

Co-operation with Parliamentary Organizations

Throughout the year the Division provided liaison between the Inter-parliamentary Relations Branch of the Federal Government and Canadian diplomatic missions with respect to Canadian Parliamentary delegations going abroad. During 1971 these included: the Inter-Parliamentary Union conference in Caracas from April 12 to 18; the fifty-ninth Inter-Parliamentary Conference, Paris, September 2 to 10; the seventeenth Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, September 3 to 18, and a special Canada-United States Interparliamentary Meeting in Washington on November 11. Members of the Canadian branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association visited Britain from June 13 to 27 at the invitation of the British branch, attended the twentieth Parliamentary Seminar of the Association at Westminster, April 27 to May 25, and sent observers to a Caribbean regional conference in Bermuda, June 27 to July 2. Other Canadian Parliamentarians attended the North Atlantic Assembly's committee meetings in Brussels, May 24 to 29, and the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, January 25 to 26, and visited Romania from April 12 to 17. The Division also assisted in visits abroad by individual Members of the Senate and of the House of Commons.

Liaison with Sports Organizations

The international sports liaison section of the Information Division acts as a channel for communications between Canadian Government agencies, Canadian sports associations and foreign sports associations in order to facilitate international sports exchanges between individuals and teams competing in regional and world-wide contests. It provides guidance to posts regarding the official policy of the Canadian Government on sports exchanges and participation in international tournaments.

During 1971, the Division has been of assistance to Canadian teams participating in or preparing for the following international competitions: Pan-American Games (Colombia); World Waterskiing Championships (Spain); Water Polo Championships (Hungary); World Canoe Championships (Yugoslavia); World Skeet-Shooting Championships (Italy); World Wrestling Championships (Bulgaria); Pan-American Parachuting Cup (Mexico); World Amateur Baseball Championships (Cuba); Centennial Golf Tournament (New Zealand); World Championship Sailing Gold Cup (Toronto); World Figure-Skating Championship (Calgary).

In addition, the Division gave assistance to the International Symposium on the Art and Science of Coaching, held in Toronto in the autumn of 1971.

The Division and Canadian embassies were of assistance in arranging hockey tours of a number of European countries by seven Canadian hockey clubs.

The Division also contributed to the discussions between Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Kosygin in October by preparing a briefing paper on Canada-Soviet hockey relations.

The Division participated as an observer in the annual conference of the Sports Federation of Canada. It is actively involved in arranging for a Canadian sports presentation in China during the Peking Solo Fair in August and September 1972.