

Questions

telecommunications business and may enter into arrangements with other telecommunication companies or Her Majesty for the exchange and transmission of messages or for the maintenance or working, in whole or in part, of the telecommunication systems of the respective companies or Her Majesty. However, it does not possess an exclusive franchise anywhere in Canada for the provision or operation of such services.

Certain telecommunications properties or works in the Yukon Territory, in parts of Northern British Columbia and in Newfoundland which are vested in or owned, controlled or occupied by Her Majesty, pursuant to various Orders in Council have been entrusted to the Railway for management and operation. In addition, Canadian National provides the only public telecommunication services in the Northwest Territories.

2. In addition to a telegraph message service provided to the public the Company engages in a diversity of telecommunications activities including the operation of local and long distance commercial telephone services, the provision of private wire circuits, a Telex Network, and facilities for radio and TV network transmissions. The telegram constitutes less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of the commercial communications business handled by the Company and is not compensatory. However, as shown on Page 37 of the Company's Annual Report for the year 1968 which was tabled in the House of Commons on April 24th, 1969, the net income realized from the overall operations of the Telecommunications Department during the year 1968 was \$8,654,140.

CABINET MINISTERS ON SOUTH AMERICAN
TRIP

Question No. 1,938—**Mr. Gauthier:**

1. Were any provincial Cabinet Ministers or senior provincial officials invited to accompany the federal Cabinet Ministers and senior officials of their department on the mission to South America in October and November last (a) if provincial Ministers and officials were invited, who were they and in what capacity were they invited to attend (b) if not, for what reason were provincial Ministers and officials not invited?

2. Were the provincial Ministers and officials made aware of the mission by federal Ministers and officials prior to its departure and were they informed of the results of the mission on their return and, if so, will the government table this correspondence?

3. Were representatives of the news media invited to accompany the mission and, if so, which representatives of the (a) English language media, and (b) French language media, were invited, and (c) who accepted and attended?

[Mr. Jamieson.]

[Translation]

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. No provincial ministers or officials were invited to participate in the ministerial mission which visited nine Latin American countries in October and November of 1968.

Except for the renewal of a trade agreement and the signature of a minor agreement in another field wholly within federal jurisdiction the objective of the mission was to explore the possibilities of developing closer relations between Canada and Latin America in all important fields.

2. The government's decision to send the mission was announced several months in advance, and a few days before its departure the Prime Minister made a full statement in the house regarding its composition, itinerary and objectives. Following its return the Secretary of State for External Affairs made a brief statement in the House of Commons and subsequently tabled the preliminary report of the mission, copies of which have been sent to the provinces.

3. All media represented in the Parliamentary Press Gallery were given an opportunity to participate in the ministerial mission. In addition, special steps were taken to inform the Canadian Press and certain weekly publications issued in the English and French languages.

The mission was accompanied for all or part of its duration by the following representatives of the press: Mr. Paul Kidd, Washington Correspondent, Southam News Service; Mr. Guy Anger, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, French Radio News; Mr. Louis Rollet, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, French Radio News; Mr. Pedro Marcos Bilbao, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, International Service; Mr. William Dampier, Toronto Telegram; Mr. Don Newlands, Mrs. Newlands and Mr. David Lee, freelance, for Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Television Network, programme "The Way It Is".

[English]

*WHITE PAPER ON EXTERNAL POLICY

Question No. 1,971—**Mr. Lewis:**

Will the proposed White Paper on External Policy be prepared and presented to the House for debate prior to the summer recess?

[Translation]

Mr. Jean-Pierre Goyer (Parliamentary Secretary to the Secretary of State for External Affairs): Mr. Speaker, the answer is "no".