

RESULT OF SPECIAL REPORT

This is the first step in implementing a new unified system for officer-education in the Canadian Forces recommended by the *Report of the Officer Development Board 1969*. This three-volume report, the result of 18 months' work, included a complete implementation plan as well as conclusions and recommendations for officer-development in the Canadian Forces.

The Officer Development Board became the Canadian Defence Education Center Planning Group on March 1, 1969. It was the Group's task to plan the introduction of a modified officer-education system within current financial and manpower restrictions.

The new headquarters will implement the recommendations of the Officer Development Board and other policies on officer-education directed by the Minister and his civilian and military advisers.

The National Defence College at Kingston prepares senior officers and civilians for high-level appointments. The Canadian Forces Staff College in Toronto, which together with the Canadian Forces Staff School, forms the Canadian Forces College, prepares officers for command and staff responsibilities at the lieutenant-colonel level. The Canadian Land Forces Command Staff College at Kingston prepares officers for major and lieutenant-colonel command and staff positions with particular attention on combat operations of the land forces and the air elements that support them. The Canadian Forces Staff School, Toronto, instructs officers of captain rank in staff work common to all elements of the Forces.

SCIENCE INFORMATION BODY

The Federal Government has designated the National Research Council of Canada as the coordinating body for the further development of a national scientific and technical information system (STI). The decision follows recommendations made last autumn by the Science Council of Canada.

Canada already has a number of STI dissemination services, the largest of which are based in Federal Government departments and agencies. In order to cope with the current "information explosion", expansion of existing facilities will be necessary. It will be up to the National Research Council to see that all areas of science receive adequate coverage, and to minimize unnecessary duplication.

The integrated national system, encompassing the natural sciences and engineering, will be decentralized, and based on the existing resources and systems in industry, the universities, and Government, all linked together.

The STI system will be designed to meet the needs of users in all parts of Canada. It will be of particular benefit to small companies or organizations unable to maintain large research libraries. Primary emphasis will be placed on rapid response

to specific requests and to promoting an awareness of information sources. The system will be designed to respond to queries in either French or English, but will provide documentary information in its original language only.

A Board of Directors will be appointed by NRC to be responsible for formulating general policies for scientific and technical information services in Canada, and guidelines for their implementation. The members of the Board will be broadly representative of users and processors, and include representation from the National Library.

FOOD FIRMS CRUISE CARIBBEAN

Canadian food-producers recently displayed their products to buyers for Caribbean hotels, restaurants and institutions at a seagoing food fair. Organized by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce and staged on board the *Sunriver*, a ship owned by Saguenay Shipping Limited, Montreal, the floating fair visited Bermuda, the Bahamas, Antigua, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago from mid-January to early February. Eleven firms took part.

The shipping company co-operating in the promotion operates a regular service between Halifax and the Caribbean, allowing exporters to plan shipments to suit their customers.

The increasing flow of tourist traffic to the Caribbean islands has put new pressures on hotels and stores catering to visitors. Canadian foods are expected to find ready acceptance in this market by virtue of their quality, packaging and attractive prices.

Aboard the *Sunriver* were samples of Canadian fish, meats, biscuits, desserts, processed fruit and vegetables, fruit juices and drinks, frozen pies, spices, peanut butter, frozen French-fried potatoes and other foods. Wines, liquors and tobacco were also included.

Representatives of most of the exhibiting companies travelled with the fair, and buyers for hotels, restaurants and institutions and potential buyers or agents visited it at the invitation of Canadian trade officials.

ORAL CONTRACEPTIVES COMMITTEE

National Health and Welfare Minister John Munro has announced the formation of a committee of seven physicians from across Canada to advise the Food and Drug Directorate on all aspects of the safety and efficacy of oral contraceptives. "I have taken this step because of the recent increased concern about undesirable side-effects associated with oral contraceptives," said Mr. Munro. "I feel that these distinguished physicians, with their close association with the clinical use of these drugs, will be able to provide valuable expert advice to ensure the safety of oral contraceptives on the market."