



**EXECUTIVE TURBOPROP** Grumman Gulfstream is nearing completion at the Bethpage, Long Island plant. Plane heralds Grumman's re-entry into the business flying market. Due to fly this month, it is powered by Rolls-Royce Dart engines.

## Non-Sched Competition Crisis

Replying to a question in the House of Commons recently the Hon. George Hees, Minister of Transport said that after study the government had reached the conclusion that there should be easing in the treatment of applications for licenses for non-scheduled air operations involving the use of small aircraft and helicopters. Except where such services can be classed as essential, as in remote and far northern areas, the government has decided that licenses for air services using small aircraft (Group C single-engined aircraft having a gross disposable load of less than 1,100 lb. and small single-engined helicopters) should "be granted freely on request."

This news has been received with

mixed feelings by the smaller components of the transport industry. Telegram reported sent to Hees by the Air Industries and Transport Association urged him to reconsider. Some operators fear that excessive competition will be bad for the industry, bringing damaging price undercutting, and lowering of safety standards.

Others, notably those operators not currently in possession of licenses, are welcoming the open-door approach to unfettered competition. Present loopholes in the licensing setup enable carriers to carry on clandestine operations, and these have been the cause of a good deal of controversy in recent months.

## December Traffic Trend

Canadian air lines carried 18 percent more passengers last December compared with December, 1956, but revenue cargo, including airmail declined by 37.5 percent. Operating revenues rose from \$13,065,000 in December, 1956, to \$13,104,000, but a 3.5 percent increase in operating expenses increased the deficit from \$1,598,000 in 1956 to \$2,066,000 last December.

## 707 Service Soon

American Airlines plans to inaugurate U. S. domestic jet service with its Boeing 707s before the end of this year—six months ahead of the date originally scheduled. First service to be introduced with the long-range flagships will be the non-stop New York-California service. Shortly after the 707s go into service, American Airlines will be introducing the Lockheed Electra turboprop over the short and middle distance routes.

## Two Billion Revenue

Scheduled airlines of the U. S. received more than \$2 billion in 1957, highest yet. But profits were down to \$42 million, lowest since 1950, when revenues were about a third of those in 1957.

## First F-27 Delivered

The first Fairchild F-27 was delivered to West Coast Airlines, of Seattle, Washington, at the end of June. It was the first American built turbine powered transport aircraft delivered to an airline.

## Wheatcroft Report

The Air Industries and Transport Association of Canada is distributing a summary of the Wheatcroft Report on airline competition to all its members. Copies of the full report are available if required. The association is inviting comments of members on the contents of report.

## TCA Fleet Position

Speaking in Toronto recently, W. Gordon Wood, TCA vice-president of sales, said that 47 Vickers Viscounts were currently in service with the airline, with four more due for delivery next spring. Six Douglas DC-8s are due to be delivered and in service in 1960, and 20 Vickers Vanguards in 1961. Wood told the Society of Industrial and Cost Accountants of Canada at a meeting at the King Edward Hotel, that TCA's investment in the transition to the turbine era was \$200 million. He also said that the Viscount's passenger appeal had enabled TCA to gain two thirds of the competitive Toronto-New York air passenger market.

## Douglas Deliveries

The 1,000th airliner of the DC-6 and 7 series has been delivered by the Douglas Aircraft Co. It was a DC-7 produced for United Air Lines, and is the 57th of its type delivered to the airline. United was also recipient of one of the first DC-6s delivered—but that was eleven years ago. First DC-6 sold for about \$640,000 in 1947. The larger, more luxurious DC-6B is currently valued at \$1,450,000, and a DC-7C, at \$2,300,000.

## Bathurst Inlet Added

Point Bathurst Inlet, N.W.T., has been added to places served by Pacific Western Airlines by Class 2 unprotected regular specific point license.

## New MCA Service

Application of Maritime Central Airways for a Class 3 irregular specific point license to transport goods of U. S. personnel located at Torbay, Harmon and Argonia, Newfoundland, has been approved by the Air Transport Board. Aircraft will be at Moncton, N.B. License is granted for a period of six months only.