

# Canada Weekly

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## Secretary of State for External Affairs tours Middle East

In Cairo on January 12, on the first day of a ten-day tour of the Middle East, Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen stated that "active consideration" was being given to the provision by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) of bilateral technical and financial assistance for Egyptian development projects. In addition, said Mr. MacEachen, he had authorized CIDA to contribute \$1 million to the United Nations Development Program for the reconstruction of the Suez Canal region.

During his stay in Egypt, Mr. MacEachen and his delegation met with President Anwar Sadat, Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy and other Egyptian officials. Commenting on Mr. Fahmy's acceptance of Mr. MacEachen's invitation to visit Canada, he said that he hoped it would take place shortly. There was general agreement by both countries, Mr. MacEachen added, "that a new impetus must be given to Egypt/Canada relations in other fields such as trade, investment,

development and technical co-operation, as well as cultural affairs". On the Canadian side, he stated, Egypt had been perceived in terms of the conflict that had marked the recent history of the Middle East. "Fortunately, recent political developments in this region, as well as changing perceptions in our two countries, will enable us to overcome this handicap," he said.

At a news conference the following day, President Sadat declared that he would like Canada to recognize the Palestine Liberation Organization as the sole representative of the Palestinian people in their conflict with Israel. Mr. MacEachen replied that Canada had made no decision on who should represent the Palestinian people, adding that such a decision should be left to the Palestinians themselves. He believed that the Palestinians should be represented at any talks dealing with the Middle East crisis.

Discussions between the Egyptian and Canadian officials included developments in the Middle East and bilateral relations.

## Relations with Egypt

Canada has long enjoyed friendly relations with Egypt. The two countries first exchanged ambassadors in 1955.

Canadian trade with Egypt is fairly limited; exports have increased from \$13.1 million in 1973 to \$14 million in 1974. In the first six months of 1975 they amounted to \$6.3 million. The majority of these exports were raw materials, foodstuffs, and some industrial goods. Egyptian exports to Canada, mostly cotton yarns, range from \$0.5 million to \$0.75 million a year.

Canada is the destination for some

700 Egyptian immigrants each year.

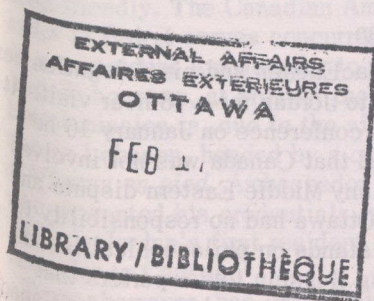
Canadian official visits to Egypt have been limited, although several delegations visited Egypt in the past year - the Minister of National Defence last autumn, representatives from the National Defence College and the Deputy Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce in April 1975. The official spokesman for President Sadat, Ambassador Tashin Bashir, visited Canada September 25 - October 3 as an "opinion former" under the Canadian visiting journalists program to attend a seminar on the Middle East at Laval University, Quebec.

## Saudi Arabia

During his stay in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, the next stop on his tour, the Secretary of State for External Affairs signed a bilateral memorandum of agreement on commercial co-operation. He met with Crown Prince Fahd and

with Foreign Minister Prince Saud and other government officials.

In a departing statement on January 15, Mr. MacEachen explained the purpose in visiting countries of the Middle East - "to obtain at first hand an appreciation of the problems, achieve-



ments and aspirations of the different countries of this region." He also said:

"In my comprehensive talks with Prince Saud and other ministers we have sought to find ways and means of further developing the very friendly bilateral relations which already exist between Canada and Saudi Arabia. Our approach has been first to identify various key economic and other objectives of our two countries and then to proceed to a discussion as to how each country can contribute to the realization of these objectives. In this connection, Saudi authorities have briefed me on the impressive aims of the country's five-year development plan and I have outlined Canadian oil import needs, investment policies and willingness and ability to contribute to the fulfilment of Saudi development plans in a number of key sectors. Our discussions have revealed that there are many and wide-ranging possibilities for Saudi-Canadian economic co-operation and that both countries are able and willing to seek closer and mutually advantageous relations. As a gauge of the seriousness with which both sides intend to pursue this goal, I am very pleased to announce that the governments of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Canada have decided to

establish a joint committee for economic and technical co-operation. Prince Saud and I have signed a memorandum of understanding on this subject and it has been agreed that this committee will hold its first meeting in early summer in Ottawa. As a further indication of the growing bilateral ties between our two countries, Prince Saud has given me the very welcome news that a Saudi Ambassador to Canada, to be resident to Ottawa, will soon be nominated.

"With regard to international economic issues, we have in particular discussed the prospects for the Conference on International Economic Co-operation which got under way in Paris last month. Given the fact that this important conference was originally proposed by the Saudi Government and that I am one of the conference's two co-chairman, Saudi Arabia and Canada have a special interest in discussing the work of this conference in the key fields of energy, raw materials, development and finance. I have also reviewed with Prince Saud, and the Minister of Finance, international monetary issues as well as Saudi and Canadian aid programs which are an increasingly important part of the foreign policy of both countries. We

have agreed that Canada and Saudi Arabia will keep in continuing contact on all these important world economic issues.

"On the political side, Prince Saud and I examined the current situation in the Middle East.... Canada, as you are aware, is one of the largest contributors both to UNRWA and the United Nations' peacekeeping forces. In these discussions, I have not attempted to suggest what the details of any eventual Middle East peace settlement should be. The Canadian Government has consistently taken the view that the interested parties must themselves seek a negotiated settlement on the basis of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and all the principles which they embody. The Canadian Government believes that secure and recognized boundaries for all states in the area together with respect for their sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence are essential to a just and lasting settlement. Equally, any settlement, if it is going to be equitable and permanent, will have to take full account of the legitimate interests and aspirations of all the peoples of the area including the Palestinian Arabs...."

#### Relations with Saudi Arabia

Three years ago Canada's relations with Saudi Arabia were non-existent, and it has been less than two years since the Canadian Government opened an embassy in Jeddah. Since then, however, Saudi-Canadian relations have become increasingly friendly. The Saudis have a growing interest in Canada and are becoming aware of its potential as a supplier of agricultural and technological expertise and equipment required to realize its development plans.

The balance of trade lies heavily in Saudi Arabia's favour; Saudi exports to Canada (mostly in the form of oil), grew from \$60 million in 1973 to \$320 million in 1974 and \$565 million in the first eight months of 1975. Saudi Arabia may overtake Iran this year as Canada's major Middle Eastern oil supplier. Saudi Arabia ranks after Iran as Canada's sixth most important trading partner. Canadian exports

have increased from \$17 million in 1974 to \$26 million in the first nine months of 1975. While this volume of exports is still relatively small, it may be expected to increase once the memorandum of understanding on economic co-operation is implemented. Nor do these figures show the invisible earnings of Canadian consultants and technical experts at work in Saudi Arabia, where there are at least 20 Canadian companies already involved in as many different projects.

Since 1974, there have been a number of official visits and exchanges between the two countries. The Canadian Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources visited Saudi Arabia in early 1974, followed by the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce in the spring of that year and by the Minister of Finance in April 1975. A Saudi education mission visited Canada in the summer and a senior Saudi economic mission came in the autumn.

#### Jordan

Mr. MacEachen and his delegation next went to Jordan for a 48-hour visit. At a news conference on January 16 he stated that Canada was not involved with any Middle Eastern dispute and that Ottawa had no responsibility to take stands on philosophical issues.

King Hussein told reporters that Jordan had deep admiration for Canada because of its genuine interest in the cause of world peace.

The King took the Canadian party for a cruise aboard his yacht in the Gulf of Aqaba. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai was at the helm.

#### Iraq

The Canadian delegation left Jordan on January 17 for Baghdad, where they held discussions with Iraqi officials. During the next few weeks, it is expected that Canada and Iraq will sign agreements on economic co-operation and commercial relations. Mr. MacEachen told Iraqi reporters that,

King Hussein of Jordan (right) welcomes Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen to the Royal

Palace of Aqaba during a ten-day visit to five countries of the Middle East in January.

CP wirephoto



while it remained to be seen whether or not Canadian policy would be changed in the Middle East, the cur-

rent policy had stood up well during the trip to Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Iraq.

#### Relations with Jordan

Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in December 1964, Canada's relations with Jordan have been friendly. The Canadian Ambassador in Beirut serves concurrently as non-resident Ambassador to Jordan; however, at present the Beirut mission is, due to the situation in Lebanon, headed by a *chargé d'Affaires en pied*. Ambassador Tash, who presented his credentials in July 1975, is Jordan's first resident Ambassador to Canada.

Trade, however, has been limited. In 1974, Canadian exports to Jordan, mainly iron and gas turbines, totalled some \$3.5 million, while imports from Jordan were about \$3,000. In 1975, Canadian exports were only \$930,000, compared to virtually no imports. At present, no Canadian firms are operating to any extent in Jordan and greater Canadian involvement there is not anticipated at this time.

King Hussein and Queen Alia stopped in Ottawa *en route* to an air show in Vancouver in August 1974 and held discussions on the Middle East situation with the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs.

#### Israel

In Jerusalem, Israel, the last stop on his Middle East tour, Mr. MacEachen, held discussions with Foreign Minister Yigal Allon and other officials. An Israeli delegation would, it was learned, attend the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat) in Vancouver, British Columbia, in June. (Israel had boycotted the UN Conference on Crime that had been held in Geneva after it was moved from Toronto following a Canadian debate over admission of the Palestine Liberation Organization and Canada's request for a postponement.)

At a dinner given in his honour on January 19, the day before he left for London, the Canadian External Affairs Minister said:

\* \* \* \*

"The consolidation and further expansion of bilateral relations with Israel as well as with all countries in the Middle East is an important element of Canadian diplomacy in this region. In itself, this goal would have been a sufficient motive to accept the kind invitation extended to me by your Government; but in addition, I welcome this opportunity to establish personal contacts with you, and with other Israeli leaders. I was particularly

#### Relations with Iraq

Canada's relations with Iraq are good, but only since the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce visited Iraq in 1974, have they begun to take on any importance. Canada's exports to Iraq increased from \$1 million in 1973 to \$19 million in 1974 and to \$56 million for the first nine months of 1975. While Iraqi exports to Canada rose from \$20 million in 1973 to \$36 million in 1974, Iraq only supplies a small fraction of Canada's oil imports.

Iraq, which established an embassy in Ottawa in 1972, indicated that it would like to see Canada reciprocate. The decision to open a Canadian embassy in Baghdad was made in 1974 and the work of establishing this mission began in April 1975. Canada's first resident Ambassador to Baghdad, William Jones, arrived at the end of September.

looking forward to in-depth discussions of Israeli positions and perceptions on the political situation in this region of the world; and the meetings we have had so far have amply confirmed the usefulness of such exchanges. I hope to resume these discussions with you, Mr. Minister, before long — this time in Canada; for it is with great pleasure that I invite you to pay an official visit to our country. As I noted earlier in another capital, Canadian policy on the Middle East is not fixed in stone; it reflects the existing political circumstances in time and is, therefore, liable to change as these circumstances evolve. That is why I wish to consult more frequently, in the future, with leaders like yourself.

"Given that we share a common outlook in many respects, I am correct, I believe, in characterizing relations between Canada and Israel as excellent. As you have pointed out, many thousands of Canadians travel to Israel each year and these visits are reciprocated by the broad range of Israelis who travel in turn to Canada. On the economic front we have witnessed last year yet another increase in our two-way trade.

"During the course of my trip to the Middle East, I have visited several of Israel's Arab neighbours. Consequently, the magnitude of the problems associated with the search for peace in

this area of the world are fully in my mind. Canada's fundamental and unalterable concern has always been to make its contribution towards a just and durable peace. We have tried to do this in a very direct way through our participation in the United Nations Emergency Force in the Sinai, which is larger than that provided by any other country, and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force on the Golan Heights. If these forces can continue to provide a measure of stability between Israel and her neighbours and can help to establish and maintain a climate in which substantive negotiations can take place, Canada fully intends to maintain its contribution.

"The Government and the people of Canada supported the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, its right to exist as an independent state in the Middle East and the right of its people to live in peace within secure and re-

cognized boundaries, and that still continues as the policy of the Government of Canada. In no way has this support ever been directed against Israel's neighbours. Indeed, Canada has sought to maintain a policy of balance and objectivity in the Middle East conflict. We firmly believe that all the peoples of this region have the same right to peaceful and prosperous development behind secure boundaries.

\* \* \* \*

"I know that decisions are very difficult when the security and sovereignty of states are at issue. It is my hope that the parties concerned will continue to find the fortitude necessary to make the difficult choices which will be required if the momentum towards peace is to be built on and expanded. I recognize, Mr. Minister, as do you, that regrettable incidents such as the passage of the resolution at the United Nations equating Zionism with

racism, which Canada vigorously opposed, do little to contribute to a climate of mutual tolerance and understanding so vital in any negotiations.

\* \* \* \*

"Canada considers it vital to any lasting settlement that there be respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of every state in the Middle East. The Government of Canada remains unalterably opposed to any attempt to challenge the right of Israel to live within secure and recognized boundaries, free from threat and acts of force. At the same time it is the Canadian Government's view that the Palestinian people should be heard and participate in negotiations regarding their destiny. Indeed, my strong impression as I conclude my visit to the Middle East is that there will be no solution unless the legitimate interests of the Palestinians are met."

**Relations with Israel**

Relations between Canada and Israel have been close since the latter's foundation in 1948 by the United Nations, which Canada supported.

In 1973, some 22,000 Canadians visited Israel and close to 12,000 Israelis came to Canada. The many holy places in Israel are objects of pilgrimage for many Jewish, Christian and Moslem Canadians.

Canada has consistently upheld the

right of Israel to exist in peace behind defined and secured borders. That right has remained a basic premise of Canadian policy towards the Middle East. In a speech to the House of Commons on July 21, 1975, the Secretary of State for External Affairs not only endorsed the principle of universality in the United Nations but stated unequivocally that Canada "will resist any attempt to exclude Israel or any other country from the proceedings of UNGA". In

no way has this support been directed against Israel's neighbours. Indeed, Canada has sought to maintain a policy of balance and objectivity in the Middle East conflict.

Trade between Canada and Israel increased in 1974. In that year, Israel provided some \$24.8-million worth of imports to Canada and bought \$50.8 million of Canadian exports, which included barley, aluminium, wheat, copper, asbestos and transportation equipment.

**Canada/Poland fishing co-operation**

Polish and Canadian representatives met in Warsaw on January 19 and 20, to discuss future co-operation in fisheries.

The meeting carried forward discussions held in Ottawa in November, on a bilateral agreement on fisheries co-operation to establish the terms and conditions governing continued fishing by the Polish fleet in waters off Canada's coasts. This included expected legal and jurisdictional changes in the regime of fisheries management in such waters and traditional Polish fishing. Short-term arrangements regarding Polish fishing off the Pacific coast were also discussed.

The two sides agreed on the terms of

an agreement which, if approved by both governments, would permit Polish vessels to fish in the areas to be brought under Canadian jurisdiction beyond the present limits of the Canadian territorial sea and fishing zones, under Canadian authority and control, for resources surplus to Canadian requirements.

A second agreement, if approved, would establish the short-term arrangements concerning the conduct of present Polish fishing in waters off Canada's Pacific coast. It includes provisions covering the species to be caught, quotas, closed areas and co-operative arrangements to ensure compliance with the agreement. There is also a provision relating to Polish loading and unloading operations.

**Authors from the U.S.S.R.**

The Cultural Affairs Division of the Department of External Affairs was host recently to two groups of writers from the Soviet Union who visited Canada under the General Exchanges Agreement. Grigoriy Yakovlevich Baklanov, Anatoly Andreyvich Ananyev and Freda Lurye were the official visitors under the 1974/75 program.

Both men are novelists and Mr. Ananyev is editor of the literary monthly periodical *October*. Mrs. Lurye is the consultant for Canadian literature for the Soviet Writers' Union. Their tour of Canada, from October 23 to November 12, took them across the country visiting universities and meeting prominent Canadian writers.

### Canada opposes all foreign military aid in Angola

"Canada favours an immediate cease-fire in Angola," Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen said on January 20.

In a statement in Tel Aviv on the last day of his visit to the Middle East, Mr. MacEachen said that Canada was completely opposed to the continued supply of foreign soldiers, arms, material, money and mercenaries to the three warring factions in Angola.

"We believe that each of the three liberation movements has a genuine constituency among the people of Angola and we consider that the only real solution to the problem is a negotiated settlement following the withdrawal of *all* foreign military assistance. This would allow the Angolan people to choose a government freely without fear of intimidation and danger to their personal safety," he stated.

He added that, in present circumstances, Canada did not see its way clear to recognizing any of the contending groups as the government of Angola.

### Olympic stamps

Four Olympic commemorative stamps – a set of three featuring the arts and culture program, and one depicting the XII Olympic Winter Games, Innsbruck 1976, will be issued by the Canada Post Office on February 6.

Of the three arts and culture stamps, designed by Ray Webber of Toronto, the 50-cent denomination represents the performing arts, the 25-cent denomination depicts handicrafts, and the 20-cent denomination portrays communications arts.

The Innsbruck Winter Games 20-cent stamp, designed by Rolf Harder of Montreal, shows the official Innsbruck Olympic symbol combined with a stylized snowflake.

### Olympics arts and culture program

By a special amendment of the Olympic organization's bylaws, the arts and culture program of the XXI Olympiad in Montreal this summer will be the entire responsibility of the host country for the first time in the history of

### Ontario Liberals elect new leader

Dr. Stuart Smith, a Hamilton psychiatrist, was elected leader of the Ontario Liberal party at a leadership convention on January 25.

A member of the Ontario Legislature since only last September, Dr. Smith won on the third ballot by 45 votes over David Peterson of London, Ontario, another newcomer elected at the same time. The final count was 998 votes to 953.

Six candidates were in the race. The first ballot result showed Smith with 629 votes, Peterson 518, Albert Roy of Ottawa 469, Marc MacGuigan, a federal Member of Parliament, 308, Larry Condon 37, and Michael Houlton 4. On the second ballot Smith had 742 votes, Peterson 673 and Roy 513.

Dr. Smith succeeds Ontario Liberal Party leader Robert Nixon, who resigned after the September 1975 election, when the New Democratic Party replaced the Liberals as the Official Opposition after 25 years. The Progressive Conservatives have held the majority in the Ontario government for some 32 years.

### Appointments to the Order of Canada

The Canadian High Commissioner in London, Paul Martin, and the Secretary to the Cabinet for Federal-Provincial Relations, Dr. R. Gordon Robertson, head the list of 60 new appointments



Canada's High Commissioner in London, Paul Martin, was recently named Companion of the Order of Canada.

to membership in the Order of Canada, announced by Governor-General Jules Léger on January 17. The Order is designed to honour Canadians for outstanding achievement and merit in every major field of endeavour.

The degrees of membership in the Order are designated by letters after surnames – for the Companion (conferred on Mr. Martin and Dr. Robertson), "C.C.", for the Officer (of which there are 19), "O.C." and for the Member (39), "C.M."

Among the Officers in the recent list are geologist Dr. Helen R. Belyea, former British Columbia premier W.A.C. Bennett, artist Jack Bush, chairman of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters Pierre Camu, Laval University professor Jean-Charles Falardeau, former Speaker of the Senate Muriel Fergusson, chairman of the Public Service Staff Relations Board Jacob Finkelman, chief of cardiovascular surgery, Toronto Hospital for Sick Children Dr. William Thornton, and president of McClelland and Stewart publishers Dr. Jack McClelland.

Included in the new Members' list are folklorist Helen Creighton, sculptor-artist Sylvia Daoust, Brigadier-General

the Games. Canadian arts and crafts will feature the best talent in plastic arts, graphic arts, performing arts and handicrafts.

Concerts, pageants and exhibitions will be held throughout July.



Keith Greenaway, swimmer Donna-Marie Gurr, champion jockey Sandy Hawley, painter William Kurelek, lawyer François Mercier, rodeo champion Kenny McLean, the director of Northern Medical Research at the Charles Camshell Hospital, Edmonton, Alberta, Dr. Otto Schaefer, the chairman of the Council for Yukon Indians, Elijah Smith, nurse Juliette St-Pierre and the former master of the Canadian Coast Guard Ship *John Cabot*, Captain Gordon Warren.

An investiture will be held at Government House during the first week of April.



#### Variety of uses for portable structures

*Almost any activity can be housed "under the big top" with a portable building from Sprung Instant Structures Limited, Calgary, Alberta.*

*Dome-like Sprung structures, which are waterproof and can be used in any climate, have no additional posts or supports to limit the amount of usable floor space. They can be erected without a foundation on any uniform sur-*

*face – asphalt, clay, gravel, concrete or bare earth – without pegs and ropes. The only anchorage needed is two drift pins for each beam.*

*Erection and dismantling is simple, with the use of lightweight beams and stressed membrane fabric. Since they are also compact for easy shipping, they are being widely used to house the products of Canadian exhibitors at international trade shows.*

#### Recent publications

*The Canadian Establishment*, by author and journalist Peter Newman, issued on November 1 by McClelland and Stewart, has received almost unanimous critical praise and is on the best-seller list in Canada. The book, the first of a multi-volume series, examines interlocking corporations of the Canadian "power elite".

*Montreal at the Crossroads* received the first book award from Heritage Canada, a national foundation to promote conservation of heritage structures. The book, published by Harvest House of Canada, is an expansion of articles about the future of Montreal as a city, initially written by Donna Gabeline, Dane Lanken and Gordon Pape for the *Montreal Gazette*. The newspaper series received the Roland Michener award for public service journalism.

*Persia – Bridge of Turquoise*, released in Canada by McClelland and Stewart, is the result of Canadian photographer Roloff Beny's commission from the Empress of Iran to create a portrait of her country. Beny's fascination with Iran is evident in the 228 colour and 51 black-and-white photos. The book includes an essay by the

Iranian scholar Seyyed Hossien Nasr, historical notes by Mitchell Crites and Persian poems and prose. The preface is by Empress Farah. Roloff Beny is said to have received more awards than any other living photographer. Among his many books, Beny has produced photo studies of Canada, Japan and, most recently, Italy.

*Quick Canadian Facts*, a pocket encyclopaedia compiled by C.J. Harris and published by the author himself, is now in its thirtieth edition. Since 1945, Harris has been a one-man company, assembling and updating data on geography, government, history, resources, climate, populations, incomes, taxation, trade and many other aspects of Canadian life.

*The Canadian Essay and Literature Index* – The University of Toronto Press has issued an index to essays, book reviews, poems, plays and short stories published in Canada during

1973. The aim of editors Andrew Armistage and Nancy Tudor has been to concentrate on books and anthologies issued by small publishers not already indexed in the *Canadian Periodical Index*.

*Harry Somers* – the first book in a series about Canadian composers commissioned by the Canadian Music Centre, has been released by the University of Toronto press. The book about Harry Somers is written by Brian Cherney. The aim of the series of six volumes is "to make Canadian composers' music more widely known at home and abroad".

*Union List of Manuscripts in Canadian Repositories* is a guide to the location of unpublished research material available in Canada.

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*Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.*