

Mr. Gérard Duquet (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): The management of Canadian National Railways advises as follows: Yes. (a) 22; (b) one; (c) six; (d) Estimated damage to railway property: \$2,381, \$39,958, \$1,549, \$110,800, \$2,704, \$14,680, \$219,016, \$201,000, \$40,000, \$12,325, \$12,050, \$3,208, \$4,231, \$6,114, \$16,938, \$162,000, \$91,835, \$88,941, \$505,064, \$121,674, \$2,608, \$4,497.

UNUSED CNR RAILWAY PROPERTY

Question No. 505—**Mr. Noble:**

1. Has the government given any consideration to releasing property deserted by the Canadian National Railways to the local municipalities?

2. Will the government take some action toward having the weeds and brush cut on such unused railway properties?

Mr. Gérard Duquet (Parliamentary Secretary to Minister of Transport): 1. No consideration has been given to this activity as a specific program. As a general rule, in the case of disused rights-of-way the railway attempts to dispose of them in as large blocs as possible by offering them first to provincial departments of highways for road purposes, then to Hydro for power transmission line purposes. If there is no interest on the part of these agencies, local municipal governments are then approached; piecemeal disposal to adjoining owners is used as the last resort.

2. As property released from active use for railway purposes is subject to local ordinance where weed control is concerned, it is not contemplated that direct federal action will be taken with respect to weed and brush cutting on such lands.

REPAYMENT OF LOAN—JAMAICA TRANSPORTATION SURVEY

Question No. 538—**Mr. Robinson:**

Will the government advise of the terms of repayment of the loan to Jamaica for the Jamaica transportation survey?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The Jamaica Transportation Survey entails two stages: Stage I, a comprehensive transportation survey completed in 1970. Stage II, technical and economic feasibility studies of high priority transportation projects arising from Stage I. Two of these have been undertaken. They are the Airports Study and the Road Engineering Studies, both of which commenced in 1971.

Stage I of the transportation survey and the Jamaica Airports Study are among the studies carried out under the loan agreement signed August 2, 1967 for pre-feasibility, feasibility and pre-investment studies in Jamaica.

The terms of the loan are: (a) Interest is payable at the rate of 3 per cent on the amount of the loan drawn by Jamaica and outstanding. (b) The principal amount of the loan is repayable in semi-annual instalments due and payable on the last day of March and September in each year commencing on September 30, 1974 and ending March 31, 1997.

The Road Engineering Studies in Stage II of the transportation survey are the subject of a separate loan agreement signed October 20, 1971.

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Questions

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COST OF "INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES"

Question No. 540—**Mr. Robinson:**

Will the government advise of the cost of the first issue of the publication "*International Perspectives*" and what is the estimated cost per subsequent issue?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): The cost of printing the first issue of the publication "*International Perspectives*" was \$5,525.98; 5,460 English copies and 1,635 French copies were produced and distributed.

The estimated cost of printing each subsequent edition, which will have a wider distribution, is \$5,900.

CANADIAN ASSISTANCE TO BANGLADESH AND PAKISTAN

Question No. 549—**Mr. Macquarrie:**

1. Is Canadian assistance to Bangladesh included under Canada's participation in the Colombo Plan?

2. What are the major long-term Canadian assistance projects now under development in (a) Pakistan (b) Bangladesh?

3. What major Canadian development projects are now being planned for (a) Pakistan (b) Bangladesh?

4. Are any further contributions for short-term relief to Bangladesh being contemplated by the Canadian government?

Hon. Mitchell Sharp (Secretary of State for External Affairs): 1. Canadian assistance to Bangladesh is not included under Canada's participation in the Colombo Plan. Bangladesh is not yet a member of the Colombo Plan.

2. Pakistan—Canadian assistance to Pakistan has in the past been concentrated largely in the generation and distribution of electric power. Two major projects which are presently being implemented in this sector are the Tarbela Dam and Irrigation Project, \$5 million and the Hyderabad-Karachi Interconnector, \$4.4 million. In addition Canada has almost completed the installation of an Earth Satellite Station.

Bangladesh—Canadian development assistance currently being implemented is primarily directed towards the immediate rehabilitation and reconstruction needs of Bangladesh, particularly in the transportation, agricultural and power sectors. Projects approved by the minister so far include railway track material \$7 million, commodities \$5 million, power system equipment \$1 million, and shallow draft vessels \$2.5 million. The minister has also approved the continuation of an existing priority development project in the agricultural sector involving the provision of tubewell casings, \$5 million.

3. Pakistan's immediate requirements stem from the loss of foreign exchange earnings and raw materials which previously came from the now separated east wing.