

The Airborne Services



FIRST TWO ALBATROSS of \$7 million RCAF order for ten were delivered early in October. Designated CSR-110 by RCAF, Albatross is to be assigned search & rescue duties out of Sea Island, Winnipeg, Greenwood, and Trenton. CSR-110 deliveries are to be completed by Grumman by January of 1961.

Three Straight

The RCAF's Air Division gunnery team, for the third straight year in a row, has won the Guynemer Trophy, symbolic of air gunnery supremacy in NATO Europe. Presentation of the trophy was made at Cazaux Air Base, France, where the aerial tourney is held each year. The trophy was handed over to Flight Lieutenant R. W. Spencer, team captain, by Gen. Maurice Chale, commander of AAFCE.

The RCAF team came from behind on the last day of the meet to edge out three other squads and win the trophy. The Canadians, residing in fourth place late in the shoot, ended up with a 1357 point total, 100 points ahead of the second-place team from the RAF. In third place was another RAF team, while Belgium took fourth.

UNEF Gets Caribou

The DHC-4 Caribou bought by the government for UN service in the Congo have been assigned instead to UN operations in Egypt.

Two of the four planes on order left Trenton Sept. 20 for Egypt.

The DDP said the four planes will cost nearly \$3 million. It announced award of a \$2,957,080 contract to de Havilland for the planes and spare parts for them.

The Canadian Government decided to buy the Caribou for Congo service without, apparently, first consulting

the UN, which is understood to have objected to the Canadian requirement that they be used to supply Canadian troops.

A 100-man RCAF contingent has been serving with the UN emergency Force in Egypt since January 1957. It operates four Otter and three Dakota planes, all of which likely will be replaced by the four Caribou with a consequent saving in personnel. The Caribou will make reconnaissance flights along the Israel-Egypt border and carry supplies to UN outposts. The RCAF unit in Egypt has flown more than one million miles in the last three years.

Second Bomarc Site

According to news reports from Ottawa, work on the second Bomarc site at LaMacaza near Mont Laurier, Que., is underway but only about 5% complete. Whether work has started or not on the second site was the subject of frequent queries in the House of Commons during the last session.

The North Bay, Ont., Bomarc site is well underway, being about 45% completed. Reason advanced for its advanced state of construction as compared to the LaMacaza site is the proximity of an RCAF Station which provides accommodation for work personnel. This basic difference is also partly responsible for the difference in

cost of construction for the initial stages of both. The North Bay site has cost approximately \$3 million thus far, whereas the contract for the LaMacaza site is for \$5 million.

West Coast S & R

Four aircraft will be added shortly to the RCAF rescue operations at Sea Island on the outskirts of Vancouver.

Squadron Leader John Howarth said two Albatross and two North Stars specially equipped for search and rescue work with Lindholm dinghies will arrive soon at 121 Communications & Rescue Flight.

He also told a meeting of rescue organizations that Vancouver Rescue Co-ordination Centre is handling 25% more incidents than last year. He said there has been a 25% jump annually for the past three years.

During July the centre averaged five incidents a day, he said.

Albatross Joins Team

The Grumman CSR-110 Albatross, the RCAF's new search & rescue aircraft, was officially accepted into service at Rockliffe early last month. Attending the ceremonies were Defence Minister George Pearkes and Air Marshall Hugh Campbell.

The Albatross, classed as a triphibious aircraft due to its ability to land and take-off on concrete, water or snow, has a range of nearly 3000 miles and a cruise speed of 180 knots. It is equipped with radar, navigation equipment and SARAH receiver; will handle up to 12 stretcher patients.

The RCAF has a total of ten on order, a \$12 million purchase by the Canadian Government. They will ultimately be stationed at the S & R units at Trenton, Ont., Greenwood, N.S., Winnipeg, and Vancouver.

Sky Shield

Results of the long-awaited Operation Sky Shield which had every non-military aircraft in North America grounded for six hours in mid-September have been considered "satisfactory" by NORAD planners.

During the six-hour period, from 2 a.m. to 8 a.m., September 10, more than 2000 aircraft and 200,000 personnel of NORAD were engaged in a mock attack and attempted defence of North America. SAC bombers flew against the Continent while defence

squadrons of fighters sought to intercept them with the aid of ground radar. The nine Canadian units listed as defenders were the CF-100 squadrons of the RCAF's Air Defence Command.

SAC Tankers Here

Former Defence Minister George Pearkes confirmed before his recent retirement that arrangements have been completed to permit USAF jet tankers and necessary ground personnel to be stationed at four RCAF bases in Canada. Though Mr. Pearkes did not specify the bases to be used, it is thought that Cold Lake, Fort Churchill and Frobisher are among them.

The tankers are destined to refuel SAC bombers and fighters high over the frigid wastes of the Arctic. The SAC bombers may be flying with atomic weapons aboard, but will not be permitted to land or take-off from Canadian bases.

Aux AC&W to Fold

The RCAF's 14 auxiliary aircraft control & warning squadrons, comprising some 1200 of the Air Force's 3500-member reserve, will be disbanded beginning in 1961.

The squadrons, formed in 1950-54, are located at Halifax, Quebec City, Three Rivers, Sherbrooke, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, London, Windsor, Winnipeg, Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria.

The 11 auxiliary flying squadrons which perform mainly light transport duties, will be maintained. Disbandment of the radar squadrons, to be completed in two years, will save the RCAF about \$1 million annually. The squadrons are being eliminated because they have been superseded by new electronic methods of controlling the operations of jet interceptors. The SAGE semi-automatic control system will be introduced into the Pinetree radar network next year though it probably won't be fully operational until 1963.

Postings & Careers

• The appointment of Air Commodore V. S. J. Millard as Chief Logistics Officer at Air Materiel Command HQ, has been announced. Since 1956 he has been serving as Assistant Chief of Staff for Logistics at AAFCE HQ, Fontainebleau, France.



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