

purchased, without modification, from the United States. No expenditure for designing or developing the missile will be required.

The *Sparrow*, which is electronically controlled, can be fired with greater aiming leeway because once in flight it thinks for itself and has the ability to track down and destroy its target despite evasive action. It can be fired singly or in rapid series.

CANADIANS TRAIN DOWN UNDER

Soldiers from Canada's Mobile Command will train at the Australian Army jungle-training centre, Canungra, Queensland, from the end of February to the end of March through the co-operation of the Australian Government. The training is designed to increase the range of environmental experience for men of the Canadian Forces.

On their return from the gruelling course, the ten officers and 44 other ranks from the 2nd Canadian Infantry Brigade Group at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa will serve as instructors in tropical operational techniques and tactics.

The jungle school, located near Brisbane, is close to the rugged border country of Queensland and New South Wales, whose near-tropical conditions will contribute to the reality of the training and will demand top physical fitness.

Canada's brigade groups specialize in desert, mountain and jungle operations. Thirty servicemen of 3 CIBG completed desert training with the British Army last spring in Cyrenaica, and last summer, 70 potential instructors from 1 CIBG took training in mountain warfare at Fort Freely, Alaska.

LONG-DISTANCE DIALING

A little-known but vitally important agency of the Department of Transport is working for the day when any federal employee in Saint John, New Brunswick, for instance, can dial a government telephone in Vancouver, British Columbia, or any major Canadian city, without the aid of an operator. "Right now the system exists only between Ottawa, Toronto and Montreal, but we're working toward the day when everyone will be able to call everyone else," says J.B. McDermott, commercial staff officer with the Administrative Telecommunications Agency, which co-ordinates the communications needs of all

Government departments and agencies.

The job is complex but has, nevertheless, reaped tremendous savings since the ATA was established in 1965. In certain cases, it now costs less to make an inter-city call than to write a letter. Savings of \$4 million were reported in 1966 for long distance calls that would have cost the Government \$5.5 million at direct-distance dialing rates.

The cost of a six-minute long distance call from Ottawa to Montreal during office hours is \$3.25 at the commercial person-to-person rate, \$1.55 by direct-distance dialing, but only 13 cents through the private Government system.

The Government is the biggest customer of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada and, says G.H. Mellen Federal Government communications manager for Bell: "The Government is run as a tremendously large corporation, staffed by astute business-conscious men who like to drive a hard bargain. Many of the services we provide are in a competitive field, which means we have to be ready to meet their needs faster and better than the other fellow if we want to keep or increase our share of the Government's communications dollar."

Last year the Government spent \$40 million on communications including everything from the most complex needs to the girls who operate the Prime Minister's special switchboard.

POPULATION ESTIMATES

Canada's population on the first day of 1968 has been estimated at 20,630,000, an increase of 378,000 (1.9 per cent) over the estimate of 20,252,000 for January 1, 1967. The quarterly increases over the year were 82,000, 107,000, 107,000 and 82,000, reflecting the pattern of immigration over the same quarters. The increase since the census of June 1, 1966 was 615,000 or 3.1 per cent.

British Columbia's increase of 63,000 during 1967 was the highest percentage increase (3.3 per cent) among the provinces; Ontario however, had the greatest numerical increase, 174,000, or 2.5 per cent; Alberta gained 35,000, or 2.4 per cent; Quebec gained 77,000, or 1.3 per cent; Newfoundland 5,000, or 1.0 per cent; Manitoba 9,000, or 0.9 per cent; Prince Edward Island 1,000, or 0.9 per cent; New Brunswick 5,000, or 0.8 per cent; Nova Scotia 5,000, or 0.7 per cent; and Saskatchewan 3,000, or 0.3 per cent.