

aircraft he was flying was not fitted with auto-stabilization, control and stability were quite satisfactory. The Lightning is powered by two Rolls-Royce Avons with reheat.

Prize Winner

A suggestion made by Squadron Leader R. S. Burks has won a \$1,000 award, the largest ever made to a member of the RCAF for an original suggestion. Burks proposed an improved aircraft compass calibration procedure which will result in increased navigation accuracy and reduce the number of compass calibrations required each year. Chief advantage to be gained is that any calibration errors which necessitate re-calibrating the compasses will show up early in the procedure; this will in turn save many man hours and aircraft engine-running hours.

Because errors are introduced into the compasses by changing the magnetic properties in the aircraft, compass calibrations are required a minimum of every two months. It is estimated that the new procedure suggested by Burks will result in an annual saving to the RCAF of many

thousands of dollars. It has since been adopted by the RCAF for general use throughout the service.

Nike Fired at Churchill

The first in a series of test firings of the U.S. Army's Nike-Hercules missile was successfully carried out early this month by a joint U.S.-Canadian Army team at the cold weather test site at Churchill, Manitoba. The missile was fired on a simulated interception of a drone and the result was scored as a hit on the target.

Purpose of the tests is to determine the effects of extreme low temperatures on the complex component parts of these intricate weapons systems. At launch time, the weather was minus 18°F.

The joint U.S.-Canadian team was trained during the summer months in Texas and New Mexico, and took part in test firings last September. This is, however, the first time the Hercules has been fired in Canada.

Postings & Careers

• Commander Raymond A. B. Creery has been appointed to com-

mand HMCS Nootka, a destroyer escort of the First Canadian Escort Squadron based at Halifax. Commander Creery entered the RCN as a cadet in December 1940; took flying training in Canada and the U.K. in 1944. After serving in air squadrons of the Royal Navy and RCN, he took command of 883 fighter squadron of the RCN in 1948. From 1950 to 1952 he served at Naval Headquarters, Ottawa, in various naval aviation staff appointments and then took command of the 30th Carrier Air Group. In January 1957 Commander Creery became Assistant Chief of Staff (Air) to the Flag Officer Atlantic Coast.

• Group Captain Edward B. Hale has been posted to NORAD Headquarters as deputy director of combat operations. Previous to this move he was at Winnipeg as senior air staff officer in charge of pilot training for NATO students. G/C Hale was a fighter pilot during WW II. He flew an operational tour with the USAF in Korea, winning the American DFC. From 1951 until 1953 he was commanding officer of No. 1 Fighter Wing, Luffenham, England.

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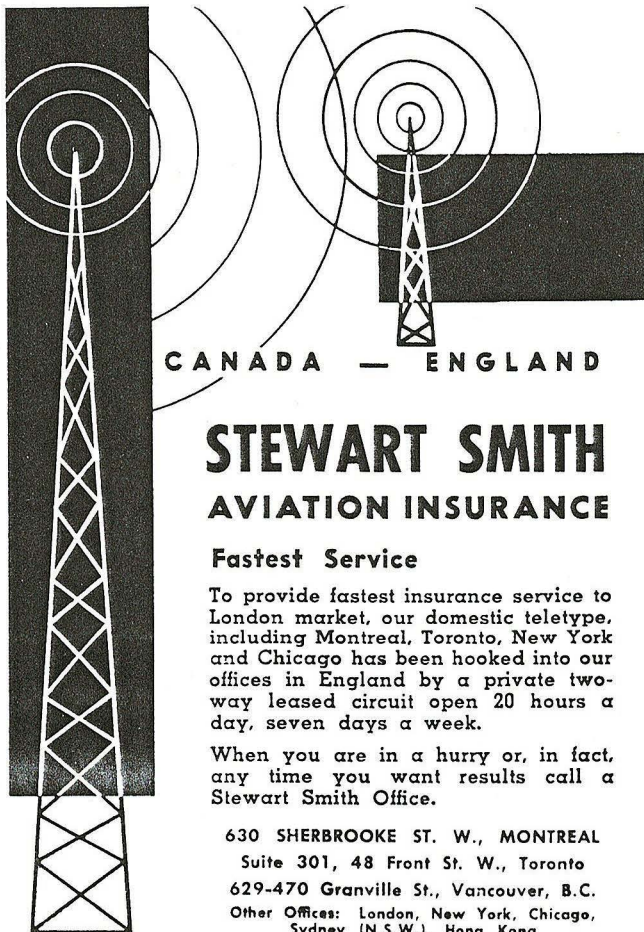
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