Somebody's kidding

When it comes to recruiting regimental mascots, the "Van Doos" (the Royal 22nd Regiment) have a unique system. They breed their own.

But is wasn't always that way.

The Royal 22nd got their first white goat mascot in 1955 from then Governor-General Vincent Massey. Batisse, as the handsome buck was called, came from the royal herd at the London Zoo and was a descendant of a pair of goats presented to Queen Victoria by the Shah of Persia. Batisse, however, remained heirless and was replaced in 1964 by Batisse II, who was given to the regiment by Governor-General Georges Vanier. Although Batisse II fulfilled his public duties in the best of traditions, he too passed on without a successor.

So when the present Governor General, Roland Michener, presented Batisse III to the regiment early last year, Catherine, a suitable mate was also procured. The first contender for the future post of regimental mascot was born later in the year and, recently, Catherine followed up with a double delivery – a male and a female.

(Right) *Batisse III looks down proudly at Catherine and one of the twins.*

Uranium-enrichment facilities classed as secondary industry

As a result of several enquiries received concerning the Government's attitude towards construction of uranium-enrichment facilities in Canada by private industry, Energy, Mines and Resources, Minister Donald S. Macdonald recently issued the following statement on the Government's attitude towards the establishment of such facilities:

The Canadian nuclear power program uses natural uranium as its basic fuel and an industry manufacturing enriched uranium would rely primarily on export markets. An enrichment project could not be considered an essential national project in Canada requiring Government ownership or subsidization as it might in many other countries be dependent for a substantial fraction of their future energy needs on enriched uranium fuel. Its value would be measured by the extent of Canadian participation through the machinery and equipment industry, the involvement and development of engineering and technology, the employment of Canadians in both the construction and operating process, the possible advantage to our uranium industry, the taxation revenues to the country and overall benefit.

It would be in essence a secondary industry in which a raw material of either domestic or foreign origin would be further processed, and its economic worth would depend on the fraction of the sales revenue which would accrue as income to Canadians.

Safety factors

Any Canadian uranium-enrichment project would be subject to control by the Federal Government through the Atomic Energy Control Act to ensure that Canada's obligations regarding the peaceful uses of atomic energy were fulfilled, and to ensure safety of workers and the public.

In view of the uncertainties and expense in developing independent enrichment technology, any company entering such a business would probably wish to use the technology which has already been developed in other countries. Such technology is highly classified and under close control of foreign governments.

As a result, a private company could not obtain access to foreign-enrichment technology without a government-to-government agreement ensuring the protection of the information. Government officials are investigating the form of intergovernmental agreements which might be necessary. If an enrichment-plant proposal is shown to be in the national interest and provided the terms are considered to be reasonable, the Federal Government is prepared to negotiate such agreements.

Criteria

Factors which the Government will consider when assessing a proposal include:

(1) The optimum use of Canadian energy resources.

(2) The extent to which Canadian uranium producers would have access to the enrichment plant both for processing services and for the supply of uranium feed material.

(3) The extent to which Canadians would participate in the financing, engineering, construction, operation, supply of materials and equipment, ownership and management of the facility.

(4) The timing of the project in relation to other major construction projects in Canada.

(5) The details of financing (the Government would probably monitor the movement of funds in and out of Canada in respect of the project).

(6) The contractual arrangements with any foreign participants and with the supplier of the enrichment technology.

(7) Effects on the environment.

(8) National and regional economic impact, both short and long-term.