

anti-submarine exercises were also conducted with the RCN on both the East and West Coasts. The two RCAF East Coast squadrons were fully equipped with *P-2V7 Neptunes* while the West Coast squadrons retained the *Lancasters*. The *Argus*, the newest maritime patrol aircraft and largest aircraft built in Canada, made its inaugural flight early in 1957.

Air Transport Command continued to provide support to the Air Division in Europe using its *North Star* aircraft. *Fairchild C-119's* of the Command were engaged in cargo and personnel carrier operations in Canada, and paratroop training for the Canadian Army. Both types were used for operations in support of Arctic weather stations. Toward the end of 1956, *C-119's* of Air Transport Command were assigned to the air element of Canada's contribution to UNEF and commenced operations using Naples, Italy, as a base.

The 1957 Shoran Program of 408 Photographic Squadron of Air Transport Command completed the geodetic trilateration of the Arctic Islands. This completed the basic geodetic survey undertaken by the Squadron in 1948, under direction of the Dominion Geodesist.

In 1957, ice reconnaissance in support of United States Navy ships supplying DEW line stations between 128°W. longitude and Boothia Peninsula was undertaken jointly by 408 and 407 Squadrons. An ice reconnaissance detachment was established at Cambridge Bay and daily reconnaissance flights were carried out from July 15 to Oct. 1, 1957.

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1957, search and rescue operations required the RCAF to fly in excess of 7,948 hours; 29 major searches and 143 mercy missions were conducted, some well inside the Arctic Circle.

Training and Equipment.—During the year ended Mar. 31, 1957, NATO aircrew training in Canada continued at a brisk pace. As of Dec. 31, 1956, 4,483 aircrew had been graduated under this plan since its inception in 1951. In addition, the RCAF was engaged in training aircrew for its own requirements. Basic trades courses for non-flying list officers produced 140 graduates and basic trade schools graduated 4,676 tradesmen during 1956-57.

Flight cadets entering the service received officer development training and primary flying training at Centralia, Ont. Basic flying training was conducted at flying training schools located at Claresholm, Alta., Moose Jaw, Sask., and Penhold, Alta. Advanced flying training on twin-engine aircraft was given at Saskatoon, Sask., and advanced flying training on jet aircraft was conducted at Portage La Prairie, Gimli, and MacDonald, Man. Flying instructor training was given at Trenton, Ont., and instrument rating courses were conducted at Saskatoon, Sask. Radio officers and observers received their basic and advanced training at Winnipeg, Man.

Formal trade courses for newly commissioned non-flying list officers were conducted at RCAF schools in aeronautical engineering, armament, supply, telecommunications and flying control. Aircraft system trainers were used extensively to support technician and aircrew training programs at field technical training units and the operational training units. Trade advancement training programs, continued at all units, both regular and auxiliary. To help tradesmen advance into the qualified trade group levels, semi-annual trade examinations were written under the direction of a Central Examination Board. Language training programs were conducted where necessary.

The aircraft procurement program during 1956 and 1957 is dealt with under *Defence Production* at pp. 1205-1209.

RCAF Reserve.—The sub-components of the RCAF reserves are designated as: (1) the Auxiliary; (2) the Primary Reserve; and (3) the Supplementary Reserve.

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1957, officer development courses were conducted for university flight cadets of the Primary Reserve. They participated in their first summer training program at the Reserve Officers School, St. Johns, Que., and at the Regular Officers School, London, Ont. Following this initial training, pilot trainees received flying training at various training schools while observer trainees were trained at the