

again be found ready to assume whatever responsibilities may devolve upon us as a member of that Commission. Civilian and military officers of Canada are at this moment standing by - in Ottawa, at military posts in various parts of Canada, in several of our diplomatic missions abroad - prepared at a few hours' notice to rejoin the Commission and to take up once again the tasks of verifying and, if necessary, supervising the cease-fire.

"Canada is prepared - if invited to do so - to take part as a member in a conference on the permanent settlement of the Laotian question. We shall take that step, conscious that, though Canada's national interests may be less directly affected than those of many other countries, the experience which Canadians have acquired over a period of seven years in the work of the Commissions in Indochina may enable us to make some contribution to that settlement and in this way to the cause of international peace.

#### AID PROGRAMMES

"Important as it is that Canada does its part in meeting the dangers to peace inherent in trouble spots such as the Congo, Laos and elsewhere, I consider that a major element in the quest for world peace lies in measures to improve standards in under-developed countries. Canada's contribution in this regard has been a worthy one.

"...Canada has recognized that its security and prosperity and that of the other countries of the free world depend in large measure on the ability of the under-developed countries to make satisfactory economic progress. Canada has therefore made most substantial contributions to various economic and technical assistance programmes. Since 1950 Parliament has voted \$332 million to support the Colombo Plan. Well over half of this considerable sum has been devoted to projects which involved the services of Canadian engineers.

"An outstanding example of these projects is the Warsak hydro-electric scheme in the Northwest Frontier area of Pakistan, which was recently completed. Some 150 Canadian engineers and other technical personnel participated in the design, supervision and construction of Warsak over the past five years. They brought this large and complicated project to a successful conclusion in a manner that has brought credit to themselves and to Canada. With the power from its 160,000 KW installed capacity and the water it will provide for the irrigation of 120,000 acres of land, Warsak is now transforming the economy of a large area of Pakistan. In addition, about 10,000 Pakistanis were introduced to modern techniques in the course of construction of the dam and powerhouse.

"In Ceylon, Canadian engineers are supervising the construction of electrical transmission lines. In India they are helping with the huge Kundah hydro-electric scheme. In Burma a

firm of Canadian engineers carried out a highway survey two years ago and later undertook the survey and design of a bridge at Rangoon, which Canada has now agreed to help construct as a Colombo Plan project. In The West Indies, Canadian engineers have recently completed preliminary studies on a dock which we expect to build under the Canadian programme of aid to The West Indies....

#### BENEFITS TO CANADIAN INDUSTRY

"The direct and indirect benefits of Canada's aid programmes to Canadian industry are not always as well known as they should be, and I would like to take this opportunity to emphasize that our economic assistance programmes are not simply a charitable undertaking. Canada does not just make cash gifts to the under-developed countries in the Colombo Plan. It provides them with Canadian goods, equipment and services carefully selected to make a basic contribution to economic development. Practically the whole amount of \$50 million that Canada is currently contributing annually to the Colombo Plan is, therefore, paid out to Canadian firms and individuals and represents a substantial amount of business.

"The objective of all programmes of economic assistance is, in broad terms, a more rapid expansion of the world economy. Canada as a trading nation has a vital stake in the growth of markets overseas and therefore it is in our own immediate interest to assist, to the best of our ability, the process of development throughout the world. The more quickly the less-developed countries can become self-supporting, active participants in a greatly expanded world trading community, the greater will be the opportunities for Canadian exports. This question of economic development is one of the great challenges of our time and it is a task in which the engineer has a key role to play.

"Strong in the belief that only through national development, encouraged by the Federal Government, can this nation achieve its destiny - a massive national development plan greater in extent than ever before has been launched...."

\*\*\*\*\*

#### BIG AIRCRAFT PURCHASE

Mr. Raymond O'Hurley, Minister of Defence Production, recently announced the purchase of 24 Model UH-12E light observation helicopters from the Hiller Aircraft Corporation at Palo Alto, California, and 2 Vertol Model 107-II heavy helicopters from the Vertol Division of Boeing of Canada, Limited, Amprior, Ontario. The latter aircraft will be built at the Boeing plant at Morton, Pennsylvania, with final acceptance by the RCAF at Amprior. These aircraft will be used for search and rescue work and for general utility.