

TRACKING FACILITY PACT WITH U.S.

Canada and the United States have concluded an agreement, effective February 23, for the establishment and operation by the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) of a temporary tracking facility to be located near Pouch Cove, about 16 miles from St. John's, Newfoundland.

The National Research Council of Canada is co-operating with NASA in making arrangements leading toward establishment of the facility, which will consist of radio-transmitting and receiving equipment, computers, data-handling and recording equipment, and telephone and telegraph systems in transportable vans.

The Pouch Cove installation will support NASA's manned space-flight *Skylab* program, which will follow the conclusion of the current *Apollo* program. The basic aims of *Skylab* are to conduct scientific investigations in earth orbit, perform experiments and gather data for earth resources survey studies, and investigate man's capabilities as a participant in long-duration space flight activities.

The tracking facility will provide command and telemetry data communications with the 100-foot long, 150,000-pound *Skylab* workshop as it passes over the North Atlantic after launch from Cape Kennedy during the first half of 1973.

Later, voice and data communications will be provided with the *Apollo* command module as it ferries the *Skylab* crew of three astronauts to the workshop.

Pouch Cove is scheduled to be in operation for *Skylab* pre-mission tests next December. In view of the temporary nature of the facility and the short time available for training highly skilled technicians and engineers without previous experience in operating facilities of this type, the station will be manned primarily by United States personnel. It is expected that 25 per cent of the staff of 28 engineers and technicians and nine logistics and maintenance personnel will be Canadian.

Tenders for the preparation and construction of the site have already been invited from local Newfoundland contractors. When the facility is in operation, the operation costs are expected to be about \$500,000 a year.

AID TO BANGLADESH

In reply to a question regarding assistance to Bangladesh, in the House of Commons on February 23, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, stated that Canada had allocated \$22 million for the relief of "those who were refugees in India". "Seven million dollars in wheat has also been allocated to Bangladesh and \$500,000 has been made available in cash to the United Nations relief operation there," Mr. Sharp continued. "Of that total, \$11.5 million has been channelled

through international organizations and Canadian voluntary agencies. Over one-half of the \$7 million in wheat has been delivered. The remainder has been shipped and will be delivered shortly." The Minister noted that the entire \$500,000 donation to the United Nations organization had been disbursed.

NEW EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MAGAZINE

External Affairs, the monthly bulletin of Canada's Department of External Affairs, was replaced at the end of February by a bimonthly journal called *International Perspectives*.

The new periodical, which appears in English and French, differs from its predecessor in more than appearance. In his foreword to the first issue, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, states that each number will contain, besides "essential material of an informative and archival kind", contributions by persons outside the Department, who will express their personal views on Canada's role in world affairs.

"Readers will be invited to submit their own criticisms and comments on material presented," states Mr. Sharp, "and I hope that by printing a selection of these from time to time the new publication will be able to offer a variety of views." Mr. Sharp hopes that the new publication will be able to "combine expressions of official and unofficial opinions with comments and criticisms from the public, comparing and contrasting the views of the practitioners and the theorists of international affairs". It is, in his words, "an experiment".

International Perspectives is edited by Murray Goldblatt, former Ottawa Bureau Chief of the *Toronto Globe and Mail*, and Pierre Ducharme, an officer of the Department, with the advice of an editorial committee under the chairmanship of L.A.D. Stephens, Director-General of the Bureau of Public Affairs of the Department.

The first issue, of 40 pages, contains articles on China's entry into the United Nations and on China's foreign policy (by Dr. William G. Saywell, Chairman of the Department of East Asian Studies of the University of Toronto); the recent International Monetary Agreement; nuclear testing; Canadian-Soviet relations; the Francophone Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (by Dr. Louis Sabourin, Director of the International Co-operation Institute of the University of Ottawa); the refugee problem in West Bengal; and the Stockholm Conference on the Environment.

Subscription rates are: Canada, the United States and Mexico, \$3 a year; other countries, \$4; single copies in Canada, 75 cents; other countries \$1. Remittances, payable to the Receiver-General of Canada, should be sent to Information Canada, 171 Slater Street Ottawa, Canada.