

CANADA STUDIES SATELLITES

Prime Minister Pearson recently announced the formation of an entity to be called the Task Force on Satellites to develop further Canada's future role in space. The Task Force will report to the Government and make recommendations on the nature and scope of Canada's future activities in the use of satellites, including their role in communications.

The Force, which is expected to submit its first report to the Government in a few months, will examine Canada's existing space programmes and commitments, and future needs and interests in outer space.

For the past year, the Government has been examining the Canadian space programme and several studies on various aspects of satellite communications have been conducted by the Department of Transport. The "Chapman Report", a special study on upper atmosphere and space programmes in Canada, was published in March under the auspices of the Science Secretariat, and the Science Council recently completed its own study of a space programme for Canada.

This work has now enabled the Government to turn its full attention to the manifold implications for Canada of satellite communications. The Board of Broadcast Governors recently held hearings on the broadcast of television programmes using communications satellites, and government departments have received briefs and proposals for the operation of domestic communications satellites in Canada.

INTERNATIONAL TIES

Canada takes part in many international undertakings relating to the exploration and use of outer space, including Intelsat (International Telecommunications by Satellite). Several successful joint programmes have been undertaken with the U.S. concerning scientific satellites, sounding rockets, weather satellites and military-communications satellites. Contacts have been established with experts from France, Britain and other space powers during the past year. Canadian observers recently attended joint meetings of three European space and satellite communications organizations. In discharging its mandate, the Task Force is expected to explore avenues for co-operation with European, American and other interests.

IJC REPORT ON CHAMPLAIN WATERWAY

Mr. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, has announced that Canada and the United States recently released the text of a report of the International Joint Commission dated April 7 regarding the improvement of the international Champlain Waterway for commercial navigation. The report was tabled in the House of Commons on July 7 by Mr. Martin.

DEVELOPMENT UNFEASIBLE

The two governments had requested the Commission to look into the feasibility and economic advantages of improving the existing waterway or developing any other routes for a waterway connecting the St. Lawrence River at or near Montreal, with the Hudson River at Albany in New York State. The Commission concluded that neither improvement of the existing waterway nor development of other routes for the purpose of commercial navigation was economically feasible.

The Commission noted the recreational developments that had taken place along the Champlain Waterway, as well as the recreational potential of the region, and recommended that the two governments pursue policies designed to preserve and enhance the natural beauty, water quality and recreational potential of the Champlain-Richelieu area. The Commission is willing to investigate these aspects, if the two governments think that such an investigation would be helpful. The IJC report is being studied by both Canada and the U.S.

PRINCE PHILIP COLONEL-IN-CHIEF

The Duke of Edinburgh was recently appointed colonel-in-chief of two militia regiments: the Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa, and the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders of Canada, based in Winnipeg. The Prince is also colonel-in-chief of the Royal Canadian Regiment, the Seaforth Highlanders of Canada, based in Vancouver, and the Royal Canadian Army Cadets.

SCOUT SERVICE AT EXPO

A Boy Scout from Port Colborne, Ontario, recently received a set of gold cuff-links for completing the fifteen-thousandth hour of service for the Scout Service Corps at the World Exhibition in Montreal.

Seventeen-year-old Jerry Ormiston, who was pushing a wheelchair when officials found him and made the special presentation, is one of 120 boys who come each week to form the Scout Service Corps based at the International Scout Centre, the rallying point for the 75,000 International Boy Scouts who are expected to visit Expo '67.

DUTIES OF CORPS

Members of the Service Corps, dressed in shorts and berets with special red jackets and blue kerchiefs, which they buy themselves, act as guides for handicapped visitors to Expo. They raise the flags at the special national-day ceremonies at the Place des Nations and other pavilions, often accompanied by a visiting scout band.

At the Canadian pavilion, scouts count the visitors lining up for free concerts, helping to regulate the number of tickets issued. At the Pavilion of