



communiqué

N°: 32
No.:

MARCH 2, 1982

TRADE MINISTER VISITS SOUTHEAST ASIA

The Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister for International Trade, returned today from a two week trade mission to Southeast Asia which took him to Hong Kong, Malaysia, Brunei and India.

During his visit to Hong Kong on February 20 and 21, Mr. Regan met with senior government officials and Canadian business leaders to discuss a variety of topics of major commercial interest to Canada. In his meeting with Eric Ho, Hong Kong's Secretary of Industry and Trade, Mr. Regan set out Canadian views on the operation of bilateral textile arrangements and outlined Canadian interest in a government exhibition centre project. The Minister also met with Hong Kong Secretary of Monetary Affairs, Douglas Blye, and the Chairman of China Light and Power, Lord Kadoorie, to discuss projects of interest to Canadian firms in the telecommunications and nuclear fields.

Mr. Regan's visit to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on February 22, also focussed on specific commercial opportunities being actively pursued at present by Canadian firms. During a call on Daud Isahak, Malaysian Director General of Telecommunications, the Minister stressed Canadian expertise in this field and drew to his attention current Canadian bids for the supply of a multi access subscriber radio system and of PABX equipment. In other meetings the same day with the Malaysian ministers of Trade and Industry and of Finance, as well as with the Chairman of the National Electricity Board, Mr. Regan spoke in support of a bid by Canadian manufacturers of power generation equipment and also raised the possibility of sales of thermal coal from Canada.

In Brunei, Mr. Regan attended Independence Day Celebrations at Bandar Seri Begawan on February 23 as Special Representative of the Canadian Government. On behalf of Canada he presented a tapestry entitled "Les Nuages" by Canadian artist Joanna Staniszkis, as an independence gift to the people of Negara Brunei Darussalam.