

lots. On March 31, 1976, nearly 57,000 veterans still had subsisting VLA contracts representing a remaining principal indebtedness of approximately \$538 million.

The Veterans' Land Administration also has operational responsibility for the Special Housing Assistance Program; in 1975 the Department of Veterans Affairs was authorized to extend it on behalf of modest-income veterans. Financial assistance up to \$600 annually may be provided to veterans, in addition to that available to them under the Assisted Home Ownership Program of the National Housing Act, for the purpose of reducing the proportion of their income required for principal, interest and taxes to a level they can afford. During 1975-76, assistance was approved on behalf of 96 veterans representing \$47,200 in annual grants.

The Special Housing Assistance Program also provides authority to extend financial assistance to non-profit corporations who obtain loans under Section 15.1 of the National Housing Act for the development of low-rental projects intended primarily but not necessarily exclusively for housing veterans. In addition to the benefits available from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Department of Veterans Affairs may make a grant equal to 10% of the capital cost of such a project as determined by CMHC. During 1975-76, grants totalling approximately \$363,000 were approved for three such projects involving 185 units.

### **Commonwealth War Graves Commission**

### **6.10.4**

The current charters of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission consist of two documents — the Original Charter of Incorporation dated May 21, 1917, and the new Supplemental Charter dated June 8, 1964. Under these charters the commission is entrusted with the marking and maintenance in perpetuity of the graves of those of the British Empire and Commonwealth Armed Forces who lost their lives between August 4, 1914, and August 31, 1921, and between September 3, 1939, and December 31, 1947, and with the erection of memorials to commemorate those with no known grave.

The Canadian High Commissioner in London, England, is the official commission member for Canada and the Minister of Veterans Affairs is the agent of the commission in Canada. The office of the Secretary General of the Canadian agency is in the Veterans Affairs Building, Ottawa.

### *Sources*

- 6.1 - 6.2 Consumer Income and Expenditure Division, Census and Household Surveys Branch, Statistics Canada.
- 6.3 - 6.8 Program Information and Documentation Division, Policy and Program Development and Coordination Branch, Welfare, Department of National Health and Welfare.
- 6.9 Deputy Minister, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.
- 6.10 Public Relations, Department of Veterans Affairs.