

CANADA-IRAN PACT

The Secretary of State for External Affairs recently signed an agreement with the Imperial Government of Iran for co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The agreement was signed on behalf of the Imperial Government of Iran by Ambassador Mohammed Goodarzi.

This pact will provide for the exchange of information and services on the peaceful uses of atomic energy with respect to research, development, health and safety, as well as institute co-operative arrangements regarding any use of equipment, facilities and supplies. As such it will prove a useful framework for nuclear co-operation. In addition, the agreement reflects the obligations both countries have assumed under the Treaty for the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

TRADE WITH ISRAEL

Participation by Canadians in transportation, communications, energy and other projects planned by the Israeli Government were discussed by Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, when he visited Israel recently. The following joint communiqué was released in Jerusalem by Mr. Pepin and Mr. Pinhas Sapir, Minister of Finance and of Commerce and Industry of Israel:

"During talks held in Jerusalem at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry between the two ministers and high ranking Israeli officials of the Ministries of Commerce and Industry, Finance, Foreign Affairs and Transport, the Canadian Ambassador and his staff, as well as the representative of the Canadian Export Development Corporation, all outstanding matters of mutual economic interest were fully explored in the spirit of friendship and understanding which hallmarks Canadian-Israeli relations.

"The Ministers agreed in principle, subject to the signing of mutually satisfactory loan agreements, that the Canadian Export Development Corporation would make loans of up to \$100 million to the Government of Israel to finance sales to Israel of Canadian capital goods and services.

"Bilateral and multilateral trade matters were comprehensively discussed, such as non-tariff barriers, the generalized-system of preference, Israel's preferential agreement with the European Economic Community, double taxation, insurance of investments agreement, the desirability of establishing an instrument for scientific co-operation between the two countries. It was agreed that further discussions between the respective officials of both governments will be continued on these matters to achieve mutually acceptable agreement."

During 1970, Canadian exports to Israel totalled some \$14.44 million and imports were \$14.46 million.

Barley, copper, aluminum, iron and steel, asbestos and chemical products made up the larger part of Canada's exports. Israel's exports to Canada included diamonds, cotton yarn and thread, apparel and footwear, fruits and vegetables and other food products.

NEW NORTHERN SCHOOL

Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, recently opened a 400-student school and hostel complex in the North that he claimed would become a landmark in the development of native educational opportunities.

The \$2.8-million school, located in the hamlet of Rae-Edzo, 65 miles from Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories at the northern tip of Great Slave Lake, will be controlled entirely by members of the Dogrib Indian Band.

A committee of six Indians elected locally, will supervise educational policy and programs, the hiring of teachers, the appointment of a principal and general administration and maintenance of the complex.

The school will use a new curriculum emphasizing the teaching of native language, traditions and skills and the cultural contributions of native groups. Teachers will be aided by native classroom assistants. Arithmetic, reading and music will be taught, and hunters, trappers and fishermen from the Rae-Edzo area will teach pupils about their work and the "old ways".

The building, which was paid for by the Territorial Government, comprises an elementary school and a residence large enough to accommodate 100 children from the surrounding hamlets of Lac La Martre, Snare Lake and Rae Lakes. The remaining 300 pupils will live at home in Rae-Edzo, a community of 1,100 people, 90 per cent of which are Dogrib Indians.

Mr. Chrétien remarked that the "citizens of Rae-Edzo and the Dogrib people have here a model, an example to other northern Indians and to all the Indians of Canada". He praised their efforts in the development of a plan for the operation of a school that is relatively new to Canadian education.

The results were, he said, "an honest reflection of what the parents felt they wanted, and not what someone else thought they wanted".

The complex was named in honour of Chief Jimmy Bruneau, a noted Dogrib leader who formed the idea and persevered to obtain his people's support for its construction. Local labour was employed during construction, which began in the spring of 1970. Indian couples have been retained as "dorm or resident parents" for the adjoining hostel, and young students will be encouraged to take advantage of a teacher-education program in the North to teach at Rae-Edzo.

In addition to being a self-governing municipality since April 1971, Rae-Edzo is the largest Indian community in the NWT.