

Air Observers School, Winnipeg, Man. Non-flying list flight cadets continued with basic courses in aeronautical engineering, telecommunications, armament, supply and accounts. Flight cadets in the medical, air services and personnel lists were employed at Regular Force units on contact training and second and third-year flight cadets continued with formal or contact training as applicable. Third-year cadets were commissioned after successfully completing their period of training.

Refresher flying training was provided during the year for 500 Reserve pilots, to build up a pool of flying instructors. In addition, 475 Reserve officers and senior NCO's received contact training for mobilization assignments. The Reserve Tradesmen Training Plan was continued and approximately 1,739 recruits, both high school students and air cadets, completed training during 1956.

To provide a reserve of fighter pilots proficient in handling jet aircraft the RCAF maintains six Auxiliary Fighter squadrons. Three Auxiliary Transport squadrons are maintained to train a reserve of transport aircrew and two Auxiliary squadrons are equipped with *Mitchell* light bombers to operate, as required, with Canada's Mobile Striking Force. In addition, the RCAF maintains 17 Auxiliary Medical units, 17 Aircraft Control and Warning squadrons, 8 Technical Training units and 4 Auxiliary Intelligence units.

**Royal Canadian Air Cadets.**—Air cadet activities in Canada are sponsored and administered by the Air Cadet League of Canada. The League is a voluntary civilian organization formed in 1940 to provide preliminary aviation training for potential members of the Royal Canadian Air Force. The RCAF works jointly with the League and provides training personnel, syllabi and equipment.

During the War, the Royal Canadian Air Cadets reached a peak enrolment of 30,000. The authorized peacetime strength ceiling has recently been increased to 25,500 and the strength in April 1957 was approximately 22,000, enrolled in 297 squadrons across Canada. Air cadet training is carried out in more than 225 communities from Newfoundland to British Columbia.

During the summer of 1957 camps for air cadets were held at RCAF Stations at Greenwood, N.S., Clinton, Ont., and Sea Island, B.C. More than 5,400 cadets attended camp along with their officers and instructors. A seven-week course for senior leaders and drill instructors was held for 200 cadets at RCAF Station Camp Borden, Ont. A precision drill team of 40 cadets selected from the drill instructor course competed in the international drill competition at Toronto.

The International Exchange Visits Program in 1957, sponsored jointly by the RCAF and the Air Cadet League, was very successful. Fifty-eight cadets were exchanged with the United Kingdom, the United States, Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden.

Two hundred and fifty senior air cadets receive flying training annually at flying clubs through scholarships awarded by the RCAF. Additional flying training scholarships were awarded by the Air Cadet League and other organizations. Under the Reserve Tradesmen Training Plan, air cadets receive trades training in a nine-week summer course in addition to preparatory training with their respective squadrons during the school year.

#### **Subsection 4.—The Defence Research Board**

The activities of the Defence Research Board in 1956 were concerned primarily with naval, armament, telecommunications, Arctic, special weapons, operational, medical, aeronautical and materials research problems of specific interest to Canadian defence. To conduct this program of research, the Defence Research Board operates 11 specialized research and development establishments, and organizes and supports research on problems of defence interest in universities and other agencies. Research on naval problems is carried out at the Naval Research Establishment, Dartmouth, N.S., and at the Pacific Naval Laboratory, Esquimalt, B.C. Both stations are located adjacent to Royal Canadian