

Between Apr. 1, 1950, and Mar. 31, 1958, 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 \$1,526,900,000.

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, 1959, was \$20,000,000. Total Canadian expenditure for NATO Headquarters budgets for the same year is estimated at \$1,750,000.

#### Subsection 4.—Canada and the Colombo Plan

The Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and Southeast 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 southeast Asia. Its membership now includes Australia, British Borneo (North Borneo, Brunei and Sarawak), Burma, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Malaya (Malaya and Singapore), Thailand, the United Kingdom, 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 1959, Canada will have made available a total of \$231,000,000 for capital and technical assistance projects in south and southeast Asia. At the Commonwealth Trade and Economic Conference held in Montreal in September 1958, Canada announced an increase from \$35,000,000 to \$50,000,000 in its annual contribution to the Colombo Plan over the next three years. In addition, Canada announced that it will continue to provide substantial sums to less developed countries in the form of loans and grants for Canadian wheat and flour.

While nine 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 means of raising some of the money needed to meet local costs of development programs (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.