

Trade mission to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji

Unusual and challenging trade opportunities in Australia, New Zealand and the Fiji Islands were studied by a 19-man Canadian trade mission, led by James F. Grandy, Deputy Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, which left Ottawa on October 20 for 18 days.

On the mission were 13 senior businessmen, each representing a particular sector of Canadian industry, whose interests include industrial machinery, forest products, electronics, power generation and distribution, textiles, chemicals and engineering services.

A number of recent developments in Australia and New Zealand have enhanced Canada's competitive position there. Since autumn 1971 the Australian and New Zealand dollars have appreciated almost 30 per cent in terms of Canadian currency, creating a strong

price advantage for Canadian companies shipping to these markets.

This advantage also prevails in relation to some of Canada's major competitors in these markets whose currencies have also appreciated as a result of currency realignments.

Canada has preferential tariff access to Australia and New Zealand; this, combined with the favourable currency situation, give Canadian suppliers a unique position in these markets. In July Canada signed an agreement with New Zealand which provides for the continuation of certain tariff preferences currently exchanged between the two countries. Discussions have also taken place between Canadian and Australian officials with a view to reaching a similar arrangement.

Other factors in the context of new

opportunities in Australia and New Zealand include recent anti-inflationary measures intended to stimulate a flow of imports. In July, Australia reduced its tariffs by 25 per cent across the board. In September, New Zealand announced a substantial increase in licensing quotas under its import licensing system. Both these actions will have the effect of improving Canadian access to these markets.

Increased economic activity in Fiji, especially in the expansion of tourism, and currency realignments, which have improved Canada's competitive position with Fiji's major suppliers, also provide a good new potential for Canadian exporters. The full mission visited Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Wellington and Auckland. After the New Zealand program Mr. Grandy and several of the mission members went to Suva to explore opportunities for Canadian products.

Two-way preferential tariffs between Canada and Australia

Robert K. Andras, Acting Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce signed on October 24 an Exchange of Letters between Canada and Australia, which serves as a new legal framework for preferential tariffs that were derived from Canada's and Australia's respective bilateral preferential agreements

with Britain. These trade agreements were terminated as a result of Britain's entry into the European Economic Community.

This Exchange of Letters, which supplements the 1960 Canada-Australia Trade Agreement, provides for the continuation of a broad range of tariff preferences on trade

between the two countries. A similar Exchange of Letters was signed between Canada and New Zealand on July 26, 1973.

The Exchange of Letters also brings Canada's obligations under the 1960 Trade Agreement with respect to dumping into line with the provisions of the GATT Anti-Dumping Code to which Canada is a signatory.

Military photographers honoured in Public Archives exhibit

General Jacques A. Dextraze, Chief of the Defence staff, opened an exhibition of Canadian military photography, at the Public Archives of Canada on September 11 which will run until November 30.

Entitled "Relentless Verity", the exhibition features 250 works by 13 photographers, covering Canadian Forces in war and peace from the Northwest Rebellion of 1885 to modern-day United Nations peacekeeping missions.

The earliest photographs in the show are the work of amateurs James Peters (1853-1927) and Henry J. Woodside (1858-1929). The First World War is covered by Canada's first official military photographer, William Rider-Rider. Other photographers represented are



Public Archives of Canada

William Rider-Rider (1889-)
Armoured car of the 3rd Battalion, Canadian Machine Gun Corps, supporting

troops of the 43rd Battalion during an advance east of Amiens, France, August 8, 1918.