

these units accompanied the Canadian forces in the invasion of Sicily and Italy and in Normandy. The equipment consists of recording facilities in a military type vehicle suited for field use and, in addition, supplementary portable recording equipment which is used for front line work. In the field, the portable equipment is usually employed for the actuality broadcasts and news commentaries; the military vehicle equipment is then used for editing the front line actuality recording before they are released for broadcasting by shortwave from Algiers to Canada, where they are picked up at our Ottawa or Toronto short-wave receiving stations, for relay to the C.B.C. network.

A report recently sent from Italy by our engineer-in-charge of Canadian Broadcasting Corporation overseas operations, indicates that the development work carried on from the very beginning of the war, both in Canada and overseas, to produce suitable field equipment and operating procedure, has resulted in the C.B.C. being in advance of other broadcasting organization overseas, so far as front-line recording of actuality broadcasts by radio is concerned.

The difference between the C.B.C. setup and that used by others is that they virtually have a travelling recording laboratory on wheels near the front, with the complementary portable equipment used for front-line work. No other broadcaster has had this advantage to date according to C.B.C. overseas engineer and to information supplied by the B.B.C.

Regardless of personal risk to both correspondents and engineers, the units of C.B.C. in the field have by voice given Canadians at home a graphic picture of the heroic part played by our men on the fighting front. For this the Committee congratulate and commend them.

We recommend that their interest in the Corporation be protected in their absence and also recommend that men in the armed services when they return to civil life be given preference in employment in the C.B.C.

The matter of news broadcasts has been the subject of much comment and criticism. Your Committee heard evidence from D. C. McArthur, Chief News Editor, C.B.C. He outlined, in a general way, the organization and scope of the news service and the way in which it operates. The Corporation have access to the full news service of the Canadian Press as well as that of the British United Press. The news bulletins are then edited by newswriters and editors chosen for their experience and judgment in handling news, their enterprise, fairness and their feeling for radio. They have been instructed that political and controversial news must be given with absolute impartiality. The C.B.C. news service was organized to give a uniform type of service to listeners in every part of Canada. News rooms have been set up across the country from which are broadcast bulletins of national interest, many times a day, while in regional bulletins is included a reasonable proportion of news of local interest.

Your Committee is of the opinion that Canadian listeners are receiving a service that is not surpassed in any other country, and that the news is given with accuracy and fairness.

The Corporation's policy with respect to political and controversial broadcasting, generally known as the "White Paper", was revised by authority of the Board of Governors, February 21, 1944. The basic principle of the "White Paper" is that generally speaking network party political broadcasting during a general election is to be on a sustaining or free basis. Revisions and additions were necessary on account of changing conditions. The policy with respect to Dominion general elections has since been extended to cover general elections for the provincial legislatures, and was granted for the first time for the Ontario Campaign, August, 1943. The division of time was made by agreement between the participating parties. This policy will apply to all future provincial campaigns. In civic and municipal election campaigns and in by-election campaigns, private stations and hook-ups of private stations are available.