

As a continuing task, the international sports liaison desk keeps itself informed of all athletic events such as the Olympic Games, the Pan-American Games and the Commonwealth Games, and notes any political overtones that may affect or involve Canada, bringing such observations to the attention of the appropriate area division.

Operations in Canada

The Information Division provides information on Canadian external policy and participation in world affairs in answer to a great number of requests received from enquirers both within and outside Canada. In addition, the Division frequently provides policy briefings to foreign student groups visiting Canada. Statements by ministers and reference papers are issued on varied aspects of Canada's external relations. The Division also selects and distributes departmental documents to ministers, to the National Defence College, to posts abroad, to the CBC International Service, and to other Government officials reporting international developments.

Information is also disseminated within Canada on international organizations and bodies of which Canada is a member, including the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies, the Commonwealth and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. In addition, there is a NATO visits program, which, in recent years, has involved the participation of Parliamentarians, journalists, teachers and university newspaper editors. Financial assistance is given to the Atlantic Council of Canada, a voluntary organization of persons interested in making NATO better known in Canada.

Historical Division

The normal work of the Historical Division continued -- research, compilation and selection of materials for publication, the solving of problems of access to classified departmental files by researchers, the evaluation of historical manuscripts, and assistance in the development of departmental links with the academic community.

In addition to these regular duties, the Division publishes *Documents on Canadian External Relations*. The first volume, covering the period 1909-18, i.e. from the establishment of the Department to the end of the First World War, was published in 1967. The second volume, dealing with the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, appeared in 1969. The third, encompassing the period 1919-25, came out in 1970, and Volume IV of the series, covering the years 1926-30, was published in 1971. Not only is work well advanced on the next two volumes, which will bring publication of these documents to the beginning of the Second World War, but research was initiated during the year on the first volume of the war period. The Division employs resident professional historians working full-time as editors of this series.

The Division assumes research tasks, as required, in support of Departmental activities and also assists scholars working officially on research projects for other government departments, as well as private scholars whenever possible.