

IV SERVICES TO CANADIANS

Academic Relations

A major responsibility of the Bureau of Public Affairs is to co-ordinate and promote relations between the Department and members of Canada's academic community. In addition, the Bureau deals with organizations interested in the study and discussion of international relations and in the long-term formulation of Canadian foreign policy. The objective is to establish and develop lines of communication between officials responsible for implementing foreign policy and scholars who are concerned with the many aspects of policy analysis and international relations.

In practice, this means promoting a two-way exchange of ideas between government and the academic community. In some instances, it has involved sending foreign service officers into the academic world, while in others the academics have made their expertise available to the Department.

Foreign service visitors

One form of exchange has been the introduction of foreign service visitors, who are senior departmental officers seconded to Canadian universities. Under this program, the officers are freed from departmental duties for a full academic year and join a university faculty or department. They devote their time to research, teaching, writing, and holding seminars and consultations on international relations under arrangements worked out with the host university. At the outset, two foreign service visitors were designated, but in 1972 the number was increased to three. In 1974 only two senior officers of the Department could be appointed, one to the University of Alberta and the other to Queen's University.

Departmental speakers' program

This program represents another form of liaison between government and the academic community. Foreign service

officers are made available to address university audiences and other groups, to attend conferences on foreign policy, and to participate in international affairs seminars. In 1974 over 65 officers accepted one or more invitations to visit some 40 universities and other centres of learning throughout Canada for that purpose.

Invitations to the Department

In order that academics may give the benefit of their analysis of foreign policy problems to those in government, the Department invites professors to Ottawa to give talks and to direct joint seminars. Topics range from current foreign policy issues to aspects of international relations theories. Discussions have taken place on such subjects as Canada's interest in the "third world", principal options of the European community, Canada and South Asia, the foreign policy White Paper in retrospect, computer and information retrieval in international affairs, and Canada-U.S.A. relations.

To maintain closer ties with the academic community and obtain the services of experts, the Department engages certain professors on a temporary basis. In 1974 a political scientist from Carleton University, Professor Harold von Rikhoff, joined the Policy Analysis Group for one year. Professor Donald Page from the University of Regina worked on Canadian-American relations, and Professor Barrie Morrison from the University of British Columbia studied Canadian policy on South Asia.

Historians and research assistants are also being employed on contract by the Department's Historical Division, where they help to edit material for the *Documents on Canadian External Relations* series. Other research contracts have been awarded for the preparation of special studies. One such contract involved the development of regional organizations in West Africa and Central Africa; another focuses on a