

SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS PROJECTS

An independent committee has been named to help choose experimental projects for use with Canada's Communications Technology Satellite (CTS), Minister of Communications Robert Stanbury announced recently.

The high-powered satellite, to be launched in 1975, is designed to test the technology and use of future generations of satellite communications systems. Groups, associations, provincial governments and individuals are invited to submit proposals to the Department of Communications for possible experiments in communications to be carried out during the expected two-year life of CTS.

Dr. Henry E. Duckworth, President of the Royal Society of Canada, has been appointed chairman of the committee that will evaluate the proposals. Other members are Dr. S.D. Clark of the Department of Sociology, University of Toronto, and Mr. Léopold Lamontagne, Executive Director, Service for Admission to College and University, Ottawa.

The committee will review the proposals for experimental projects and help choose the most advantageous among them, taking into account their content and relevance to the development of future satellite communications services.

Although many of the experiments will be designed to increase technical knowledge, the satellite also offers the opportunity to assess the possible social impact of this advanced technology.

POSSIBLE USES

Examples of possible experimental uses are: television broadcasts to community receiving terminals (including interactive educational television); television transmission from a remote portable terminal

to a central receiver for network re-transmission; FM sound broadcast to small receiver terminals; two-way voice telephone using small, portable terminals; digital data transmission; distribution of wideband information.

The Communications Technology Satellite is being built by the Communications Research Centre, with Canadian industry supplying the sub-systems and the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration providing some of the advanced components and the launch vehicle. The project, entirely experimental, is designed to answer questions about satellite communications systems that could eventually lead to a future operational service.

MEDICAL SCREENING IN UGANDA

Four more Canadian Armed Forces medical technicians are in Kampala, Uganda, to assist in the medical screening of Uganda Asians on their way to Canada.

The additional personnel are needed because the number of persons processed each day has risen to about 300 as the November 7 deadline for evacuation draws nearer.

One medical assistant and three laboratory technicians have joined eight other Armed Forces personnel, along with six doctors from the Department of National Health and Welfare, in the screening that continues almost 24 hours a day.

Medical technicians have taken X-rays and conducted assorted laboratory tests on more than 4,000 persons so far.

Canada is the only nation with a medical-screening team in Uganda. They are expected to return to Canada on November 7.

CHRISTMAS STAMPS

For the ninth year in succession Canada's Post Office is issuing special Christmas stamps. The four 1972 issues - 6-cent, 8-cent, 10-cent and 15-cent - went on sale on November 1.

