



communiqué

N^o: 27
No.:

FEBRUARY 17, 1984

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS OF NEGARA BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced today that the Special Representative of the Canadian Government at the Independence Day Celebrations of Negara Brunei Darussalam at Bandar Seri Begawan on February 23 will be the Honourable Gerald Regan, Minister for International Trade.

As is customary on such occasions, an independence gift will be presented on behalf of the Canadian Government to the Government of Negara Brunei Darussalam. The gift will be a tapestry "Les Nuages" by the Canadian artist, Joanna Staniszki.

As part of his travel surrounding the ceremonies in Brunei, Minister Regan will be visiting Malaysia, Hong Kong and India, where he will be discussing a number of trade opportunities. Calls by the Minister in Malaysia will center upon energy and telecommunications. During his one day visit in Kuala Lumpur, the Minister plans to meet with the Minister of Finance, the Chairman of the Board of Petronas (Malaysia's oil and gas authority), and senior telecommunications authorities. In Hong Kong, key meetings will involve Minister Regan's counterpart, the Secretary of Trade and Industry as well as the Chairman of the prestigious Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Canadexpo 84, the large multisectoral trade fair that Canada will conduct May 11-20 in Hong Kong, and the proposed Hong Kong exhibition centre project are amongst the topics Mr. Regan will likely raise. As for India, the focus of Minister Regan's visit will be three

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energy megaprojects in hydro, thermopower, and gas transmission respectively. In addition to the Minister of Energy, Minister Regan will meet the Indian Ministers of Railways and Commerce to convey Canadian Government support for the several opportunities being pursued by Canadian interests in these sectors.

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