

Canadian Contributions to NATO.—Canada continued in 1956-57 to support NATO with contributions of Armed Forces to the unified NATO commands, with material assistance to other NATO countries and with financial contributions to common budgets. The 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade, which in late 1955 replaced the 1st Infantry Brigade in the Soest area of Germany, carried out extensive training exercises independently and also in conjunction with other NATO forces in the Northern Army group in Northwest Europe. The Canadian contribution of an air division of 12 jet fighter squadrons to SACEUR remained unchanged. The Royal Canadian Navy had 40 ships assigned to duties connected with the defence of the Canada-United States area and for the protection of any convoys under the control of SACLANT.

Between Apr. 1, 1950 and Mar. 31, 1957, arrangements under the Canadian Mutual Aid Program provided for the transfer by Canada to the non-North American members of NATO of military aid estimated to value \$1,418,400,000.

The main elements of the program include: (a) training in Canada of aircrew for other NATO countries—under the NATO aircrew training program some 4,500 pilots and navigators from ten NATO nations have successfully completed training at RCAF establishments; (b) transfers of equipment from service stocks or from current production for the Services; (c) direct transfers of equipment from current production; and (d) contributions towards infrastructure programs and NATO budgets. Canada's estimated share of the cost of the NATO common infrastructure program for the year ended Mar. 31, 1958, was \$17,000,000. Total Canadian expenditure for NATO Headquarters budgets for the same year is estimated at \$1,300,000.

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 of Foreign Ministers 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 South-East Asia. Its membership now includes Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, Malaya (Malaya and Singapore), the United Kingdom, British Borneo (North Borneo, Brunei 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.

Supervision of the Colombo Plan is in the hands of a Consultative Committee of Foreign Ministers of the member countries, who meet once a year to review projects, exchange views on policy matters and prepare an annual report. It is, as its name implies, a "consultative" body; no collective policy decisions binding member countries are taken by its meetings. To develop the technical assistance side of the Plan, a Council for Technical Co-operation, on which Canada is represented, meets regularly in Colombo. The Technical Co-operation Programme, 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.

From the beginning of the Plan in 1950 through April 1958 Canada will have made available a total of \$196,800,000 for capital and technical assistance projects in South and South-East Asia.

While eight separate countries are now receiving capital assistance from Canada, the largest contributions have so far been made in India, Pakistan and Ceylon. The Canadian contribution has consisted primarily of direct assistance to various development projects (equipment for multi-purpose irrigation and hydro-electric projects, the Canada-India NRX atomic reactor, transportation equipment, fishing boats and surveys of resources). It has also included goods which the recipient governments have been able to use as a