

towards infrastructure programs and NATO budgets. By Dec. 31, 1954, under the NATO aircrew training program, a total of 1,297 pilots and 2,009 navigators from Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal and the United Kingdom had graduated from training establishments in Canada. An additional 989 trainees were currently undergoing training in early 1955. For 1954-55, Parliament was asked to approve an appropriation of \$257,400,000 for Mutual Aid.

Canada's forecast share of the cost of NATO common infrastructure program for the year ended Mar. 31, 1955 was \$11,500,000. Total Canadian expenditure for NATO Headquarters budgets during the same year was expected to amount to \$1,500,000.

Subsection 4.—Canada and the Colombo Plan

The Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South East Asia was conceived at the Commonwealth Meeting on Foreign Affairs held at Colombo, Ceylon, Jan. 9-14, 1950. Although the Colombo Plan was initiated by Commonwealth governments it is not exclusively a Commonwealth program. It is designed to assist in the economic development of all countries and territories in the general area of south and southeast Asia.

The Consultative Committee, an intergovernmental body, which meets from time to time to review the progress of the Colombo Plan and to consider policy matters in connection with its implementation, now counts as members Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, the United Kingdom (and its territories in the area, such as Malaya, Singapore and Sarawak) and Vietnam, as well as the United States which is also engaged in a substantial program of economic aid in the same region. To develop the technical assistance side of the Plan, a Council for Technical Co-operation has been set up at Colombo, on which Canada is represented. The Technical Co-operation Program though an integral part of the Colombo Plan is designed to supplement the technical assistance activities of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies in the area.

Up to Mar. 31, 1955 the Canadian Parliament approved annual contributions totalling approximately \$128,000,000 for capital and technical assistance to governments in south and southeast Asia.

Capital assistance has so far been provided to India, Pakistan and Ceylon. The Canadian contribution has consisted primarily of direct assistance to various development projects (e.g., equipment for multi-purpose irrigation and electricity projects, transportation equipment, fishing boats and surveys of resources). It has also included goods required in these countries which the recipient governments have been able to use as a means of raising some of the money needed to meet local costs of development programs (e.g., wheat, flour, copper, aluminum and railway equipment). Canadian aid has been helping these countries in both ways, to develop their economies and raise their standards of living.

Under the Technical Assistance Program up to Mar. 31, 1955 about 259 persons from many countries in the area had been received for training in Canada in a great variety of technical fields and 77 Canadian experts had been employed for service in Colombo Plan countries in such fields as fisheries, refrigeration, marine biology, agriculture, soil erosion, vocational training, accountancy and the maintenance of tractors and agricultural machinery. Equipment for technical training in various fields had also been supplied.

The Consultative Committee on the Colombo Plan held its annual meeting in Ottawa in October 1954. The Canadian delegation was led by the Hon. Walter Harris, Minister of Finance. A published Report* outlines the progress made up to that point and indicates the plans for the future. It contains separate sections describing the activities of each member of the Colombo Plan as either contributing or receiving countries.

The next meeting of the Consultative Committee was scheduled for Singapore in the autumn of 1955.

* *Report of the Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South East Asia.* Obtainable from the Queen's Printer, Ottawa. Price 50 cents.