enterprises in the 11 countries covered by the network.

From its inception in 1972 to 31 March 1980, TECHNUNET ASIA was fully supported by another Canadian aid agency - the International Development Research Centre. IDRC continues to provide partial support for TECHNUNET's activities in technical information and industrial extension services, mostly on a project by project basis.



Aerial photograph of the Canadian Parliament buildings located in Ottawa, Canada's capital.

Second World Congress on Prison Care

Representatives from three ASEAN countries attended the Second World Congress on Prison Health Care held in Ottawa, August 28-31. The Philippines representative was Brigadier-General Vicente Eduardo, Director of Prisons and the Singapore delegate was Dr. Naranjan Singh, Medical Administrator, Penal Institutions. Three delegates attended from Indonesia: Mr. R. Soegando, Secretary of the Directorate General of Corrections, Mrs. W. Hariyati, Superintendent of the female prison, Jakarta and Dr. Soewando, a prison doctor from Jakarta.

The Congress was coordinated by the medical services branch of the Correctional Service of Canada and provided

a forum for discussion of a number of topics including the ethical and legal dilemmas facing medical personnel, treatment of criminally insane prisoners and stress management for prison employees and inmates. The keynote address on International Trends in Prison Health Care was delivered by Lamin Sesay of the UN crime prevention and criminal justice branch.

The Congress was sponsored by Canada on behalf of the International Council of Prison Medical Services, a private non-political organization of health care professionals formed in 1977 whose aim is to promote and achieve excellence in health care services in prisons around the world.

Canadian Journalist Studies News Flow in ASEAN

There is a continued predominance of international news agencies in the news flow within ASEAN. This is one of the main findings of the study which Canadian journalist, Andrew Szende, presented on 21 July 1983 at a conference at the Asian Mass Communication Research and Information Centre in Singapore. Editors of newspapers in the ASEAN countries would tend to share the news values apparent in the coverage of events by the international agencies.

With the international communications debate polarising between the principles of free flow or balanced flow of information, Szende's findings in ASEAN would suggest something like a peaceful co-existence between the two. While editors shared the views of agencies and practised a journalism of exception, being more interested in events rather than processes, governments and other institutions would tend to exert influence for the establishment of what is often referred to as 'Development Journalism.'

Compared to the quality of regional news exchange, editors tend to see the international agencies providing a professionally superior service. They were described as technically superior, more professional and faster than the regional competitors and in the light of the connections to government which many regional news agencies have, editors entertained reservations regarding the objectivity of their reports.

In many cases, newspaper professionals who were interviewed were by no means uncritical of the work of international news agencies but there seemed little problem awareness to many of the issues of the Third World, and their views of the importance of news would often seem to be cast in a western mold. "Who wants to read about agricultural problems?" was an answer which was often received during the enquiry.

Andrew Szende (39) is a senior journalist with the Toronto Star of Canada and has conducted his study during the past year being based at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) as a Visiting Fellow on a professional development award of the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

Mr. Szende was accompanied by his wife, Susan Helwig, who is a radio journalist with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC). While in Singapore, Ms Helwig submitted regular news reports on events in the region for broadcast on CBC's popular radio news program, "Sunday Morning."