

THE AIRBORNE SERVICES

RCAF Comets

Pending the outcome of inquiries in the U.K. into the cause of the three recent mysterious crashes of de Havilland Comets, the RCAF is not making use of its two Comet 1A's, on which it took delivery in the spring of 1953. One aircraft is grounded at Toronto's Downsview Airport while the other one is at Uplands, near Ottawa.

Neither machine was flying at the time the British accidents occurred, as both were being put through a modification program at The de Havilland Aircraft of Canada Ltd., Toronto.

Postings & Careers

•Group Captain Gordon G. Diamond, AFC, has been appointed commanding officer of RCAF Station

England. He is succeeded at AFHQ as Assistant for Standardization by Group Captain Charles W. Crossland, CD, formerly Special Project Engineer at AFHQ.

•Group Captain John G. Stephenson, OBE, AFC, has been named Senior Air Staff Officer at Training Command HQ, Trenton, Ont. He is succeeded as commanding officer of RCAF Station Rockcliffe by Group Captain Alexander M. Jardine, AFC, who has been in charge of organization and management at the Directorate of Organization & Establishment at AFHQ.

•Group Captain Richard O. Shaw, formerly Senior Air Staff Officer at 12 Air Defence Group HQ, Vancouver, has been appointed Air Attache, Belgrade, Yugoslavia; Group Captain

mation to DoT vessels engaged in the annual sea re-supply of the joint Arctic weather stations. Normally, 405 is based at Greenwood, N.S. The operation, which started in mid-July and is now nearly ended, has been tabbed "Operation Far Cry."

Previously the job of taking in supplies by sea had been undertaken almost entirely by the U.S. Navy, but this year the DoT is performing the major role in the operation. Departmental vessels involved include the icebreakers "D'Iberville", and "N. B. McLean," and the supply vessel "C. D. Howe."

In addition to their ice reconnaissance duties, the crews of the three Lancasters are observing and reporting on musk-oxen sighted during these flights.

New AOC for ATC

Air Commodore Henry M. Carscallen, DFC, has succeeded Group Captain Z. L. Leigh, OBE, as AOC, Air Transport Command, Lachine, P.Q.

G/C Leigh has been acting AOC since Air Commodore Robert C. Ripley, the former AOC, was appointed to the staff of Allied Air Forces Central Europe in December of last year.

Born in Hamilton, Ont., A/C Carscallen is a graduate of RMC and holds a BSc. from Queen's University.

A member of the RCAF since June, 1933, he served both in Canada and overseas during World War II. As a pilot with No. 5 Reconnaissance Squadron at the outbreak of the war, he flew one of the first operational patrols off Canada's East Coast. After serving two years at Eastern Air Command, during which he commanded No. 5 and No. 10 Bomber Reconnaissance squadrons, he was transferred overseas where he formed 424 Bomber Squadron of No. 6 Canadian Bomber Group. He was awarded the DFC in 1943 while commanding this squadron.

Returning to Canada in 1944, he was appointed commanding officer of RCAF Station Dartmouth, N.S., and Aide de Camp to the Governor General. In 1945, A/C Carscallen was attached as an observer to the USAF at Guam in the Pacific. While serving in this capacity he participated in the last bombing raid of the war, an attack by B-29's on Japan the morning of VJ Day.

Since the war, he has held a number of staff positions and prior to attending National Defence College recently, he was Chief of Air Operations at AFHQ.



SIGHTSEEING: Latest version of the Auster AOP is the Mk. 9, which bears only a fleeting resemblance to its forebears: Powered by a 180 hp Blackburn Bombardier driving a Fairey fixed-pitch metal propeller, the Mk. 9 flies at a normal operational weight of about 2,100 lbs., at which weight it has a maximum cruising speed of 110 mph. In a 6 mph. wind it breaks ground in 325 ft.

Trenton. He is succeeded as Director of Postings & Careers at AFHQ by Group Captain R. J. Grey, MBE, who has just completed the National Defence College course at Kingston, Ont.

•Air Commodore William I. Clements, OBE, has been appointed Chief Staff Officer of the RCAF's No. 1 Air Division in Europe, replacing Air Commodore K. L. B. Hodson, OBE, DFC, whose new appointment is to be announced later. A/C Clements is to be succeeded as Chief of Plans & Intelligence at AFHQ by Group Captain Murray D. Lister, who has been on the directing staff of the National Defence College.

•Group Captain John H. Roberts, AFC, has been transferred to the staff of the Military Standardization Agency, Canadian Joint Staff HQ, London,

Arthur G. Kenyon, formerly commanding officer of RCAF Station Summerside, has been appointed Air Attache, Prague, Czechoslovakia.

•Group Captain E. C. Luke, OBE, has been transferred from the staff of the Allied Air Forces Central Europe HQ, Fontainebleau, France, for duties with the Air Member for Technical Services, AFHQ.

Flying Icemen

During the past several weeks, three Lancaster 10MR's from the RCAF's Maritime Air Command have been operating from Resolute, in the Far Arctic, flying ice reconnaissance patrols.

The detachment of Lancasters, under command of Squadron Leader W. S. Day, DFC, is from 405 Maritime Squadron and is providing ice infor-