

aviation intelligence

Air Division Cut

Ottawa sources have it that the government's announced cutback on the CF-100 Mark 6 program is only the beginning of over-all economy moves effecting RCAF procurement and operating expenses. Next in line, economies in the First Air Division with a prospect that some squadrons will be removed from their NATO positions. Defense Minister Hon. George R. Pearkes, VC, has denied any decision regarding the Air Division, but does not entirely dismiss the possibility of cutbacks. Meanwhile, representatives of Avro Aircraft Ltd. are said to be in Ottawa conferring with Defense Department officials on possible continuation of the CF-100 Mark Six program at least as a research and development project.

PanAm, BOAC at Toronto

Pan American World Airways and British Overseas Airways Corporation are understood to be pressing the Conservative Government for an indication of policy on the granting of overseas traffic rights out of Toronto. PanAm would like to add a Toronto pick-up to its new over-the-Pole service through Frobisher. Both airlines are said prepared to apply for licensing if the government indicates there may be favorable consideration.

New Canadair Facility

Canadair Ltd., Montreal, has a modern electronics facility up its sleeve. There had been rumors that the company, Canadian subsidiary of General Dynamics Corp., was seeking an interest in an outside electronics firm. Instead Canadair is rapidly completing equipment of its own facility to bring it into the modern avionics field. It is said to be one of the most advanced electronics centres in North America.

Raytheon Contract

Raytheon Canada Ltd. has received a sub-contract from its U. S. parent company to supply components for long-range traffic control surveillance radar on order for the Civil Aeronautics Authority. The equipment is similar to that which had been ordered previously by the Canadian Department of Transport for installation at 15 airports in Canada. Components to be turned out in Canada for the U. S. order include main control and display consoles, signal distribution units.

TCA Flight Systems

Trans-Canada Air Lines Viscount fleet is now going into service equipped with the new Collins Radio Co. of Canada flight systems and autopilots. Installation work on the first aircraft was completed some weeks ago at Winnipeg and the program is being continued as Viscounts come in for regular checks. The equipment includes the AP-101 autopilot and FD-104 flight system.

CPA Training Centre

Work has begun on the new flight training centre for Canadian Pacific Airlines at Vancouver International Airport. The precast concrete structure should be completed by the end of the year. By that time also, CPA should have received delivery of the two flight simulators the building will house. Valued at a total of \$1,350,000, these will be a Bristol Britannia simulator, produced by Bristol Aircraft Company, England, and the DC-6B simulator being made for CPA by Canadian Aviation Electronics, of Montreal.

Quebec Decca

The Quebec Decca chain, the third to be set up in Canada under a joint program being carried out by Decca Radar (Canada) Ltd., Computing Devices of Canada Ltd. and Bendix Corp. is to be officially opened by Transport Minister George Hees during the Air Industries and Transport Association annual meeting at Quebec City this month. Arrangements have been made to have Decca equipped aircraft available for demonstration of the system to interested AITA members and the press.

Collins Subcontracts

Collins Radio Co. of Canada Ltd. has been huddling with prospective subcontractors preparatory to going into production on the \$8,300,000 RCAF order for Collins ARC 552 UHF radio equipment which is to become standard for service aircraft. Production is to be an all-Canadian effort.

Jet Building Prospect

Canadian Pratt and Whitney Aircraft Co. Ltd., Montreal, is working to get into the jet engine business. It is not expected that the firm, a subsidiary of United Aircraft Corp., will be breaking into big jet engine development. Possibility which is being explored at present is for the construction of light-weight, medium-thrust engines, suitable for the executive aircraft market.

RCAF Station Closing

RCAF's radar station at Tofino, B.C., is to be disbanded. All personnel will be withdrawn by the end of January, 1958. The station was formed as part of the joint Canada/United States Pine-tree chain. It provided supplementary radar cover when reliability of radar had not reached its present state, but is now redundant.

Edo Plant

Edo (Canada) Ltd. has completed construction on a new plant at Cornwall, Ont. The facility will turn out Edo's floats and other products for the Canadian market.