

MIDDLE EAST SITUATION

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, issued the following statement on January 28 regarding recent reports of public executions in Iraq:

The Canadian Government is seriously concerned with the recent events in Iraq in which 14 Iraqi nationals, nine of whom were of the Jewish faith, have been publicly executed on charges of espionage. It is the view of the Government that events of this nature, deplorable in themselves, both retard and diminish the prospects of achieving a just and lasting settlement of the unfortunate Arab-Israeli dispute which is engaging the attention of the entire international community.

The Government wishes to associate itself strongly with the position of the Secretary-General of the United Nations expressed in the following terms, after he learned of the executions:

"In the view of the Secretary-General, mass trials and executions are always to be deplored and are particularly abhorrent and dangerous when they are carried out in such a way as to inflame the emotions of the populace ... the Secretary-General did not question the right of the Government of Iraq to put on trial any of its own citizens as were apparently all of those convicted, nor could he attempt to appraise the validity of the charges. The Secretary-General fears that the repercussions from this unhappy development will also be likely to impede efforts toward a peaceful settlement of the conflict situation in the Middle East."

Representations have been received from many Canadians over these disturbing events - events which must surely outrage public opinion everywhere. The Canadian Government will continue to support the position of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and co-operate with him and take any other available action in an attempt to prevent further tragic occurrences of this nature.

CAE EXPANDS TO UNITED STATES

CAE Industries Ltd. is expanding its operations in the United States with the formation of a new flight-simulator marketing and customer-service division, based initially in Miami.

The new division, which will be known as CAE International, will provide complete programme management, engineering and customer-support capabilities, to serve the total simulator requirements of U.S. airlines and aircraft manufacturers.

CAE Industries Ltd. is one of the world's largest manufacturers of sophisticated digital-flight simulators for nine international airlines and one aircraft manufacturer, including the Boeing 747 simulator for BOAC, the first ordered for an airline, and a second 747 for a consortium of KLM Royal Dutch

Airlines, Swissair and SAS Scandinavian Airways Systems. CAE has also built more than 80 aircraft and weapons-simulators for the air forces of ten Western nations.

The Canadian company was recently awarded a contract by Lockheed-California Company to develop and build the first Lockheed L-1011 flight simulator, marking CAE's first entry into the prime U.S. simulator market.

CANADA HANDBOOK

Canada 1968, an official handbook of present conditions and recent progress in Canada, published annually since 1930 by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, was released on January 22.

Covering much the same subjects as the Canada Year Book, but in less detail and presented in more popular terms, Canada 1968 is a 320-page paperback volume available in both English and French. It contains some 45 full-colour and 250 black-and-white photographs depicting various aspects of the modern Canadian scene. An attractive full-colour cover features the Montreal skyline.

Canada 1968 is designed primarily to interest the general public, and high school children in particular. It gives a brief description of the salient features of national production, resources, geography and history, government organization and services. Some 60 specialists in various fields, within DBS, in other government departments and in private industry contributed to the thirty-eighth edition just released.

ADDITIONS TO NATIONAL GALLERY

The National Gallery of Canada has four paintings hanging on its walls because of the generosity of two non-Canadians, Mrs. Ernest Frederick Eidlitz of New York and the Honourable Muriel Rothschild of Britain.

A painting by Lyonel Feininger (1871-1956) and another by Arthur Dove (1880-1946) are the gifts of Mrs. Eidlitz; she has also given the Gallery a water-colour by Charles Sheeler (1883-1965) and a group of historic photographs. Mrs. Eidlitz, who has spent many summers at St. Andrews (New Brunswick), where she has been active in establishing the nature and art centre known as Sunbury Shores, intended this gift as an expression of her affection for Canada. Both pictures reveal Mrs. Eidlitz's love of the sea. The work by Arthur Dove, which was painted in 1944, is called "Rising Tide"; the Feininger of 1950 is of "Yachts".

The other act of generosity is the extended loan by the Honourable Muriel Rothschild of two large paintings by the Spanish painter Bartolome Murillo (1617-82). The handsome painting of the tender