

national interest that in peacetime an information organization be maintained to further knowledge and understanding of Canada in other countries". No effort was made to analyze and explain why this would be in the national interest.

This early planning paper had one interesting feature in its blueprint for an advisory board to "assist" the director of the peacetime organization.

This feature was the idea of representation on what was called a "National Information Advisory Board" of suitable persons from outside government and bureaucracy.

In addition to six representatives of government departments and three from government information agencies, the board was to include "Six representatives of the public who might be chosen from the following fields: journalism, labour, industry, agriculture, education, women's organizations." This concept was not reflected in any later discussions and was a dead letter until the late 1960s when it reappeared only to be resolutely submerged once again by official thinking or instinct.

THE "OLD" INFORMATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT

Parallel to the efforts of the W.I.B. and later the C.I.S., the Department of External Affairs had registered its acknowledgement of the need for an information organization in the conduct of diplomacy