

still further by enquiries from sponsors and candidates regarding the status of their cases.

An additional complication is the fact that seventy percent of immigration cases originate in Guyana, while eighty-five percent of visitor cases originate in Trinidad. While undoubtedly the distance factor contributes somewhat to the lengthy processing time for Guyanese applications, the team considers that the cyclical pattern of the post's workload is a more significant cause of the backlog. Appendix C illustrates the pattern of Port of Spain's workload.

In evaluating the potential effectiveness of changed equipment and procedures the question which arises is whether or not these changes will significantly reduce the backlog. In answer to this question the team has concluded with a qualified yes. While it is unlikely that the backlog will completely disappear with the introduction of new procedures and equipment recommended in this report, the shift in resources made possible by these changes could significantly alleviate the problem.

The backlog in Port of Spain has originated not from the cumulative growth of immigrant cases, but from the annual slowdown in processing of these cases which occurs as 'visitors' are given priority each summer. To eliminate this problem, therefore, the increased productivity offered by the proposed changes would have to enable the post to process both visitor and immigrant cases during the summer months. Although the proposed changes will allow additional processing