

New fighter aircraft (Cont'd from P. 2)

the request for proposal. Nor was it the Government's intention to acquire an aircraft whose capabilities far exceeded those required to carry out assessed roles adequately.

We are convinced that we have now made a very judicious decision in selecting these two aircraft for further consideration, taking into account the factors of military requirements, budgetary considerations, the minimum number of aircraft required, the risk element, and the potential industrial benefits.

We expect that a reduction to two contenders will have a very favourable impact on Canadian industry's ability to participate with prime manufacturers in the development of detailed industrial proposals.

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News briefs

Prime Minister Raymond Barre of France has accepted Prime Minister Trudeau's invitation to make an official visit to Canada from February 8 to 13. Mr. Barre will visit Ottawa and Quebec City.

Northern Telecom Canada Limited of Toronto has lowered prices on all products to reflect the recent reduction in the federal sales tax.

Peugeot Canada Limited of Montreal has reduced the prices of its 1979 models by an amount of from \$295 to \$500, depending on the model.

Pre-tax corporation profits rose at a 22.8 percent annual rate in the third quarter of 1978, up from 3.6 per cent in the second quarter, according to Statistics Canada. The profit level in the third quarter was 17.7 percent higher than it was a year earlier.

Canada's automotive trade deficit with the U.S. totalled \$634.7 million for the

first nine months of 1978, down from \$901.7 million in the comparable 1977 period, Statistics Canada reports.

Real GNP grew by 3.6 per cent on an annual basis during the third quarter, compared with a 4.4 percent rate in the second quarter and 2.8 per cent in the first quarter.

Unilingual French-speaking pilots will no longer be required to have a knowledge of English to obtain the Department of Communications certificate needed to operate aircraft radios. "Since adoption of bilingualism at Quebec airports, safety requirements dealing with voice communications are being adequately met by provisions of MOT Air Navigation Order 1, Series 1," says Communications Minister Jeanne Sauvé.

Canada is to invest \$10 million in a project to rebuild Trinidad's airports — as part of a six-year bilateral agreement signed by Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Jack Horner and Trinidad's Prime Minister, Eric Williams, recently. The agreement includes several proposals which will be worked out in detail and signed separately. Trinidad would also like Canada to build a new penitentiary and create buffer stocks of food to be used to stabilize prices on the island.

Agronomists predict that Canada's 1978 rapeseed crop, now third in the nation's production, will be worth about \$600 million to Canadian farmers.

Food companies may be called before the Federal Government to explain why their profits have been soaring, says Consumer and Corporate Affairs Minister Warren Allmand. A recent report cites profit increases of 63 per cent in the food and beverage industry.

Penalties of almost \$3 million in the past 12 months have been imposed by Revenue Canada on 830 taxpayers who were late in filing their income tax returns. The penalty for attempted tax evasion is 50 per cent of the tax owing. In addition, the taxes must be paid along with accrued interest and a 5 percent late filing penalty to a maximum of \$500.

The Government of Kenya announced recently that it planned to establish a high commission in Canada for the first time.

Communications Minister Jeanne Sauvé has been appointed *francophone* adviser to External Affairs Minister Donald Jamieson. She replaces former Supply and Services Minister Jean-Pierre Goyer, who will not seek re-election. Mrs. Sauvé

will be responsible for relations with the Paris-based Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation and will take part in Canadian representation to *francophone* countries.

A new charter airline, Ontario World-air, began business December 1 with two return trips from Toronto to Jamaica. The airline, the first international charter carrier to be based in Ontario, is using a refurbished 185-seat Boeing 707 aircraft under lease from U.S.-based IteI Corporation. The aircraft will be used on inclusive tours with major Canadian tour operators and in the summer will offer advanced booking charter flights to Britain and Europe.

A Canadian prize, *Man and His World*, has been awarded to Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, director-general of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), for work towards international peace. The award, created this year to recognize persons making a major contribution in the field of peace and international understanding, is named after the Montreal exhibition.

The federal and Newfoundland governments have agreed to establish and jointly fund the Lower Churchill Development Corporation, in preparation for the development of a second, large-scale hydroelectric project on the Churchill River in Labrador. The Federal Government initially will provide \$5 million and will receive a 49 percent share in the corporation.

Corporate profits rose 27.9 per cent in the third quarter to \$1.26 billion from \$988.7 million recorded in that period in 1977, according to a survey of 150 companies. The third-quarter advance was the tenth quarterly rise after six consecutive quarters of reduced earnings.

Alex Campbell, former premier of Prince Edward Island, has been appointed by the Federal Government to the province's Supreme Court. The announcement coincides with the forty-fifth birthday of the lawyer who resigned as premier in September and as a Liberal member for his riding on November 29.

Mineral production in British Columbia reached an estimated \$1.9 billion during 1978, an increase of \$157.7 million over the 1977 figure. Coal accounted for \$85.1 million of the increase, followed by metals, \$73.3 million; structural materials, \$13 million; and petroleum and natural gas at \$6.4 million. The value for industrial minerals dropped \$20.1 million.

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