



**LOCKHEED F-104A STARFIRE** new USAF supersonic night-and-day fighter powered by the General Electric J-79 engine with afterburner which develops half of its thrust as a ramjet. (Prototype powered with the Curtiss-Wright J-65 with afterburner, first flown, February, 1954). Now in quantity production it features: "most powerful jet engine, thrust per pound developed; first downward ejection\*system for a production jet fighter; an all flying tail. Note unusual supersonic speed wing configuration. Wings are razor thin and so leading edge sharp protectors have to be put on on the ground.

## aviation news digest

### Bristol Expansion

Bristol Aeroplane Co. of Canada (1956) has formed a Mexican subsidiary, Bristol de Mexico, S.A. de C.V. The new company will operate initially as an engine overhaul base, on lines similar to Bristol's Canadian overhaul and repair plants. Staff will be Mexican nationals, with the exception of a few Canadian technicians. Headquarters for the new company will be at the Central Airport in Mexico City where a new building is to be erected. The plant is expected to be in full operation by the end of the year. Directors of the Mexican company will be R. J. Reynolds, president; B. A. Chalmers, vice-president; J. A. Anderson, vice-president and general manager; J. N. Dalton. Building plans call for a modern test cell, designed by F. Janke who has already provided similar facilities for Bristol plants at Montreal and Vancouver.

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### 300-Plus Viscounts

Purchase of three aircraft by the Iranian Government recently boosted Vickers Viscount sales over the 300 mark. Total sales on Viscounts stood at 302 at press time. Trans-Canada Air Lines led the way in North America placing its initial order for 15 Viscounts in 1952. Two repeat orders have hiked the total of TCA's potential Viscount fleet to 36 aircraft.

### Avro Management

Seen as a step in anticipation of public financing by A. V. Roe, Canada, later this year or early in 1957 is incorporation of Avro Industries Ltd. as a private company to act as the management company for A. V. Roe Canada group of companies. Included in the group are Avro Aircraft, Orenda Engines, Canadian Steel Improvement and Canadian Car and Foundry.

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### Atlantic Dectra

A British plan to set up a new Dectra navigation system across the North Atlantic between Scotland and Newfoundland is said to be receiving favorable consideration by the Canadian Government. Dectra is the long range version of the DECCA system.

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### Titanium Price

The price of U. K.-produced, raw titanium has been cut to just under \$3 a lb. by Imperial Chemical Industries of London. The price is an all-time world low.

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### Farnborough Show

The flying display and exhibition of the Society of British Aircraft Constructors will be held Sept. 3-9 at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough. The public will be admitted for the last three days of the show.

### Pilots Wanted

Nineteen new pilots were hired recently by Canadian Pacific Airlines and the company is reportedly in the market for at least that many more to keep pace with expansion on overseas and domestic routes. The first group of prospective CPA flyers was under training for familiarization with the line's operations, while members of the flight crew selection board toured Canada to test and select 20 more pilots. Increase of frequency on CPA's polar route from one to two flights a week effective Apr. 1 and introduction of service from Lima, Peru, to Buenos Aires, Argentina, in June brought on the search for new talent.

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### ASL Research

Aeromagnetic Surveys Ltd. of Toronto has opened a new research and development laboratory at the Oshawa airport. ASL General Manager Douglas MacKay says the facility, which is complete with all the latest test devices, will also serve as a maintenance shop for company-designed and developed geophysics equipment. The new lab is staffed by engineers and technicians of the calibre of Vaino Ranka, Finnish-born developer of the ASL Electromagnetometer. Gil Hobrough will direct research and development, while maintenance work will be under the supervision of Ron Johnston.