

The changes announced will allow the Post Office to improve its financial position without creating a substantial increase to the general public. The advance notice to large mailers will allow them to make the necessary adjustments in their arrangements well ahead of time.

### TACTICAL SATELLITE PROGRAM

The Communications Research Center (CRC) in Ottawa and elements of the Canadian Armed Forces will continue to take part in a NATO research program that has resulted in a number of achievements in communications over the past year.

The signing of a memorandum of understanding sponsoring extension of the NATO research and development program in tactical satellite communications (TACSATCOM) was announced recently by the nine participants: Belgium, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Britain, the United States and the SHAPE Technical Center.

This latest phase is a co-operative test program using Lincoln Experimental Satellite (LES-6), launched from Cape Kennedy in September 1968, and a network of small tactical satellite-communication terminals.

Last year, using the original LES-5 satellite, the Canadian Forces flew terminals into Resolute Bay and established the best communications ever from the Canadian Arctic. Terminals were set up in sub-zero weather at Wainwright, Alberta, and in the tropical forests of Jamaica, with good communication by satellite back to Ottawa.

CRC, using an airborne terminal, conducted a long-range flight test to Churchill, Manitoba, and for the first time in Canada, voice communication was set up from the aircraft through the satellite back to Ottawa.

CRC operates three terminals - one truck-mounted, one fixed (at Shirley Bay, Ontario) and one airborne, mounted in a Canadian Forces Dakota based at the Aerospace Engineering Test Establishment, Ottawa.

The Canadian Forces have two satellite-communication terminals, both mounted on three-quarter-ton trucks.

The initial NATO TACSATCOM Program was formalized by a memorandum of understanding signed in November 1967.

### THE VATICAN IN STRATFORD

The full spectacle of the Vatican has been reproduced in Stratford, in the production of Peter Luke's *Hadrian VII*, which opened at the Avon Theatre on August 5 under the direction of Jean Gascon.

For designer Robert Fletcher (who also designed the New York production of *Hadrian*, currently on Broadway), the play involved considerable research into clerical costumes worn at the turn of the cen-

tury, the period in which the drama is set.

According to Mr. Fletcher, the costumes in *Hadrian VII* are copies of the originals, but, for theatrical purposes, they have been exaggerated and made slightly larger-than-life to give them more solidity and better stage projection.

Legend and tradition are closely associated with the robes worn by the Pope and the Cardinals, and certain rules had to be taken into account in the design of the Vatican clothes. For example, the most elaborate and formal attire worn by the Cardinals are the "capa magnas", long capes made of a very special fabric and color. The fabric is not readily available and extremely expensive. However, if the hats (*biretta* and *zucetta*) worn with the capes are of the right fabric, then it is liturgically right and acceptable for the *capa magna* to be of slightly different cloth and color. Consequently, Mr. Fletcher arranged for the hats to be made authentically in Rome, and used a closely resembling fabric for the capes.

Costumes for the Swiss Guards in *Hadrian* are said to have been designed originally by Michaelangelo or Raphael. It is factual, however, that the Della Rovere family (a papal family) donated several sets of the original Swiss Guard armour to the Vatican in the sixteenth century. The helmets (morions) of this caparison were engraved with a crest symbolic of the tree of life. Mr. Fletcher sought out and copied the crest for costumes in the New York and Stratford productions.

Following its month-long engagement, in Stratford, *Hadrian VII*, with Hume Cronyn as Frederick William Rolfe, embarks on a 38-week tour of the United States, opening in Chicago on September 4.

### VARIEGATED CHRISTMAS STAMPS

Postage stamps for the Christmas season in denominations of 5 cents and 6 cents, with designs stressing the multiracial structure of Canada's population, will be released by the Canada Post Office in October.

The new multicolored stamps, designed by Rapid Grip and Batten Ltd., in a vertical format with dimensions of 24 x 30 mm., are Canada's first Christmas issues produced in more than two colors. They have identical designs except for a lower horizontal panel printed in blue for the 5 cents and red for the 6 cents in which the words "Canada" "Christmas" and "Noel" and the denominative figure, appear in black letters. The Canadian Bank Note Company Ltd., Ottawa, will print 200 million of the lower denomination, and 100 million of the higher, using the lithographic process; the colors used are red, blue, yellow and black. Customary First Day Cover Service will be provided by the Postmaster, Ottawa 2 Ontario.

The stamps show the heads of children of several racial origins, their hands clasped in prayer.