

# THE AIRBORNE SERVICES

## RCAF Training

The RCAF plans to build up its training program to an annual output of aircrew of over 3,000 according to Defence Minister Brooke Claxton in a recent statement before the House of Commons. At the same time, there will be a five-fold increase in ground-crew training facilities plus a simultaneous development of administrative establishment.

To carry out these plans, new schools are to be opened at wartime service airfields on the Prairies. Flying training schools are to be established at Claresholm and Penhold in Alberta and Moose Jaw in Saskatchewan. Advanced flying training schools are to be at Saskatoon in Saskatchewan and Portage la Prairie in Manitoba, with a gunnery school at MacDonald, Manitoba. The flying training school at Gimli, Manitoba, will later be converted to an advanced training school. A large air navigation school will be established at Winnipeg in addition to the present school at Summerside, P.E.I.

Of the existing establishments, Aylmer, Camp Borden, and Clinton in Ontario will concentrate on trades training. Selection and manning will be carried on at St. Johns, P.Q., where Mr. Claxton said there would be a very large establishment.

"With hardly an exception," he continued, "all the other establishments will be increased in accordance with the expansion of the program. Abbotsford (B.C.) will be used this summer for training some of the auxiliary squadrons, others going to other schools. In all probability Abbotsford will later be used as an operational station.

"The facilities of all the stations will be used to the fullest extent possible. For example, by improved training methods we expect to have pupil populations of 300 at the flying training schools, as compared with 240 during World War II. The limiting factor at each school will be the number of hours of flying that physically can be fitted in having regard to the weather and the capacity of the airfield."

Of the 3,000 airmen to be trained per year, 1,300 will be from other NATO member nations. Most of these trainees this year will be from the U.K.

## East to West

Four Lancasters of the RCAF's 405 Maritime Squadron, together with about 100 air and ground crew, will soon return to their base at Greenwood, N.S. after a 30 day stay at Sea Island, Vancouver, where they were based while carrying out training exercises on the West Coast.

Dubbed "Exercise Seagreen", the training involved co-operation with RCN units. Personnel took part in training flights and exercises and received lectures on problems peculiar to the area. Purpose of Seagreen was to familiarize squadron personnel with the West Coast region and operating conditions there.

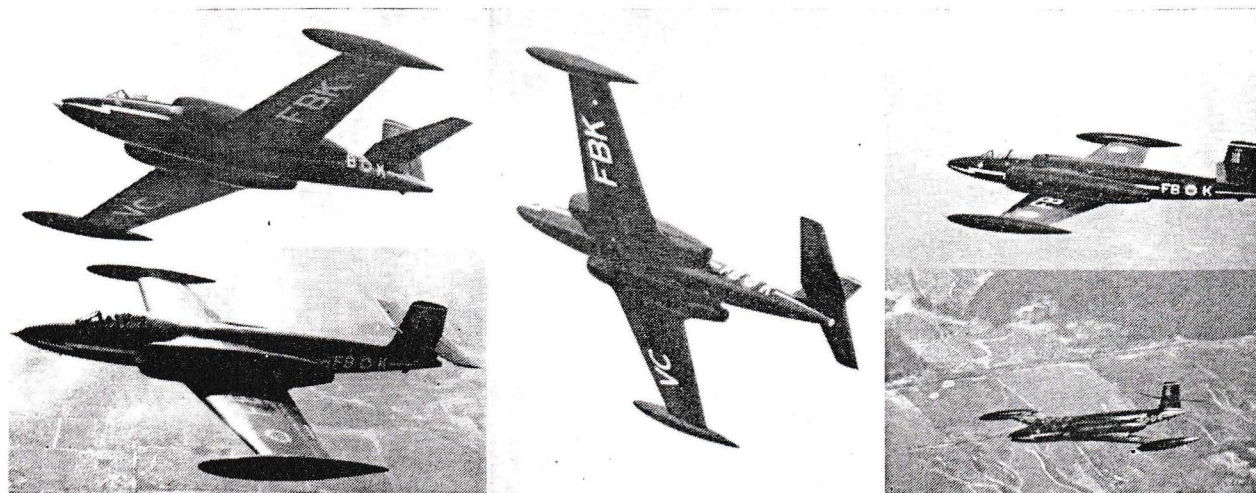
## White Paper

The Department of National Defence is preparing a White Paper on Canada's defence picture, which will be made public shortly. The purpose of the White Paper will be to outline official policy on this matter, which is, of course, of major importance.

## New Whitehorse C/O

Wing Commander R. J. Gray, MBE, recently took over RCAF Station, Whitehorse as commanding officer, replacing Squadron Leader L. A. Harling, who has been acting Whitehorse station commander since the transfer of W/C J. M. Sutherland, now attending a Traffic Analysis course in the U.S.

W/C Gray has been executive assistant to the Chief of the Air Staff since June of 1948. He joined the RCAF in 1938 after attending Mount Allison University and served in various capacities in the years that followed in Canada and overseas, where he flew operationally in Halifax and Lancaster aircraft with 427 and 420 squadrons.



**TANKS ON THE TIPS:** This series of flight shots show Avro Canada's CF-100 all-weather fighter fitted with long range wing tip tanks. The CF-100 was to have flown to the U.K. for RAF evaluation, but the loss of the aircraft shown in these pictures (the second prototype), has cancelled this flight, at least tem-

porarily. Tanks not only add to range but also enhance the appearance of the aircraft considerably. The first production model of the type is expected to make its first flight this month. This will also be the first CF-100 powered by Avro Canada Orendas, to fly. Succeeding aircraft are also Orenda powered.