

# Habitat attracting some big-league names

By TIM BRANNON  
Habitat will be selected in Monday by internationally-known figures as well as by Governor General Jules Léger, Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau and several of Trudeau's cabinet ministers.

Some of the individuals profiled here — Mexican President Luis Echeverría for instance — will make only brief appearances at the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, which will officially open Monday at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre.

This short list concentrates on well-known statesmen and scholars from various parts of the world. **KURT WALDHEIM** — Prior to becoming secretary-general of the UN, Waldheim had a long career as an Austrian diplomat. He served as foreign minister and was Austrian Ambassador to Canada from 1968 to 1970.

He has interpreted his job as requiring extensive travel to all parts of the world in an effort to promote peace in the Middle East and to ease tensions between the wealthy nations and those hindered by the severe inflation of the past few years. He took office

special UN session on the problems of raw materials and development. Waldheim warned that economic relations between UN member states were threatened as never before. He said mass poverty is "the single most devastating indictment of our current world civilization."

Echeverría has sought to boost up the Mexican economic base by development policies stressing expansion of government industry. He has aroused the anger of some private businessmen.

He has made highly-visible excursions to such bastions of the Latin American left as Castro's Cuba and Chile under former president Salvador Allende. He speaks often and forcefully of the need to give the poorer nations of the Third World a better deal.

In a statement released in advance of Habitat, he said, "The world system of exploitation, created to serve the interests of a mere handful of nations... has contributed significantly to the deterioration of the environment on a universal scale, to the waste of resources of every type... Millions must live a marginal existence" and his is "provoking increasingly serious conflicts in contemporary society."

**BARBARA WAHLD** — One of the world's leading economists and environmentalists, Miss Ward, or Lady Jackson, has devoted an enormous amount of time and effort to the Habitat conference. She has written the unofficial Habitat theme book, *Habitat, The Home of Man*.

Since the Second World War, she has written books on the East-West conflict, India, the impact of nationalism and ideology, and the world environment.

Her book, *Only One Earth*, which she co-authored with René Dubos of France, was the unofficial "working" document of the 1972 Stockholm conference on the environment.

She has urged Canadians to be aware of the power their grain-growing capacity gives them. She argues that because of this power,

Canada ought to take a leading role in world reform. Canada, with the U.S., she has said has "literally a stranglehold on the future of humanity" because of control of much of the world's surplus food.

**CARLA HILLS** — As secretary of the U.S. department of housing and urban development, Mrs. Hills administers a staff of 17,000 and a budget — in 1975-76 — of \$7.1 billion. She will head the U.S. delegation at the Habitat conference.

A lawyer from a wealthy California family, she came to the housing job without experience in the field. But she had built a reputation as a hard-driving administrator in her previous position with the U.S. justice department. And some observers

think she has enlarged her reputation by her work in HUD since her appointment, a little more than a year ago.

She has been included in some lists of possible Republican vice-presidential candidates, should President Gerald Ford again be the party's candidate later this year.

In what one observer called her "first significant act," she abolished rent ceilings in federal housing, of the much-criticized federal public housing program, she has said, the government would no longer emphasize "clearance and removal" but "preservation and restoration" of existing housing.

Other 100,000 geodesic domes have been built around the world. One of the most famous — the former U.S. Pavilion at Expo 67 — has just been demolished.

Her husband's political enemies, some of whom are in Vancouver, naturally see her role quite differently. An anti-Marcos news letter being distributed in advance of the Habitat conference charges that Marcos make a show of upgrading slum-dwellers while doing little to deal with extreme poverty and unemployment.

ished by fire. His cable address is **BUCKY**.

**IMELDA MARCOS** — Previously the highly-publicized wife of Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, Mrs. Marcos is now the highly-visible governor of Manila. She will be in Vancouver for only a portion of the Habitat conference. Her plans were disrupted by the severe flooding in the Philippines in recent days.

Mrs. Marcos has been a strong political ally for her controversial husband, who rules by decree, under martial law. Her appointment to the governorship of the 4.5-million-resident Manila metropolitan area was sought by municipal mayors and businessmen.

As a national figure, she may be able to deal with some of Manila's problems of overcrowding and poor housing. She has said "not a single one of us can afford to beg off and just watch the metropolis decay and die."

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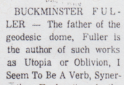
**BUCKMINSTER FULLER** — The father of the geodesic dome, Fuller is the author of such works as *Utopia or Oblivion, I Seem To Be A Verb, Synergetics: Explorations in the Geometry of Thinking* and *Unlimited Epic Possibilities: History of Industrialization*. He has been a professor of poetry at Harvard University, a World Fellow in Residence at the University of Pennsylvania and a professor of generalised design science exploration at Southern Illinois University.

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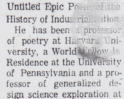
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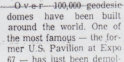
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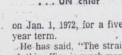
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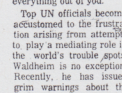
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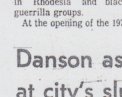
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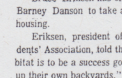
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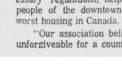
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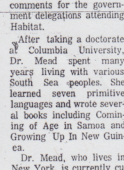
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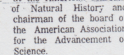
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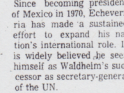
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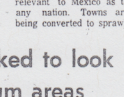
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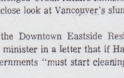
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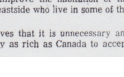
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## Danson asked to look at city's slum areas

Bruce Eriksen has challenged Urban Affairs Minister Barney Danson to take a close look at Vancouver's slum housing.

Eriksen, president of the Downtown Eastside Residents' Association, told the minister in a letter that Habitat is to be a success governments "must start cleaning up their own backyards."

His letter continued: "You can, by changing the necessary regulations, help improve the habitation of the people of the downtown eastside who live in some of the worst housing in Canada."

"Our association believes that it is unnecessary and unprofitable for a country as rich as Canada to accept

## Retirement Living As It Should Be



# ANNOUNCING B.C.'S BIG IN THE V CANADA

**\$250,000**  
Mary Briggs  
Sidney, B.C.

Another \$250,000  
Winner  
Jerry Sedlack  
Delta, B.C.  
(Picture not available)

Other major B.C. winners:

**\$25,000**  
Burt Grinde  
Powell River, B.C.

John Phillips  
Campbell River, B.C.

Jim Taverna  
Revelstoke, B.C.

BRUCE SHILL