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Bulletin

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VIETNAM WAR CRIME ALLEGATIONS

Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, made the following statement in the House of Commons on December 11:

...It is, I trust, not necessary for me to stress how appalled all of us in Canada have been by the wave of reports coming out over the last two weeks concerning alleged behavior of combattants on both sides in this tragic conflict towards each other and towards innocent civilians. Every war is abhorrent, whatever its origins, whatever explanation made for it by belligerents or by historians. It becomes particularly abhorrent when even normal rules of military behavior are discarded: when there is deliberate individual terrorism and assassination; when there is indiscriminate bombing and shelling; when there is rejection of internationally accepted treatment of prisoners-of-war; when thousands of civilians from a particular city are methodically executed and dumped into mass graves; when women and children in villages are shot in cold blood. There may be explanations, but there can be no justification for such action by either side. It seems to me that the agony which the American people are going through at this time shows that they too believe deeply that there cannot be such justification.

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U.S. ACTION

Since events at My Lai came to the attention of the American Government and the public, that Government has acted in a manner consistent with normal practice of a democratic society. A committee of the U.S. Senate has reviewed evidence. An enquiry at the highest level has been instituted by the Secretary of Defense. Criminal charges have been laid against those accused of complicity in the matter. Secretary of State Rogers told us in Brussels last week that his Government is determined that criminal proceedings will be carried out as vigorously as possible and that any U.S. personnel found responsible will receive the punishment that they so obviously deserve. At a TV press conference on Monday night, President Nixon told the American people: "What appears is certainly a massacre and under no circumstances was this justifiable....We can never condone or use atrocities against civilians to accomplish our goal." He also had this to say: "I am going to do everything I possibly can to see that all facts are brought to light and that those who are charged - if they are found guilty - are punished."

The normal course of enquiries and criminal proceedings now under way in the United States will bring to light the facts of this particular event and the circumstances in which it took place, and meet the requirements of justice.

ICC OR UN ACTION UNLIKELY

The question has been raised of an investigation by the International Control Commission, of which Canada is a member along with India and Poland. We have consulted our delegation in Vietnam and their view confirms our own reaction that an investigation by the Commission of charges of atrocities would be beyond its powers under the 1954 Ceasefire Agreement, which sets out terms of reference of the ICC. For this reason, it has been unable to undertake investigations of similar allegations submitted to it over the years concerning Viet Cong atrocities,

and any such efforts have been consistently blocked.

The possibility of a United Nations investigation of allegations of atrocities has also been raised. It must be recognized, of course, that an investigation on behalf of the Secretary-General could, in practical terms, only be carried out with broad general support within the UN and with the co-operation of all parties directly concemed. Frankly, whatever the merits of the proposal, I see little likelihood that these conditions would be met. I would remind the House, in particular, that the Communist side has consistently maintained the position that the UN has no role to play in the Vietnam conflict and has resisted any suggestions of possible UN intervention.

Finally, there has been a proposal by a distinguished group of Canadian professors of international law that the United Nations should set up a special body to go into this whole question in depth, to see whether war crimes and crimes against humanity have been committed in violation of customary and conventional international law and principles affirmed by the UN, and perhaps to up-date rules concerning war crimes to apply to hostilities other than open and declared war. While all available evidence indicates that atrocities have in fact occurred, every effort must be made to avoid prejudicing rights in law of individuals who may have been involved. We are, however, making a careful study of the professors' declaration and carrying out our own examination of international law applicable to questions raised in the declaration. I would therefore prefer to withhold substantive comment until this study has been completed.

Our attention these last few weeks has been focused very heavily on particular horrors to which the conflict in Vietnam has given rise. A stop must be put to them, but the best way would be for both sides to display the necessary imagination and flexibility to bring to an end a war whose continuance can only bring further suffering and further horrors.

AID FOR GRENADA WATER SYSTEM

The Canadian Government is providing \$775,000 for the construction of a treatment plant and an expanded water system on the Eastern Caribbean island of Grenada.

The Canadian portion, which will probably cost eventually a total of \$1,100,000, is being financed through the Canadian International Development Agency. The Government of Grenada is contributing the remainder and will be responsible for supervising the construction.

St. George's, the capital of Grenada, and the land area south of the city will benefit from the project: an existing dam on the Beausejour River will be renovated to increase the capacity of the water source; a new treatment plant will purify the water and a distribution system will be installed to

carry it to three reservoirs, including one new one to be built.

The added water supply is necessary for the growing population of St. George's, and will also provide a larger and more economical supply for the South St. George region, which is developing as the major tourist and residential area of the island.

The project, which will be completed within two years, will be the first undertaken under a water-supply development plan prepared by the Government of Grenada with the assistance of the Pan-American Health Organization. The long-term objective of the plan is to provide drinking water for about 95 per cent of Grenada's estimated population in 1990.

Canada's contribution is part of the Canadian International Development Agency's program of assistance for water development in the Eastern Caribbean.

INDIANS EARN TOURIST DOLLARS

Canadian Indians are boosting the value of Canada's tourist trade by the use of their natural skills and at the same time improving their own standard of living.

More than 4,000 Indians engaged in touristoutfitting and guiding operations linked to sports, hunting and fishing earn more than \$3 million a year for the Canadian tourist industry. Yet this income represents only a small part of the Indian involvement in tourism.

The Department of Indian Affairs is providing managerial, technical, advisory and financial assistance to 114 outfitting and guiding enterprises whose 520 Indian owner-operators are earning \$375,000 a season. Indian guiding services throughout Canada account for a further \$1,125,000 income for 1,750 guides. A slightly larger number of Indians employed in a variety of ancillary jobs earn \$1,400,000 a season.

About \$1,700,000 has been invested in the Indian hunting and fishing tourist industry. This capital outlay is shared equally by the Indians, the Indian Affairs Department and, in varying degrees, the provincial governments. The Indian contribution is largely in the form of material, labor and services; government departments provide loans and grants.

Nearly 75 per cent of all the tourist outfitting and guiding operations owned and run by Indians are located in Ontario and British Columbia, the remainder being distributed throughout most of the other provinces and the territories.

More than half these paying operations were established during the past six years on the initiative of Indian bands, with the backing of band funds and with little or no help from the Department of Indian Affairs.

Spain was the first country to announce its participation in Man and His World 1970.

GUEST STUDENT FROM GERMANY

Germany, is in Canada as the guest of Canadian students and their parents.

The idea of bringing a German student to Canada originated with the 100-member band of Ottawa's Laurentian High School, which began a European tour at Amsterdam last June. In mid-July the band

was in Lahr, where its members met Gerd, the boy who will be sharing this school year with them.

He was flown to Canada late in August aboard a Canadian Forces aircraft.

Gerd will receive a year's education, room and board and a Canadian winter wardrobe. He will also have his spending money provided by the boys and girls of the band, who raised it by selling tickets to the concerts they presented during their European tour.

(See Canadian Weekly Bulletin, Vol. 24, No. 12, dated March 19, 1969, P. 3.)

CANADIAN MAPLES THRIVE IN U.K.

Although sugar-maple trees are uncommon in Britain, 100 of them are thriving on a hillside in Richmond Park near London. The trees, which were flown over last October as six to eight-foot saplings, had been grown by the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, and presented to mark the hundredth anniversary of Ontario's official representation in Britain.

EYE DAMAGE FROM LASER LIGHT

The Minister of National Health and Welfare, John Munro, has warned high-school teachers and students of the possibility of health hazards when using laser equipment in classroom demonstrations and experiments. He called attention to the fact that laser light could cause serious eye damage. The Minister was commenting on a bill, entitled "Radiation Emitting Devices", which is mentioned for presentation to Parliament in the legislation list tabled by the Prime Minister.

"A great many laser devices," Mr. Munro said, "are currently being promoted for classroom work and their uses are being enthusiastically explored by science students. They are exciting scientific playthings as well as important technical tools. One of their attractions is that they are easy to make and relatively cheap."

The Minister warned that these devices could be a serious hazard if used carelessly. The danger, he pointed out, was insidious since the victim may feel no discomfort at the time. In several cases a laser beam striking the eye has scarred the retina and caused an effective loss of vision. Even reflections from the beam can be dangerous. It has been reported that a beam reflected from a glass bottle caused an



Major-General R.J. Lane, Commander of Canada's No. 1 Air Division in Lahr, Germany, congratulates German student Gerd Kohler.

experimenter to suffer a permanent loss of visual acuity. Early this year, a Canadian student required medical treatment after operating a laser that he had built for a science competition exhibition.

The proposed Radiation Emitting Devices bill is intended to ensure proper safety standards in the design and construction of X-ray, microwave and laser devices sold or imported into Canada. The Minister emphasized that equipment standards were only one aspect of the problem, and in the case of lasers, much of the responsibility for safety would still rest with the user.

ELECTRIC BRONCO

Calgary Power Limited recently acquired an electric automobile for showing at fairs and exhibitions. A converted four-door *Renault*, their "Electricar" is driven by a motor powered by 20 six-volt lead-cobalt-acid batteries.

The car has a range of 120 miles and a top speed of 60 m.p.h. Charging time for the batteries, which have a guaranteed life of 50,000 miles, is six to eight hours, though they can be restored to peak power in 46 minutes with special equipment. The charging is performed automatically when the batteries are plugged into a 240-volt receptacle.

Calgary Power made it clear at the auto's unveiling that they do not think the day of the electric car has yet arrived. Said executive vice-president M.M. Williams: "We are not going into the automobile business, nor are we suggesting that people rush out and buy electric cars. Our purchase is part of a continuing sales research and development program."

He added that the electric car could help to alleviate two major urban problems — noise and air pollution.

AGE AND DISABILITY PENSIONS

The eligible age for the Canada Pension Plan retirement pension and the Old Age Security pension dropped to 65 on January 1, thus completing the age-reduction program, which started five years ago, when the eligible age was 70.

The age reduction, it is estimated, will add 250,000 to the number of people eligible to receive the Old Age Security pension in 1970. Owing to age reduction and other factors, it is also expected that some 90,000 people will apply next year for retirement pensions under the Canada Pension Plan. By the end of October, more than 84,000 were receiving CPP retirement pensions.

To receive a CPP retirement pension, a person must have contributed to the plan, must have a social insurance number and must make application. If he is between the ages of 65 and 70, he must also be retired from regular employment. At 70, however, he can apply for his retirement pension whether or not he is retired.

DISABILITY PENSIONS

Disability pensions and benefits for the children of recipients will become available for the first time under the Canada Pension Plan, in February 1970. The introduction of disability pensions and benefits for the children of disabled contributors will complete the roster of CPP benefits, which now comprises retirement pensions, pensions for widows and disabled widowers, death benefits and benefits for orphans.

To be eligible for a disability pension, a person must have contributed to the plan for at least five years (or parts thereof) and have a physical or mental disability so severe, and likely to continue so long, that he is unable to engage in any substantially gainful occupation. Eligibility will be determined on the basis of medical evidence the applicant will be required to obtain, usually from his own physician, and by a test of employability. A decision will be made by a special board of the CPP.

The legislation also provides for the payment of rehabilitation measures where there appears to be a reasonable chance that the disability pensioner may later be able to engage in gainful work.

BENEFITS

For an applicant who fulfils all requirements, the disability pension in 1970 will consist of a flat-rate amount of \$26.53 a month plus 75 per cent of the current value of his retirement pension. Since a retirement pension will not yet be payable to the applicant calculations will be made for one as though he had become eligible for such a pension at the time he became disabled.

A person receiving a disability pension cannot make contributions to the Canada Pension Plan as long as he receives the pension. At 65 his disability pension is automatically replaced by a retirement pension. Should a contributor die while receiving a disability pension, survivor's benefits become payable to his widow and children.

The plan also provides benefits for the dependent children of a disabled contributor. For each child up to four, \$26.53 a month will be paid in 1970. For each additional child, half that amount will be paid. Total payments for the children are divided equally among them. Payment will begin at the same time as the contributor's disability pension, and will end when the child is no longer eligible or when the contributor stops receiving a disability pension.

LOGS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST

Staff of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, Pembroke District, recently retrieved several sunken logs of considerable age from Grand Lake. Parts of the logs were forwarded to the Faculty of Forestry at the University of Toronto for study by forestry students in their wood-technology course to ascertain the amount of deterioration that has taken place.

The logs were probably cut by the J.R. Booth Lumber Company about 1910 and were part of a holding-boom at the foot of Grand Lake when they apparently became waterlogged and sank.

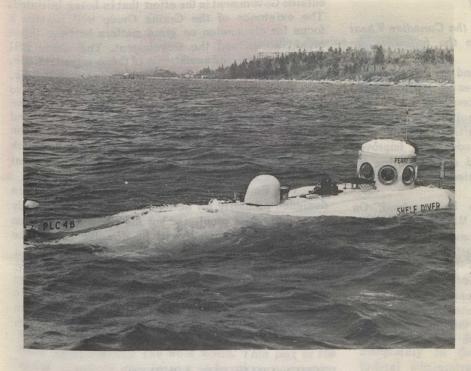
Almost all the creeks and rivers of Pembroke District contain such evidence of the development of the logging industry in the Ottawa Valley. To canoeists and fishermen, however, "deadheads" and sunken logs are a dangerous nuisance, not a subject for historical research. (A "deadhead" is a partly submerged log with only the top showing above water.)

LOG TRANSPORTATION

The use of natural waterways was the only economical means of moving logs in the late 1800s and in the 1900s until the advent of the truck haul. The last drive in Pembroke Forest District occurred in 1959, when Consolidated Paper Corporation brought their logs down the Petawawa River to the Ottawa.

Numerous efforts, both successful and unsuccessful, have been made to make a commercial operation out of salvaging these "lost" logs, which are usually white pine and have lost little of their value as high quality sawlogs.

All the logs prepared for the drive have been "hammer marked" with the registered company mark. Ownership of the stamped log remains with the company whose mark it bears and salvage of them must have the approval of the company. Logs that bear no stamp mark and that have been abandoned by their owners, and logs that bear the stamp mark of companies whose charter has expired, are considered the property of the Crown. Approval must be arranged with the department of lands and forests for salvage of sunken logs owned by the Crown.



The three-man submarine used by fisheries research scientists in the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

SUBMARINE LABORATORY

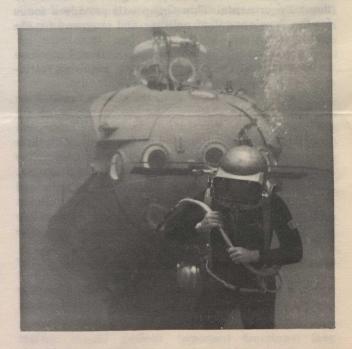
For the second successive year, the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, in co-operation with the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, is using a submarine in its research program.

In 1968, the feasibility of a submersible craft for underwater research was established and, though its field of operation was limited, its potential was recognized. This year, with a more sophisticated vessel, it is expected that unsolved questions concerning herring, scallops, and queen crabs will be answered.

The Shelf Diver, a 23-foot submarine with accommodation for three observers or one observer and two divers, was chartered from the Perry Submarine Builders of Florida. It operates to a depth of 800 feet and incorporates a built-in decompression chamber that will allow divers to emerge to depths of 800 feet. It is this feature, as well as better visibility from inside the craft, that makes it superior to the Cubmarine used last year.

FRB scientists will use it in the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of St. Lawrence. In the Bay, more intense studies will be made of the scallop stocks and their placement on the ocean-floor. How scallops are "spread" has long been uncertain. Scientists want to know whether they congregate in a cluster or if they stretch out in long lines. With the help of the Shelf Diver, Dr. John Caddy and his staff will be able to observe the scallop community at close quarters.

Decline herring stocks in the Maritimes have caused considerable concern recently and it is hoped the submarine will provide at least some of the answers to this problem. Unlike West Coast herrings, those of the East Coast spawn at depths of from 40 to 60 feet. Since shore-spawning is usual on the Pacific coast, it is relatively easy to check the spawn and make reasonable estimates on future harvests. However, in the Bay of Fundy, scientists must go below the surface to do accurate surveys.



A diver operates from the submerged vessel.

GRAINS GROUP ESTABLISHED

The Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, Mr. Otto E. Lang, made the following announcement recently:

The world supply and demand for wheat during the past two years has presented very serious problems for Western grain producers and the Government has initiated a number of policies designed to assist producers during this difficult period. The doubling of interest-free cash advances, improved credit facilities for exports and a fixed price for wheat sold for human consumption in Canada are examples of these policies.

Basic problems remain to be resolved. On October 15 last year, the Prime Minister announced that the complexities of international grain-marketing problems, combined with the importance of the grain trade to the Canadian economy, had led to the decision to make grain marketing a focus of effort by a minister without general departmental responsibilities.

At that time, the Prime Minister announced that I would assume responsibility for the Canadian Wheat Board and would focus attention on grain issues generally.

COMPOSITION OF GROUP

The issues that must be dealt with during the months ahead require the complete co-ordination of the increased efforts of the departments and agencies of the Government concerned with the grain industry. This will be accomplished through a Grains Group which I have established through the co-operation of the Departments of Agriculture, Industry, Trade and Commerce and Transport and agencies related to these Departments. This Group will provide a focus for the development of policies and programs for the grain industry.

The Group is now in operation and it will continue to operate until the pressing issues requiring initiative by the Government have been dealt with.

I will act as Chairman of the Grains Group. I am grateful for the enthusiastic co-operation of my colleagues, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, of Agriculture and of Transport. With their co-operation I will direct the Government initiative in the development of grains policies and programs. The Group will work on a continuous, co-ordinated and intensified basis to ensure that these policies and programs are developed as quickly as possible and with the best possible input of resources available to the Government.

I have emphasized my role and the role of the Grains Group in intensifying and co-ordinating effort within the Government. I must make equally clear the importance attached to the role of organizations

outside Government in the effort that is being initiated. The existence of the Grains Group will provide a focus for discussion on grain matters between these organizations and the Government. The Group will seek the advice and assistance of these organizations, particularly the Grains Council, in the coming months.

There has been a great deal of study given to many of the issues facing the grain industry. The Task Force on Agriculture will report very soon, and the Canada Grains Council is initiating research on various problems facing the industry. The research and recommendations of these bodies will be of great assistance to the Government.

The Group which has now been established is designed primarily for action. It will of course study some individual problems, but the studies carried on by it and on its behalf will be directed toward the implementation of policy as early as possible.

The issues facing the grain industry are difficult. The situation of grain producers in the Western provinces particularly is critical. I am optimistic that this new initiative will lead to improvement in the situation of the producers and the economic health of the industry as a whole.

WOMEN GRADUATES SPURNED?

Women graduates are denied the opportunity of competing, even on their own university campuses, for two-thirds of the jobs for which graduates are recruited, according to Miss Sylva M. Gelber, Director of the Women's Bureau, Canada Department of Labor, in a paper entitled Highly Qualified Manpower Policies and the Canadian Woman Graduate: What Price Discrimination? The author referred to recruiting material proving that many of the larger firms in Canada refused even to interview female graduates for 2,024 out of 3,268 vacancies offered.

Speaking at a recent lunch meeting of the Beth Tzedec Sisterhood in Toronto, Miss Gelber suggested that industry re-examine the grounds on which it based its policy of limiting recruitment for executive positions to male graduates.

She challenged the grounds on which industry justified such "discrimination", mentioning, in particular, allegations of higher "turnover rates" among female executives than of male executives. She discussed the implications for national and international manpower policies of such recruiting practices.

"If society is not yet ready to accept the view that in justice women graduates should have the same career opportunities as their male colleagues, let us at least endeavor to persuade those responsible for the economic well-being of our country that this waste of highly qualified manpower is untenable," Miss Gelber said.