

Cadets in non-flying categories from Canadian Services Colleges and universities who were participating in their first summer program proceeded from indoctrination training at the reserve officers' school to their respective basic courses in aeronautical engineering, supply, telecommunications, and armament. Second-year cadets completed the final phases of their basic courses and, if successful, were commissioned. Cadets who successfully completed training in 1951 returned as reserve officers and were employed in their trade during the summer of 1952.

Considerable emphasis was placed on improving the means of manning the RCAF auxiliary with trained, young, aircraft tradesmen. In 1952, the summer training program for high-school students interested in auxiliary service trained approximately 1,100 recruits, of whom 46 transferred to the RCAF regular force, 847 remained with the auxiliary and 207 were released. The reserve tradesmen training plan was introduced in December 1952, superseding the high-school student plan, incorporating both students and air cadets, and consolidating under one plan the majority of aircraft tradesmen in training. This program involves a winter and summer phase with a target quota of 2,250 trainees to reach Group I standard by the end of the summer of 1953. Winter training for air cadets enrolled in this primary reserve scheme is to be conducted within air cadet squadrons. The RCAF continued to offer vacancies for auxiliary tradesmen on regular force courses, but very few are able to take advantage of this opportunity because of the requirements of their civilian occupations.

Royal Canadian Air Cadets.—The Royal Canadian Air Cadets are closely associated with the RCAF. There are 239 squadrons located across Canada with an enrolment of 18,300 cadets, administered by the Air Cadet League of Canada, a voluntary civil organization. The value of this training is confirmed by the fact that, during 1952-53, 1,142 ex-air cadets joined the RCAF regular squadrons and several hundred signed on with the reserve. Summer camps were held at RCAF Stations, Abbotsford, B.C., Aylmer, Ont., and Greenwood, N.S., and were attended by 3,808 cadets and 436 officers and instructors. During the year, 218 senior air cadets, who were awarded flying training scholarships, successfully completed the course of 17 hours flying and 60 hours ground school; 167 air cadets continued instruction at their own expense and received private pilot's licences.

The highly successful international exchange visits program, sponsored jointly by the RCAF and Air Cadet League, was further extended in 1952-53. Twenty-five cadets were exchanged with the United Kingdom, 25 with the United States, and two each with Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Holland.

Subsection 4.—The Defence Research Board

The Defence Research Board was established on Apr. 1, 1947, by an amendment to the National Defence Act.

The Board consists of a full-time chairman and vice-chairman, six ex officio and six or more appointed members. The ex officio members are the Chiefs of Staff for the three Armed Services, the President of the National Research Council, the Deputy Minister of National Defence and a representative of the Department of Defence Production. The remaining members, appointed by the Governor General in Council, are drawn from the universities and industry because of their scientific and technical backgrounds. Their appointments are for three-year terms.