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VAST SURVEY PROJECT

The 1962 federal field programme of mapping and charting Canada's vast land and water areas is swinging into high gear. One thousand men, comprising geodetic and topographic engineers, surveyors, hydrographers and oceanographers of the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys, are packing their gear at Ottawa, Victoria and Halifax before taking off in all directions to continue the mapping of Canada's 3.8 million square miles and the charting of what is believed to be the longest coastline in the world.

"This year's programme will cost \$3 million and will involve over 80 parties on land and at sea", said Mines and Technical Surveys Minister Jacques Flynn. "We face a tremendous task. Defence and resource development requirements have more than doubled the demand for maps and charts during the past ten years, and in the Far North the demand for these maps and charts of the archipelago and its waters must now receive high priority."

The parties will travel by plane and by ship, by vehicle and on foot, and will work on southern plains and in the almost inaccessible areas of northern Ellesmere Island, as well as out on the ice of the Arctic Ocean north of the archipelago. Many will be air-supported, with fixed-wing aircraft for transport and helicopters for surveying.

TERRITORY TO BE COVERED

During the next five months, the 80 parties will extend precise survey control (latitude and longitude) for 2,000 miles and topographical mapping control over 150,000 square miles; chart some 28,000 square nautical miles of Canada's coastal and inland waters,

11,000 miles of which will be in the archipelago; and do all the necessary surveying of lots, town subdivisions, airports and school sites, and boundary and right-of-way surveys involved in the administration of the northern territories and the many Indian reserves and national parks throughout Canada.

There will be a heavy accent on mapping and charting the Far North; 20 of the parties will work north of the 60th Parallel, half of them in the archipelago. Topographers, equipped with helicopters, will finish the mapping of Ellesmere Island, run a special tellurometer traverse from Resolute to Borden Island and survey the Penny and Bames ice-caps on Baffin Island, thus completing the topographical mapping, on a reconnaissance scale, of the eastern island rim of the archipelago.

Hydrographers abroad the CHS "Baffin" will continue the charting of Barrow Strait, one of the waterways of the 'cross-roads' of the Arctic, and, on their return voyage, will do a reconnaissance survey of Duke of York Bay on the north coast of Southampton Island, where an Eskimo char-fishing industry is being established.

THE NORTHERN SHIPS

The Department's new 65-foot launch, CHL "Richardson", will do its maiden charting along Amundsen Gulf, eastwards from its new base at Tuktoyaktuk to Cape Bathurst. This is an area of considerable interest to the oil industry. The "Richardson" will be sailed to Tuktoyaktuk from Victoria, British Columbia, up the coast of the province and around Alaska. Departmental hydrographers will also