

## PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## The Press Office

The Press Office is responsible for relations between the Department and members of the press, radio and television media and for assisting them in reporting on Canadian foreign policy and current developments in international affairs. The Press Office gives regular briefings to the press and answers their queries on important international developments. It assists in the preparation of press conferences for the Secretary of State for External Affairs and for distinguished foreign visitors to Ottawa. It facilitates the work of Canadian journalists travelling abroad, including those accompanying the Secretary of State for External Affairs or other representatives of the Government attending conferences abroad. The Press Office arranges for the distribution of press releases, policy statements and speech texts on international affairs.

The Press Office keeps Canadian posts abroad informed on major news events in Canada and Government policy announcements. Government policy statements are sent in English to 62 posts by wire and 24 by air mail; and in French to 22 posts by wire and six by air mail. The Canadian Press prepares a nightly bulletin of Canadian news in English which is sent to 59 posts by wire and 20 by air mail. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's Montreal news-room prepares a bulletin in French which is sent to 12 posts by wire and 18 by air mail. The Press Office provides assistance to posts abroad in dealing with the press in their areas, particularly to Washington, New York, London and Paris, which have press officers as members of the Embassy staff.

## Information Division

Operations Outside Canada

The main responsibility for the projection of Canada abroad rests with the Information Division, which assists posts abroad through the provision of a wide range of information materials and encourages them to take advantage of opportunities to disseminate information on Canada. Through the Interdepartmental Committee on Information abroad, the Division seeks also to co-ordinate the information activities of all government departments with interests abroad.

Publications and Photographs

In addition to its periodic publications, the Canadian Weekly Bulletin, the monthly External Affairs and such formal publications as treaties, state papers and diplomatic lists, the Department produces each year general information publications designed to acquaint the people of other countries better with Canada. Facts on Canada, a booklet designed for school use, was available abroad in 1968 in English, French, Spanish, German, Italian and Dutch, and at the year's end was under production in