

STAFF CHIEF VISITS FRANCE

Canada's Chief of Defence Staff visited establishments in France recently after attending the Military Committee in Chiefs of Staff sessions at NATO meetings in Brussels.

General J.V. Allard, who went to Brussels on January 14, spent five days in Paris from January 19.

General Allard accepted an invitation from France's Chef d'Etat-Major des Armées last November to visit armed forces Navy, Army and Air Force technical trades schools following the Brussels meetings.

His special interest in this type of training establishment follows the decision announced last spring to set up French-language trades-training centres in Canada as a means of improving the rate of retention of French-speaking Canadians in the Armed Forces.

IJC MEETINGS ON POLLUTION

The Canada-United States International Joint Commission held public meetings on January 21 and 22 in Sault Ste Marie, Michigan, and Windsor, Ontario, to enquire into the adequacy and effectiveness of the Canadian and U.S. Programmes for abatement of the pollution of the St. Mary's Detroit and St. Clair Rivers.

In 1950, specific water-quality objectives were recommended for the St. Clair, St. Mary's and Detroit Rivers by the Commission and were subsequently approved by the Governments of Canada and the United States for purposes of the Boundary Waters Treaty. It was agreed in that treaty that boundary waters should not be polluted in either country to the injury of health or property in the other. A recent report by the Commission's Advisory Board on control of pollution of boundary waters, however, indicated that the established objectives for these three rivers were not being met.

LOAN TO BRAZIL

Canada will lend \$847,000 to Brazil for a technical and economic study of the feasibility of building South America's first airport for supersonic and "jumbo" jet aircraft.

In his announcement of the loan, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, stated that it would be administered through the Inter-American Development Bank and would be interest-free and repayable over 50 years with a ten-year period of grace. The contract for the study has been awarded to a consortium consisting of two Canadian firms: Parkin Associates Limited and Acres International Limited of Canada and the Brazilian firm of Hidroservice.

Canada's move to the forefront in airport development is evident in the fact that the successful Canadian consulting companies won the contracts

despite strong competition from prominent firms from other countries. The Canadian group will study the feasibility of expanding existing airports as an alternative to constructing a new airport; determine the most suitable location of a new airport from the technical, economic, town-planning and tourist viewpoints, if that alternative is chosen; evaluate Brazil's present network of international airports and prepare a short-term programme to expand and improve them.

The feasibility study is the first step in a programme that will eventually call for the preparation of blueprints and construction of the airport — a project that will probably exceed \$110 million.

CANADA COUNCIL GRANTS

Two major organizations in the Maritimes are among the recipients of 18 Canada Council grants to the performing arts. The Neptune Theatre in Halifax receives \$120,000 for 1969; and the Charlottetown Summer Festival, receives \$115,000 for its 1969 season of musical theatre, which will include a new Canadian production based on Molière's *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme*.

Totalling \$552,500, the grants are part of a Council programme of assistance to the performing arts expected to amount to over \$6.5 million during the current year.

OTHER GRANTS

Included in other grants are:

\$50,000 to l'Institut International de Musique du Canada for the 1969 Montreal International Competition in June. This year's competition will be for violin, and a special feature will be the commissioning of an original work by a Canadian composer.

\$50,000 for 1969 operations of the Canadian Music Centre, an organization that promotes and makes available the work of Canadian composers.

A supplement of \$40,000 to the National Ballet of Canada, Toronto, for pre-production costs of two new ballets by Roland Petit to appear in the 1969-70 season. These works will be given their Canadian première at The National Arts Centre. (The Ballet received an earlier grant of \$350,000.)

A supplement of \$30,000 to the Stratford Shakespearean Festival towards costs of a pre-season tour of two new productions in Montreal, Chicago and Ann Arbor, Michigan. (The Festival received an earlier grant of \$350,000.)

A supplement of \$25,000 to the Théâtre du Nouveau Monde, Montreal, towards costs of an original Canadian production of a musical version to be given its première at The National Arts Centre. (The Théâtre received an earlier grant of \$270,000.)

\$25,000 to enable the members of the Orford String Quartet, Toronto, to continue working as an ensemble in 1969.