NEW ROLE FOR TORONTO AIRPORT

Mr. Paul Hellyer, Minister of Transport, has announced that, in recognition of the growing importance of Toronto as a major international gateway, the Canadian Government is prepared to open bilateral negotiations with any country that may be interested in having landing rights at Toronto.

Toronto has become the terminal for a number of major transcontinental routes into the United States, and British Overseas Airways Corporation has for some years operated its transatlantic services between London and Toronto. Other governments with which Canada has bilateral air agreements have shown considerable interest in securing similar rights.

Mr. Hellyer's policy statement made it clear that countries seeking access to Toronto must be prepared, in accordance with the terms of the bilateral agreements, to offer concessions that would expect any foreign government to submit, as a basis for negotiation, a concrete proposal indicating reciprocal concessions equivalent in value to landing rights at Toronto.

Mr. Hellyer said that a programme was already under way, in accordance with his announcement of December 20, to provide important new facilities at Toronto International Airport. Until it is complete, the present traffic congestion at the airport will impose limitations on extra overseas traffic.

PEARSON GROUP TO AFRICA AND ASIA

The Commission of International Development, which is making a wide-ranging review of foreign aid policies and practices, is continuing during March and April the series of meetings in less-developed countries that it began in Chile in January. The Commission's chairman, the former Canadian Prime Minister, Lester B. Pearson, has invited 33 African and 19 Asian governments to send representatives to meetings at which he and some of his colleagues will hear their views on economic development and aid.

Meetings for this purpose are being held in Abidjan, Kampala, Rawalpindi, New Delhi and Singapore.

This round of regional meetings was preceded by a regular meeting of the Commission in Rome from March 13 to 15, and will be followed by personal visits of Mr. Pearson to two donor governments, Australia and Japan. In all, he will be away for six weeks.

AIM OF COMMISSION

The formation of the Commission on International Development was announced by World Bank President, Robert S. McNamara, last August, when Mr. Pearson agreed to preside over a distinguished international group that would, in Mr. Pearson's words, "examine

the progress and problems experienced in the field of international aid and development assistance over the past 20 years, and make recommendations on the best policies and methods to help promote the economic growth of the developing world in the years to come?.

It has been widely felt, and has been explicitly suggested by the President of the World Bank, that the recent faltering of the aid effort is due to a weakening of the political will to aid. During a recent press conference Mr. Pearson promised that the Commission would give close attention to this problem.

At the first full Commission meeting in Mont Gabriel, Quebec, last December, the Chairman announced that he planned to complete the report by September 1969. Although it is financed by the Bank, the Commission is otherwise independent of that institution. Its report will make recommendations which, it is hoped, will be helpful to governments in dealing with aid and development.

Other Commission members are Sir Edward Boyle (Britain), Mr. Roberto de Oliveira Campos (Brazil), Mr. Douglas Dillon (U.S.A.), Dr. Wilfried Guth (Germany), Professor W. Arthur Lewis (St. Lucia), Dr. Robert E. Marjolin (France), and Dr. Saburo Okita (Japan). These men, who were appointed by Mr. Pearson for their broad experience and international stature, are not representatives of their respective governments.

OLD HOCKEY GREATS STILL GREAT

Just as old soldiers who never die, athletes who have reached the heights in the National Hockey League are reluctant just to sit back and read their press clippings.

The National Hockey League Old Timers group (Montreal version) has just completed a series of five exhibition games in Germany against teams from Canada's Air Division and Mechanized Brigade. The Old Timers, led by Maurice "Rocket" Richard, Elmer Lach, Dickie Moore, Bill Mosienko and other former stars, downed Canadian service teams by scores of 5-2, 10-5, 8-4, 9-2 and 12-4. Emile "Butch" Bouchard coached the Old Timers, who were managed by Frank Selke, Sr.

The NHL Old Timers receive no salary, pay for their own equipment and transportation and donate all proceeds from their games to the Crippled Children's Fund. To date, they have contributed more than \$350,000 to the fund in adhering to their motto, "les jambes des vieux permettront aux jeunes de marcher" – old legs allow the young to walk.

CANADIAN-BUILT HOTEL IN CEYLON

Contract for the design and construction of a 150-room luxury hotel in Ceylon has been awarded as