

Early historical documents displayed by Archives



Map of America, drawn by Jean-Baptiste-Louis Franquelin, 1688.

An exhibition, entitled *Dreams of Empire – Canada before 1700* was opened last month by Minister of Communications Francis Fox at the Public Archives of Canada in Ottawa.

This exhibition profiles Canada's history from its infancy to 1700. Two hundred and fifty reproductions of archival documents drawn from 52 Canadian, American and European institutions will be on display. These documents, which range from maps, engravings, pictures and seals to medals, manuscripts and printed material, serve to illustrate eight distinct themes: the origins, exploration and occupation of the continent; population and settlement; government; wars; the economy; society

and culture; and religion.

According to Bernard Weilbrenner, assistant Dominion archivist and the project's director, "this exhibition is both a memorial and an illustration of Canada's history. It contains often unedited and little-known documents that are consulted by researchers when writing about Canadian history".

As the entire exhibition has been designed to travel to other regions across the country, it is composed of copies rather than original documents. In addition, all the documents on display will be reproduced in a hardcover reference book. The exhibition *Dreams of Empire – Canada before 1700* will be on display at the Archives until April 4, 1982.

Nuclear reactor sold to Jamaica

Canada has sold a mini nuclear reactor – *Slowpoke II* – to a Jamaican university, marking its first international sale of the small machine in more than five years.

The *Slowpoke*, which stands for safe low-power critical experiment, will be used by Jamaica's University of the West Indies for medical, environmental and other research work.

Six similar reactors are already in operation across Canada, including Ottawa. They are used for research purposes, mainly to analyse the mineral content of ore samples, although they can also analyse soil, tissues, water and hair.

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited

(AECL), which made the \$625,000 sale, had previously sold a *Slowpoke* to a university in West Germany but it is not expected to begin operation until 1984. The Jamaican machine should begin operation in about a year.

The *Slowpoke* concept was developed in 1970. It uses just two pounds of enriched uranium and produces about 20,000 watts of heat. The *Slowpoke* is one of the cheapest research reactors in the world to buy and operate, said AECL officials.

Five Canadians will travel to Jamaica to install the reactor, which should take about a month. Canada's nuclear regulatory body, Atomic Energy Control Board, will be involved in licensing and approving the Jamaican installation.

formation and advertising service in partnership with Cablesare Limited of the same city. London Free Press Holdings controls the *London Free Press* newspaper and CFPL Broadcasting Limited, while Cablesare Limited specializes in cable television hardware and software.

The venture involves the installation of Telidon terminals in shopping malls and other public places. Infopress, as the service is tentatively called, will provide community information, weather, shopping information, news headlines, transit schedules and electronic billboard advertising. Most data will be provided by the newspaper through a computer at Cablesare.

Infomart of Toronto, which markets the Telidon system, and Times Mirror Videotex Services, a unit of Times Mirror Company of Los Angeles have announced a new equal partnership. The partnership will enable Canadian videotex companies such as Electrohome Limited of Kitchener, Ontario and Norpak Limited of Kanata, Ontario to sell directly in the United States market.

Times Mirror Company had previously agreed to a joint venture with Infomart that would include a trial of Telidon in 350 California households. The trial, which will begin this March, will run until September.

Refugee relief for Thailand

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is providing a \$2.375 million cash grant to four international organizations for humanitarian relief in Thailand.

The four international agencies are: the United Nations Children's Fund, (\$300,000); the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, (\$800,000); the International Committee of the Red Cross, (\$375,000); and the World Food Program, (\$900,000).

These organizations have been providing considerable relief to Thailand given the massive outflows of refugees from Kampuchea since 1979. Canada's contribution will be aimed specifically at the plight of refugees inside Thailand and on the Kampuchean border as well as Thai nationals displaced by the influx of refugees.

The \$2.375 million brings to a total of \$22 million, Canada's official humanitarian relief for Kampuchean refugees in Thailand.