

lization programs for commodities that have a regional (as opposed to a national) market; provision for provincial or producer participation in stabilization programs. (Such participation, however, must not lead to unequal treatment of producers of a commodity in one province over those in another and must not stimulate over-production.)

'Varsity credits for Forces courses

Defence Minister James Richardson announced recently that the Department of National Defence and University of Manitoba joint academic upgrading program, which began last year, had been a great success. More than 350 members of the Canadian Forces and their dependants had taken advantage of this unique opportunity to work towards earning a university degree, he said.

The University of Manitoba is the first in Canada to award academic credits for training courses conducted at Canadian Forces' schools and experience gained in the service. The three-year program also facilitates the transfer of credits earned by students at other universities to the University of Manitoba's degree-granting programs.

Academic staff members at the university have analyzed and compared Canadian Forces' courses and training with some of their own academic courses and have determined that some of the Forces' courses will be recommended for university credit.

Loans to Pakistan and Cameroon

Canadian commodities valued at up to \$35 million will be supplied to Pakistan during the next three years through a development loan announced by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen.

Raw materials needed by Pakistan's expanding economy, such as newsprint, copper, lead, aluminum and zinc, will be made available through the loan. Provision is also made for fertilizers to support increasing levels of agricultural production. The loan will enable Pakistan to purchase an additional \$5-million worth of commodities in Canada in 1975-76 and \$15-million worth in each of the subsequent two years.

Besides encouraging the industrial sector, the new agreement will help the country cope with a balance-of-payments problem aggravated by inflated prices of essential imports and unpredictable markets for commodity exports.

Loan, grant to Cameroon

Canada has also agreed to provide the Federal Republic of Cameroon with a \$1-million grant and an \$8-million loan for the improvement of the African nation's railway line.

Two trunk lines of the Trans-Cameroon railway system have been rebuilt and re-aligned with multinational financial assistance. The first phase of the construction and realignment of the third, from Yaoundé to Douala, a trunk line, to which Canada is contributing,

began this month.

The long-term loan will be used by the Republic to purchase railway construction materials, while the grant is for technical training.

When completed, the railway is expected to increase freight haulage through the port city of Couala from 60 to 70 per cent by 1980.

Increased contributions to United Nations agencies

Canada has pledged for 1976 increased sums to the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

The regular contribution to UNDP will rise by \$4.5 million to \$28.5 million, an increase of 18.7 per cent over the 1975 amount. In addition, Canada will give, during the year, a supplementary sum of \$500,000 to be used to accelerate development of the least-developed countries. The total Canadian contribution to UNDP for 1976 will, therefore, be \$29 million.

UNICEF

A sum of \$5 million, compared to last year's pledge of \$3.5 million, has been earmarked by Canada for the regular programs of UNICEF. In addition, \$2 million — one million in cash, one million in kind — will be given towards special-assistance projects in countries that have the most needs, and another \$3 million in cash will be contributed, through UNICEF, to the UN Indochina Relief Operation.

World's most powerful satellite

Nearing completion at the Communications Research Centre at Shirley Bay, just west of Ottawa, the experimental Communications Technology Satellite is shown with its pair of solar "sails" fully unfurled. The spacecraft, Canada's eighth satellite, will be launched from Florida in mid-January for a two-year program of social and technical experiments designed to pave the way for development of a new generation of high-powered orbiting transmitters for the 1980s. With the sails unfurled, on command from an earth station, it will measure about 55 feet from tip to tip.

