

The Airborne Services



FOUR SIDEWINDER heating-seeking air/air guided missiles double the striking power of the USN's Chance Vought F8U-2N Crusader all-weather fighter. Increase in firepower for near-Mach 2 F8U-2N results from adoption of a new Y-shaped pylon which will hold two Sidewinders instead of just one.

RCN Avengers Retired

The Royal Canadian Navy last month retired from active service the remaining few Grumman Avengers still flying in an active military role in Canada. In use with regular force naval units on both east and west coasts, the "Turkeys" were turned over to Crown Assets Disposal Corp. in mid-June.

More vitally affected than anyone by the involuntary retirement of the aging war horses, were Canada's two remaining Naval Reserve squadrons. Both VC920 of Toronto, and VC922 of Victoria, were flying three Avengers apiece.

Although the DHC-built S2F Tracker has been named as successor to the Avenger, with regular RCN air units, it appears unlikely that Reserve units will receive any. Meanwhile, each of the two squadrons has been given three C-45 Expeditors with which to

maintain pilot proficiency. First major program will be to raise all pilots to an I.F. green ticket level.

428 Wins Rocket Meet

No. 428 Ghost Squadron from Ottawa's Uplands, won the W. R. MacBrien Trophy at the fourth annual rocket meet held recently at RCAF Station Cold Lake. The ADC Weapons Practice Unit played host to the CF-100 crews which represented every all-weather squadron in Canada.

The competition, which is designed to increase air defense personnel proficiency by fostering inter-squadron competition, was for radar controllers, aircrew and ground crew. Controllers worked with the CF-100 crews from the station closest their own: at the Cold Lake meet, they used the radar facilities of nearby No. 42 AC&WU.

The Vincent Trophy for best air-

crew at the meet was won by Flying Officer Russ Murrell, and Flying Officer Al Wardstrom of 416 Squadron, St. Hubert, P.Q.

Winner of the Tyndall Trophy for radar controllers was Flying Officer Del English, of RCAF Station Parent, P.Q. F/O English scored the meet's only 100% on his final exercise on the last day of the meet.

The ground support team of 18 airmen from Comox, B.C., with a 96.1%, won the Groundcrew Efficiency Award.

CF-104 Inertial Navaid

The RCAF is making as certain as it can that pilots of the CF-104 do not stray across the Iron Curtain.

This matter, already delicate, will be even more sensitive when the CF-104 goes into service with the Air Division in Europe because the plane likely will carry nuclear armament.

There have been a few occasions when the Sabres of the Air Division are thought to have inadvertently crossed the Iron Curtain into Communist territory for a few seconds. The RCAF bases are only 10 to 15 minutes' flying time from the Curtain.

Such a possibility in future will be almost totally eliminated by adoption of a new navigation system for the CF-104. It will cost a maximum of \$25.2 million. Each unit costs approximately \$105,000 before installation.

The system — inertial navigation guidance—is a completely self-contained automatic system which is immune from human error, invulnerable to enemy jamming, requires no ground facilities and emits no signals which might lead to enemy detection.

Litten Industries Inc., of California, has been awarded an initial \$3 million contract for the system. Much of this and subsequent contracts with Litten may be carried out in Canada. Litten recently acquired Servomechanisms (Canada) Ltd., Rexdale, Ont., and announced it would expand its Canadian operations.

NATO Training Goes on

The External Affairs Dept. last month disclosed that Canada will continue training Norwegian student