

## SHOOT ALBERTA

by Linda Kupecek

The ACCESS Network inaugurated its new satellite service Sunday, Jan. 13, with an evening of programming highlighted by the premiere broadcast of *The Komagata Maru Incident*. With 84 hours of programming a week now distributed by the Anik C3 satellite, the provincially funded corporation supplies and produces educational, informational and cultural programming in a "footprint" covering all Alberta. ACCESS leases a full transponder on Anik C3, which hovers in stationary orbit 22,300 miles above the Equator. Programs are transmitted from an uplink in the Edmonton studio to the satellite, then to the Alberta footprint. The signal is picked up and distributed by Alberta's cable companies. The satellite service complements the Media Resource Centre (which dubs and distributes audio, video, print and computer software for educational purposes); field services; early morning children's programming on local

commercial stations, and CKUA AM-FM, the province-wide radio service.

ACCESS General Manager Ron Brown notes that ACCESS is frequently called "the best kept secret in Alberta," although it has a 15 per cent weekly reach to its audience (compared to a similar percentage for PBS). Comparing production to acquisition of future programs, Brown says that 25 per cent of the material broadcast will be produced in Alberta.

Meanwhile, although no major features are shooting at the moment, the industry rolls along... AMPIA Festival '85 will take over the Edmonton film and video scene from Feb. 12-16... Mike Douglas of Douglas Communications in Edmonton has written and directed a promotional film on the petroleum industry for Alberta Economic Development, as well as serving as production manager on five national commercials in the past months. Douglas

Communications also produced *A Better Idea*, a half-hour romantic comedy directed by Allan Stein and written by Tom Crighton... Doug MacLeod of Bradshaw MacLeod and Associates in Calgary reports the group is tackling a half-hour documentary on the Canadian climb of Rakaposhi in the Karkoram for CBC, with a March 31 airdate. Also in the works is a half-hour drama, with MacLeod busy in the meantime providing location services to out-of-province shoots and Bradshaw off to Montreal to direct a low-budget feature... Marke Slipp of Pegasus Productions in Edmonton is slated to direct a half-hour docu on architect Douglas Cardinal for CFRN Television. Meanwhile, Slipp has finished editing a 20-minute drama directed by Tom Dodd for Alberta Agriculture... AMPIA has elected a new executive and moved into a new building (the McLeod Building). Michael Hamm of Frame 30 is the new prez, Dale Handley is Edmonton vice-president; Garry Toth is Calgary vice-president; and Allan Stein and Marke Slipp are directors-at-large... Chris Tate

did editing chores on *Bridge to Terabithia* which will air on PBS 'Wonderworks' series in February... Tri-Tone Music has produced a rock video, *Turn It Off* for Ross Campbell... Judy Haiven is back from Nicaragua where she and a four-person crew shot *With Our Own Two Hands*, a 26-minute documentary produced in association with the NFB Northwest Studio, about Canadian farmers helping their Nicaraguan counterparts. Tom Radford was executive producer, and Haiven was writer and originator of the project. Peter Raymont of In-

vestigative Productions in Toronto directed... Alberta producers for CBC *Rock Wars* segments are Lawrie Seligman in Calgary and Armand Baril in Edmonton... Alberta Theatre Projects has signed an agreement with HBW/Toth Co-Productions... Marc Pouliot of Montreal was appointed Olympic arts manager by OCO'88, then resigned due to potential conflict of interest... And CTV and Olympic organizers in Calgary have finally signed the contract making that network the host broadcaster for the 1988 Winter Games.

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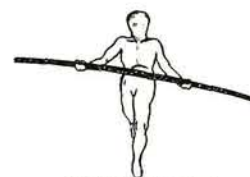
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