

infrastructure and military costs, transfers of equipment to member countries and aircrew training in Canada of NATO forces, continued throughout 1961. This program, while decreasing in magnitude with the changing conditions and the increasing ability of the European members to meet their individual defence requirements, continues to play a vital role in strengthening NATO forces.

#### Subsection 4.—Canadian External Aid Programs

**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 and raising of living standards of all countries and territories in the general area of south and southeast Asia. Its membership now includes Australia, Burma, Cambodia, Canada, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaya, Nepal, New Zealand, North Borneo, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sarawak, Singapore, Thailand, Britain and Viet Nam, as well as the United States which is also engaged in a substantial program of economic aid in the same region.

The Colombo Plan is supervised by a Consultative Committee composed of 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 at its meetings. A Council for Technical Co-operation, on which Canada is represented, meets regularly in Ceylon to develop the technical co-operation program of the Colombo Plan. Colombo Plan Day was celebrated throughout member countries on July 1, 1961 to commemorate the tenth year of Colombo Plan operations.

From the inception of the Plan in 1950 through April 1961, Canada made available a total of \$331,670,000 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 three years beginning in the year 1959-60.

While ten countries are now receiving capital assistance from Canada, the largest contributions have so far been made to India, Pakistan and Ceylon. The Canadian contribution has consisted primarily of direct assistance to various development projects, including equipment for multi-purpose irrigation and hydro-electric projects, power-generating plants, construction and fisheries projects and resources surveys, as well as educational and laboratory equipment and books. It has also included gifts of raw materials, commodities and foodstuffs such as industrial metals, asbestos, fertilizer, wheat, flour and butter, from the local sale of which recipient governments have been able to raise funds to meet local costs of economic development projects.

Under the Technical Assistance Programme, up to October 1961 more than 1,700 persons from all countries in the area had come to Canada for training in a variety of fields, the major ones being public administration and finance, agriculture, co-operatives, engineering, mining and geology, statistics, health education and social welfare. Nearly 200 Canadian experts had been sent abroad for service in Colombo Plan countries in such fields as fisheries, agriculture, engineering, mining and prospecting, co-operatives, public administration, education and vocational training, and public health. Other Canadians were employed on aerial resources survey teams and in the installation and operation of capital equipment.

The Consultative Committee of the Colombo Plan held annual meetings at Singapore in 1955, at Wellington in 1956, at Saigon in 1957, at Seattle in 1958, at Jogjakarta in 1959, at Tokyo in 1960 and at Kuala Lumpur in 1961. At the Jogjakarta meeting it was