

imbalance in Canada's existing aid programmes. For a number of reasons it would appear most reasonable to begin by re-examining the programme for French-speaking Africa.

16. The French-speaking states have a natural interest in Canada because of our bilingual facilities and background. The development of close cooperation at the U.N. has been particularly successful with these countries. On the private level, especially in Quebec, there is widespread genuine interest in the establishment of contacts with these countries. Already an organization has been set up to foster these contacts. A Canadian business group is visiting West Africa and the French-speaking representatives at the U.N. have been invited to attend a meeting in Montreal. Cultural and economic relations are developing rapidly and the expansion of Canadian assistance to French-speaking Africa could be of particular benefit and importance to our own country. French-Canadians are going through a period of intense nationalism. In their present mood they are critical of the degree of influence that they have in national affairs and in particular in the field of external affairs. If a scheme of aid for African states were to be developed in such a fashion as to provide an outlet to the French-Canadian interests in French-language states in Africa, the results in terms of national unity might be quite substantial.

17. (In this respect, however, it should be recognized that an increase in the programme of aid to the French-speaking African states would not automatically result in the creation of a French-language version of the Commonwealth Educational Programme. To achieve this result, it would be necessary, as a supplement to expanded aid to Africa, to consider a programme of cultural relations with France; the latter might be very significant and hold great attraction.)

18. A new factor which will have to be taken into account in the near future is the imminent independence of Algeria. Tunisia and Morocco are already to benefit from the present programme of aid to French-speaking Africa and presumably Algeria will also do so. This means that a nineteenth state, and an exceedingly important and large one, will be added to the eighteen among which the sum of \$300,000 must be allocated. The difficulty of reassuring African Governments that Canadian assistance will be made available to them at a future date although impossible immediately will therefore become even greater. Only a substantial increase in the funds available will alleviate this situation.

19. The amount required to bring Canadian aid to the French-speaking African states up to the present level of per-capita aid to independent Commonwealth African states would be in the order of an additional \$3 million per year. To increase Canadian aid to the per-capita level available to countries receiving Canadian assistance under the Colombo Plan would require still more. These yardsticks, while indicative, are not necessarily the right ones. The objective presumably should be to put Canada in a position to be able to respond to a reasonable number of requests more or less on an annual basis from a substantial number of these states.

### *Conclusion*

20. The greatest hindrance to the development of successful relations with the newly emerging states of Africa is their internal political effervescence. All are passing through a social and economic transformation that because of its speed amounts to a revolution.