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aviation intelligence

► Look for **major sweeping changes** in Canada's whole defense planning over the next two years with everything based on the ability to go into action immediately. This thinking follows the recent NATO meeting. Possible changes resulting from this:

- **Top priority** to be given to an early warning radar system to extend from the Scandinavian countries to the Mediterranean.
- **Return of Canadian 1st Air Division Sabre squadrons** from Europe to be converted to CF-100 Air Defense Command squadrons in Canada. There is some thinking that the three CF-100 squadrons planned for Europe may remain as part of the all-weather NATO defense set-up.
- **Sweeping RCAF Auxiliary changes** to bring them to a 24-hour readiness efficiency. This may mean cutting the size of the force so that it can be manned by those who can give more time to intensive training. It will certainly mean elimination of Mustangs, Mitchells and Vampires. A possible solution is to give the force Sabre VI's.
- **Priority for air-to-air and ground-to-air missiles** for the RCAF and army of U.S. or Canadian design. The importance is immediate availability of effective weapons.
- **Emphasis on a few of the most modern weapons**, rather than large quantities of outdated weapons.
- **Reduction in all arms stockpiling** of outdated equipment, especially "moth-balled" aircraft and ships. These can be given to other NATO nations which can put them to use immediately.

► **For the Navy** the emphasis will definitely be on the use of the most modern airborne and waterborne anti-submarine devices as a protective weapon against submarines armed with atomic missiles. Airpower, especially the use of helicopters, will be stepped up.

► **Airpower for army transportation** has still not been decided upon. Certainly there is little chance of the Canadian Army gaining a tactical air force as is shaping up south of the border.

► **For industry** the changes will mean less sub-contracting of key defense jobs. More plant specialization wholly on defense work. The principle of industrial preparedness may go by the boards to some extent. Know-how, skilled men and the potential to be able to produce defense items is not considered sufficient enough in the type of possible lightening atomic war possible.

► **RCAF** is reported to be studying air-to-air refuel methods—both the Boeing technique and the British probe and drogue method. This would give all weather interceptors unlimited range.

► **Egyptian order** for Harvard T-6 trainers from Canadian Car & Foundry (Aviation Intelligence, December 1) was confirmed in Parliament in mid-January. These are new, not used, trainers as External Affairs Minister Pearson intimated and are capable of being armed with bombs, guns and rockets. However, as Egypt has ordered MiGs from Russia the Harvards would be used for training rather than operationally.

► **TCA interest** in purchase of eight Boeing 707's has been reported by an oil company publication.

► **Canadair Ltd.** is believed to be heading a new air-to-air guided missile development program which has gone forward with considerable success.