

22 The Airborne Services



AN RCAF LANCASTER participated in ceremonial flypast held following recent presentation of squadron standard to RAF's famed 617 Squadron. Also on hand were four serving RCAF officers, all ex-Dam Busters. L to R: F/L P. E. Pigeon, F/L J. C. Lepine, S/L D. R. Pearce, S/L D. A. Bell.

NORAD Chief Retires

USAF General Earle Partridge, commander in chief of NORAD is due to retire from active service July 31, this year. Succeeding him as commander of the North American Defence Command is General Lawrence S. Kuter, who presently holds the position of chief of the USAF's Pacific Air Force.

The appointment of Gen. Kuter to the NORAD post has been approved by the Canadian Government. A successor to Kuter has yet to be named. This is the first of several changes which will be made during the next year caused by retirements among senior officers.

Details on Bomarc Base

On a recent visit to the RCAF base at North Bay, Defence Minister Pearkes divulged that Canada's first Bomarc base will be built seven miles north of North Bay, Ont., on DND property adjacent to Highway 11. Mr.

Pearkes added that work is to begin almost immediately. Initially the Bomarc site will have about 25 launching pads, and is scheduled to be in operation in 1961.

The Minister also added in his announcement that part of the missile installations will be underground.

Argus Facilities

An expansion program at RCAF Station Summerside, P.E.I. which has already started will see three new hangars built at a cost of \$8 million. The hangars will accommodate the Argus antisubmarine aircraft belonging to 405 Maritime Squadron, which will be moving from its present operational headquarters at Greenwood, N.S.

The squadron's move to Summerside will be made gradually, with detached units operating out of Summerside even before the hangars are completed. At the present time, only the initial stages of construction have

been completed. That is, the holes for underground support have been dug and materials, equipment and supplies are pouring in to the P.E.I. station. It is anticipated that the entire labor force of Summerside will be employed in the construction program.

Expeditors Ferried

A mass flight of C-45 Expeditor aircraft from Canada to Europe took place late last month. The operation, which saw 19 Expeditors going to Portugal and 6 to France under Canadian Mutual Aid agreements, marked the first mass flight of Expeditors across the Atlantic. It will be recalled however, that in 1953 the RCAF flew eight of the light twin-engine transports to No. 1 Air Division.

For Operation Beechflight, as this year's mass ferry flight was known, the Expeditors were equipped with overload fuel tanks to increase their range from 7 to 10½ hours flying time. Heading the operation was Wing Commander Harry C. Forbell. Deputy commander was Squadron Leader Brian Marfleet, while Squadron Leader Lorne Deyell was flight navigator.

The Expeditors were assembled at RCAF Station Trenton, and were flown to Lisbon, Portugal, and Chateaudun, France, by way of Goose Bay; Frobisher Bay; Sondstrom, Greenland; Keflavik, Iceland; Prestwick, Scotland; and Marville, France.

Indochina Airlift

The fifth major rotation of Canadian Army personnel serving in Indochina on truce supervision duty will be carried out this summer. Fifty-two soldiers will be flown to Saigon to replace personnel who have completed tours of duty with the military component of the Canadian delegation in Viet Nam and Cambodia.

Two round-trip flights by the RCAF's 426 Transport Squadron will handle the bulk of the rotation. The two flights are scheduled for the end of June. All of the 36 officers and most of the 19 men will serve for 12 months in the Far East. A few of the men are going as internal security guards for a duty tour of six months.

Army Trains on Hawk

A test team of Canadian Army personnel will be trained on the U.S. Army's Hawk guided missile at Fort