

simply not so. Despite the long-standing lack of Government policy in this field and uncertainty about the degree of priority attached to these activities, despite very restricted funds and perennial personnel shortages, the Department has accomplished more than might reasonably have been expected and has made an important contribution to the understanding of Canada in other countries and to the understanding in Canada of international affairs and foreign policy. A solid foundation of purposeful and effective activity exists; not dismantling, but an extension and improvement of structure is called for.

Certain recommendations are made below in the hope that they might lead to a somewhat improved function. Some recommendations are specific while others, perhaps the more important ones, are more indicative and suggest subjects and areas which could usefully be examined in detailed, follow-up studies.

Of the recommendations which may be adopted, I wish to emphasize the opinion that they are unlikely to achieve very much unless the authority of the department is exerted to allot and sustain an adequate priority, within its whole function, for the information and press activity. The priority must be visibly high enough to give status and respectability equal to other departmental activities and which will permit those engaged in information to feel their work is an integral and important part of the operation of a foreign office and a foreign service.