

second phase of the plan, the laying of the trans-Pacific section between Vancouver, B.C., and Sydney, Australia, *via* Auckland, New Zealand, Fiji and Fanning Island. The cable will provide 80 voice channels, some of which will be engineered to be broken down into telegraph and telex circuits. The Pacific cable will cost about \$75 million, of which Canada's share will be about \$25 million. Canada will own the portion of the cable from Vancouver to a point about 2,700 miles distant. The section from that point to Sydney will be owned jointly by Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. It is hoped that the trans-Pacific cable will be finished early in 1964.

Mr. George Hees, Minister of Transport, announced Cabinet approval of Canadian participation in the Pacific cable project, subject to further satisfactory arrangements being negotiated, in the House of Commons at Ottawa on February 3, 1960. The other three governments concerned have also signified their approval.

When completed, the global system will include the two trans-Atlantic cables referred to earlier, the Pacific cable to New Zealand and Australia; and cables from Australia to the United Kingdom *via* principal Commonwealth territories in the Indian Ocean and in the Africa. As Mr. Hees told the House of Commons, the plan will give the world a system of communications unmatched for quality, speed, accuracy, security and flexibility in providing diversity of services.