

CANADIAN MILITARY AID TO MALAYSIA

The following statement was issued on January 25 by Prime Minister L.B. Pearson:

In July 1964, the Prime Minister of Malaysia paid an official visit to Ottawa, following a meeting of the Commonwealth prime ministers, where the latter had jointly assured him of "their sympathy and support in his efforts to preserve the sovereign independence and integrity of his country and to promote a peaceful and honourable settlement of current differences between Malaysia and neighbouring countries". At the Malaysian Prime Minister's request, the Canadian Government considered how best to assist Malaysia in developing its own defensive capabilities without jeopardizing its economic development.

On July 29, 1964, the Prime Minister announced in the House of Commons that Canada would send a military survey team to examine and report on Malaysian requirements.

TRANSPORT AND TRAINING

A survey team visited Malaysia in October and November 1964. After careful consideration of its report, the Government has concurred in the team's recommendation that the most valuable contribution Canada

could make to Malaysia's security would be in the fields of air transport and training. Bearing in mind the Malaysian requirement for extending and improving internal communications, the Government has decided to offer to Malaysia as an outright gift four "Caribou" transport aircraft, with a substantial quantity of spares. In addition, a range of military training facilities in various fields will be made available in Canada for up to 40 Malaysian personnel a year. Canada would also supply 250 motorcycles for use by the Royal Malaysian Police. Implementation of this offer, which would involve expenditure of up to \$4 million (Canadian), would begin immediately and would extend over the next two years.

The Malaysian Government has been informed of the Canadian offer and has indicated that it would be warmly welcomed. The Canadian Government wishes to assist Malaysia, a fellow member of the Commonwealth, to build up its ability to defend itself. The maintenance of security is an essential foundation for Malaysia's further economic and social progress and for the success of its endeavours to build a constructive and respected role in the international community. The Canadian Government is glad to be able to assist Malaysia in its realization of these goals.

DEPARTMENT STATUS FOR DBS

Mr. Mitchell Sharp, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced recently that the Dominion Bureau of Statistics had been designated for legal and administrative purposes as a department of the Federal Government. The Change went into effect as a result of an Order-in-Council of January 6, which also designated the Dominion Statistician as the Deputy Head for DBS.

The present Dominion Statistician is Walter E. Duffett, who will continue to report to the Minister of Trade and Commerce in accordance with the provisions of the Statistics Act. Mr. Duffett was appointed on January 1, 1957, after serving the Government in various capacities, including positions in the Bank of Canada, the Department of Labour and the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. He is a member of the International Statistical Institute, the Inter-American Statistical Institute and the American Statistical Association.

The designation of DBS as a department is in line with the views of the Glassco Commission.

NATURE OF DBS

Canada has a central statistical system of which DBS is the main element. The information produced by the Bureau is widely used by the federal, provincial and municipal governments, by business and industry, and by institutions and associations of all kinds.

Mr. Sharp noted that the position of Dominion Statistician had been created half a century earlier,

in 1915. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics came into being three years later under the Statistics Act of 1918.

As stated in the Act, the duties of the Bureau were "to collect, abstract, compile and publish statistical information relative to the commercial, industrial, social, economic and general activities and condition of the people".

Since that time, the scope and range of DBS activities have increased very considerably with the growth and development of modern Canada especially during and since the Second World War. The Bureau now has over 2,000 employees and eight regional offices across Canada.

FISHERIES RECCE IN AFRICA

A six-man Fisheries Reconnaissance Mission left Canada on January 22 for an 18-day tour of West Africa and Greece. It visited Liberia on January 24 and 25, Ghana from January 26 to 29 and Nigeria from January 30 to February 3, and is to be in Greece from February 5 to 10.

The mission is sponsored by the Department of Trade and Commerce. Its aim is to study at first hand the kinds and varieties of fisheries products being sold in these markets and to examine the long-term possibilities for the expansion of exports of Canadian fisheries products to these countries. It also plans to investigate fisheries development in the four countries on the itinerary and to see the methods of production and marketing currently in use.