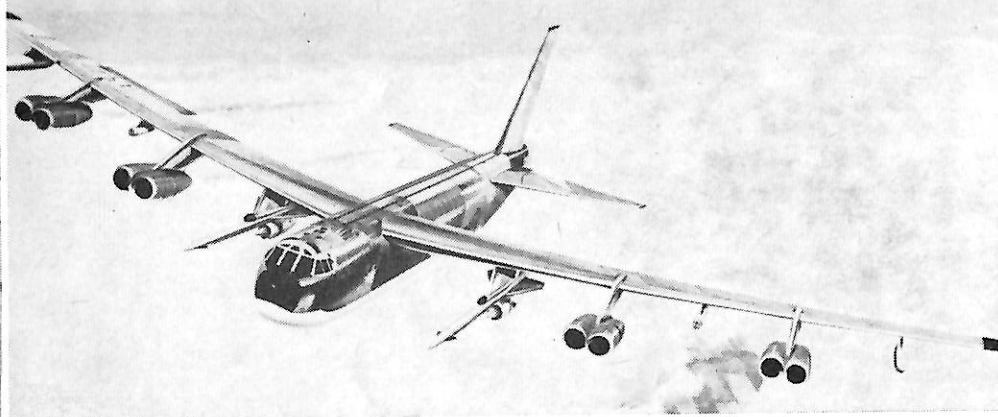


The Airborne Services



LATEST IN BOEING B-52 SERIES is B-52H, shown in drawing above. Powered by eight P & W TF33 turbofans, the "H" will have a range in excess of the "more than 9000 miles" of the B-52G. Two Hound Dog missiles will be carried. Pods between engines hold rockets for use as penetration aids.

Defence Budget Cut

The Government has slashed the 1960-61 defence budget by six per cent or nearly \$100 million.

It presented to Parliament Feb. 4 a defence estimate of \$1,596,272,266, a decrease of \$98,921,740 from the current fiscal year which ends March 31. Is is the smallest defence budget since 1951-52.

For the armed forces, the real bad news was the 13 percent chop in estimated expenditures on weapons and equipment. This was a cut of \$44 million to \$280 million.

Cost of maintaining the forces and their present weapons was estimated at \$1,118,353,453, a slight decrease of \$10 million effected through lower expenditures on repair and upkeep of equipment.

Cleanup cost of the Arrow now is estimated at less than \$45 million with \$1.5 million going toward this cost in the 1960-61 budget.

Other amounts contained in the estimates: \$75 million for the CF-104 program; \$37 million for the CL-44; \$22 million for Bomarc-SAGE-radars; \$7 million for the Argus; \$7 million for the Albatross; \$28 million for RCAF electronics, mainly TACAN and UHF; \$12 million for Navy Electronics, mainly sonar; \$1.7 million for naval aircraft.

There is no provision in the estimates for a new RCAF manned interceptor, Army helicopters or the Lacrosse ground-to-ground missile.

The total for RCAF aircraft and engines is slashed to \$131,698,000 from \$164,817,000. The amount for Defence Research Board development is cut to \$14,216,000 from \$21,565,000. The total for construction is down to \$102 million from \$124 million.

Totals by services with 1959-60 figures in brackets: Navy, \$271,300,557 (\$287,492,000); Army, \$421,297,000 (\$448,853,000); RCAF, \$767,929,000 (\$811,304,000).

F-106 Darts in Service

By autumn 1960, some 13 USAF squadrons in the North American air defence system (NORAD) will be operating the supersonic F-106 Delta Dart. Six tactical squadrons are now equipped with the long-range all-weather Dart, and seven more will be flying the Convair-built fighter by September.

Next squadron in line for the new equipment is the 5th Fighter Interceptor Squadron at Minot AFB, Minot, North Dakota. The 5th will receive its Darts in March.

Guessing Game

Speculation has started on possible successors to the RCAF's two top posts those of Chief of the Air Staff and Deputy Commander of North American Air Defence Command, both of which may become vacant this year. The current CAS is Air Marshal Hugh Campbell, who was appointed to the post in September of 1957, the same month in which Air Marshal C. R.

Slemon went to Colorado Springs as NORAD's second in command. Previously, A/M Slemon had been CAS.

Ottawa speculation has it that Air Marshal (Acting) C. R. Dunlap, now with NATO as Deputy Chief of Staff Operations at SHAPE headquarters in Paris, may be appointed to either the CAS's job or that of NORAD Deputy Commander. Another name mentioned in connection with the CAS post is that of Air Vice Marshal John A. Easton, the RCAF's Air Member for Technical Services since 1958.

In earlier sessions of name guessing, the speculators have had A/M Slemon retiring from the service, with A/M Campbell succeeding him at NORAD.

Air Cadet Ceiling

Although most Air Cadet squadrons in Canada have long lists of boys waiting to join up, the Government has so far refused to increase the ceiling figure of 25,500 cadets. One possible reason that competition is keen is the flying scholarship plan by which cadets are given flying training to private pilot level. Last year, this plan graduated a total of 387 pilots.

Of these, the RCAF sponsored 250 while the remainder were sponsored privately by funds from the Air Cadet League itself. Some \$59,000 of squadron funds was spent in this way, all of it raised by local campaigning.

Postings & Careers

•Group Captain Leonard A. Costello has been appointed Chaplain General of the Armed Forces (Roman Catholic) in the rank of Air Commodore. He succeeds the Right Reverend Ronald MacLean who retired at the end of last month. For the past 14 years, A/C Costello has been the RCAF's Director of Religious Administration (RC).

•Lt.-Cdr. K. S. Nicolson has been appointed to take command of 870 Squadron of the RCN. Composed of Banshee all-weather fighters, the squadron normally operates from either HMCS Shearwater, or the aircraft carrier HMCS Bonaventure.

•Lt.-Cdr. W. J. Walton has been promoted to the rank of Commander and appointed in command of the RCN's VS 880 Squadron. The squadron is composed of Tracker ASW aircraft and normally operates from HMCS Shearwater or the aircraft carrier HMCS Bonaventure.