YUGOSLAV COMMUNICATORS VISIT

Eight directors and engineering specialists from the Yugoslav Central Post, Telephone and Telegraph (PTT) spent a week in Canada recently studying the telephone systems and manufacturing facilities of Ontario and Quebec.

The group was invited by the federal Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce with a view to assisting Yugoslavia in its seven-year telephone-modernization and expansion program, which started last year. This program is financed in part by the World Bank (IBRD).

The visitors met representatives of the Canadian telecommunications industry in Ottawa on October 13. They also studied Canadian techniques and manufacturing facilities in Montreal, Ottawa, Brockville, Toronto and Whitby. Their interest lay in automatic telephone-dialing systems, computerized call-recording and billing, and exchange, switching and microwave radio relay equipment.

Their program included consultation with the Department of Communications, Northern Electric Company Limited, Northern Electric Laboratories, Northern Radio Manufacturing Co. Ltd., RCA Limited, Automatic Electric (Canada) Ltd., Lenkurt Electric Co. of Canada Ltd., Bell Telephone Company of Canada, Collins Radio Co. of Canada Ltd., Andrew Antenna Company Limited and Canadian Marconi Company.

The delegation was headed by Ante Zmijarevic, deputy director-general of PTT. Other members were Milan Josimovic, engineering specialist, PTT; Miroslav Popovic, Dipl. Ing., engineering specialist, switching equipment, PTT; Gojko Bubalo, general director, Belgrade PTT; Mirko Radalt, general director, Joint Rijeka PTT; Djore Damevski, general director, Joint Macedonian PTT; Stjepan Jurekovic, director of PTT Enterprise, Zagreb; and Jovo Milisic, director of PTT Enterprise, Sarajevo.

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search into the problems involved in the development of economically-deprived regions of the world. The Centre will seek to develop the most effective application of the results of this research to the needs of the people of those regions. It will give high priority to programs that assist the developing countries to build their own scientific and technological capabilities so that they will not be mere welfare recipients but contributors to the solution of their own problems.

The FAO should identify the problem areas in farming, fishing and forestry and indicate priorities,

and relate this form of aid to its continuing work under the Indicative World Plan.

The FAO should encourage increased research on food-crop diseases. We cannot rest on the laurels of the "green revolution". Without new developments in disease and parasite resistance, it could fail completely in five years....

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

The FAO should emphasize programs on protection of the environment in rural areas. The problem of environmental pollution, now serious in the developed countries, will also increase in the developing areas. The drive to control pests in crops, animals and stored foods, as well as pests of people, can lead to serious side effects unless all checks and balances are carefully employed....

In the next 25 years, the FAO must continue to expand its important work in all aspects of fisheries development to ensure that the biological resources of the world's ocean and fresh waters are evaluated, rationally utilized and effectively managed to provide a continued supply of essential food products....

Forests cover one-third of the world's land area. The FAO should provide for dissemination of new knowledge for improving forestry education and training, developing forests in arid as well as tropical regions, management of wildlife and national parks, and in linking results of fundamental research to field practices. Special attention will have to be given to reducing losses caused by wasteful logging and processing practices, and by insects, disease and fire.

No other single aspect of man's environment so markedly influences his health and capacity as the food he eats. Nutrition has a paramount influence on social and economic development. We have at our disposal today adequate scientific and technological knowledge to enable the provision of ample food supplies to assure nutritional adequacy for the total of the world's population. Yet there still remains a vast amount of unfinished business in nutrition. Doubtless the most pressing nutritional problem on a worldwide scale is protein-calory malnutrition. A tremendous amount of work remains to be done to combat problems of under-nutrition and malnutrition throughout the world, and emphasis must be given to the needs of special vulnerable groups...

A major contribution by the FAO over the past 25 years is the development of a food-aid program — a scheme for intelligently utilizing surplus foods for economic development. The spectres of food surpluses and shortages will continue to haunt us for some time. The FAO must continue to seek better ways of utilizing food abundance to meet the shortages and to assist both social and economic development....