

The project is the largest of its kind ever undertaken in the Free World, and it will take a dozen planes six years to photograph the 500,000-square-mile area.

In anticipation of such photography and mapping, the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, through its Geodetic Survey, started in 1955 to set up the initial framework of survey control necessary for mapping over the Islands and completing the job in 1957. The thousands of photos to be taken will be tied into this framework, as will the control for later topographical mapping of the Islands by the Topographical Survey.

The Geodetic Survey was able to complete this vast project in such a short time by using shoran, an electronic method of distance measurement. Since 1949, it has completed a shoran network of survey control over all of the mainland Northwest Territories and Yukon, as well as over the Arctic Islands.

Mention should also be made of the hydrographic surveys undertaken to make our northern waters safe for shipping. For this reason the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys has added a new vessel, the BAFFIN, to its hydrographic fleet for the special purpose of Arctic work. During the past few years, the Canadian Hydrographic Service has been charting shipping routes in the Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait for the shipment of ores and concentrates to European and other ports. In addition, that service also assigns hydrographers each year to the northern supply vessels of the Department of Transport to carry out charting along the vessels' tracks and in the ports visited.

I have attempted to briefly outline for you the work of the Federal Government along lines very close to your interests. This shows that the Government has long range plans for the development of natural resources throughout Canada, and particularly in the northland. Associated in this venture are the governmental Departments of Northern Affairs and National Resources, and of Mines and Technical Surveys, and also my own Department of Transport. In carrying out this work, large sums of money are invested every year in the future of Canada. As governmental planning progresses along the lines I have mentioned, this outlay will undoubtedly greatly increase. But as I have said before, and as I will continue to say: the future of Canada is in our hands, we must invest wisely and freely in this future, and the returns will be a hundredfold.