

Office of the Inspector General

The inspection, audit and evaluation functions of the Department were re-structured in 1985 to permit a high level of control, but at lower overall cost. As part of this restructuring, a position of Inspector General was re-created in October 1985.

The Inspector General's responsibility is to provide senior management with an objective and independent assessment of management practices, of posts' relations with headquarters, and their effectiveness in meeting governmental and departmental objectives in the conduct of foreign policy. The Inspector General acts on behalf of senior management and is free to request the full assistance and co-operation of assistant deputy ministers and bureau heads.

Most of the Inspector General's attention in the period under review was concentrated on investigating a number of specific issues in the personnel, security and administration areas. In addition, the Inspector General headed an in-depth review of personnel resources at the three Canadian Missions in Brussels (the Embassy to Belgium, the Delegation to NATO, and the Mission to the EEC).

Overall, the new Office of the Inspector General is working well, and has demonstrated that a senior officer dedicated to the task can get to the bottom of internal issues quickly and effectively. The Inspector General's review of Brussels, for example, resulted in substantial person-year and cost savings for the Department.

Federal-provincial co-ordination

The Department assists in harmonizing federal and provincial policies and activities at the international level. In 1985-86, provincial governments continued to devote a considerable amount of human and financial resources to the promotion of their interests abroad, benefiting from the Department's support in this area. Federal-provincial consultations with ministers and senior officials were held during the year to ensure that provincial interests were considered in the formulation of international relations policies and that provincial authorities were kept fully informed of the federal government's position on a number of issues of mutual interest. In addition, the Department's telecommunications network was available to the provinces, giving them rapid access to the many services offered by Canada's diplomatic and consular missions abroad. The Department continued to transmit reports, comments and research material, particularly of an economic and commercial nature, to the ten Canadian provinces from the various missions abroad; the missions also maintained close contacts with provincial offices located in their areas of responsibility.

The Department facilitated provincial participation in meetings of multilateral organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNESCO, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (CHR), the Commonwealth, francophone institutions and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). It also helped to arrange visits abroad for provincial premiers and delegations as well as visits of foreign delegations to the provinces.

Protocol services and diplomatic, consular and other representatives in Canada

During the past year Canada had diplomatic relations with 148 countries. They were represented in Ottawa by 79

resident and 29 non-resident ambassadors, and 27 resident and 13 non-resident high commissioners. Other representational offices in Canada are the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) with representatives from 50 countries, the Delegation of the Commission for the European Communities (CEC), the Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO), the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECs), the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission (INPFC), the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT), and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (HCR).

During 1985-86, the Department's Protocol Branch maintained liaison with all of these missions and provided services and advice in accordance with Canada's obligations under the Vienna Conventions and other international agreements, and Canadian laws and regulations. The Branch was responsible for the physical protection of diplomatic and consular representatives and premises, the accreditation arrangements of foreign and Canadian heads of posts and the ceremonial aspects of state visits to Canada. It also oversaw the privileges and immunities of some 6 500 members of diplomatic missions and consular posts in Canada, including their domestic servants and dependents.

The Branch was responsible for welcoming foreign visitors and providing the logistic and administrative support for their official visits. In 1985-86 these official visitors included His Excellency Nicolae Ceausescu, President of the Socialist Republic of Romania; His Excellency Li Xiannian, President of the People's Republic of China; His Excellency Julius Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania; His Excellency Dr. Garret Fitzgerald, Prime Minister of Ireland; His Excellency Yasuhiro Nakasone, Prime Minister of Japan; His Excellency Luis Alva Castro, Prime Minister of Peru; the Right Honourable Sir Geoffrey Howe, British Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs; the Honourable George P. Shultz, Secretary of State of the United States of America; Sir Shridath Ramphal, Commonwealth Secretary General; His Excellency Dante Caputo, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Argentine Republic; His Excellency Jozsef Marjai, Deputy Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Hungary; His Excellency William Eteki Mboumoua, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cameroon; and His Excellency Vitaly I. Vorotnikov, Member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic.

In addition, the Office of Protocol was responsible for arrangements connected with visits by the Right Honourable Joe Clark, Secretary of State for External Affairs, to the Soviet Union, France (OECD), the Bonn Economic Summit, the United States, Portugal (NATO meeting), Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand (ASEAN), Finland (the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe), India, Pakistan and the Middle East. Similarly, trips made by the Honourable Monique Vézina, Minister for External Relations, to Latin America, France, Africa and the United States received the support of the Office, as did visits to a wide range of destinations abroad by other ministers or parliamentary secretaries representing ministers.