

This recommended attention has since been given and a reasonably satisfactory and systematic function has been evolved. There continue to be press criticisms of the Department's press relations in recent months but these are less frequent and less vehement than in the past and there is a disposition to recognize the practical efforts of the Department to fill the requirements. In a generally critical, though not entirely accurate, editorial comment on January 15, the editor of the Ottawa Citizen had this to say:

"In the case of external, the Glassco complaints produced some changes. The mysteriously named and almost useless liaison services division has been renamed press and liaison and has become relatively more useful. Under the direction of D'Iberville Fortier, an experienced diplomat and information man, assisted by Charles Stone, a diplomat and ex-newspaperman, the division is now able to supply routine information, to direct inquirers to sources of policy thinking, and to organize occasional foreign policy briefings. This is something although it is not enough."

The only illustration of what is still required was set down as follows:

"Even in Ottawa, the idea has not sunk in that a good information service has to be highly authoritative and ahead of daily events. This means that a senior briefing officer must be available as he is at the foreign office and the state department. He must be sufficiently trusted that he knows what our policy is at any given time. He should be prepared to offer both official statements and background information."