

The aircraft procurement program during 1958 and 1959 is dealt with under Defence Production at pp. 1170-1175.

RCAF Reserve.—The active sub-components of the RCAF reserves are designated as the Auxiliary and the Primary Reserve. There are eleven Auxiliary flying squadrons which, during the year, were re-equipped as transport squadrons. These squadrons are maintained to train a reserve of transport aircrew and operate in an emergency transport role. In addition, the RCAF maintains 17 Auxiliary medical units, 17 aircraft control and warning squadrons and eight technical training units. The Primary Reserve is concerned mainly with the training of members of the University Reserve Training Plan (URTP), the Mobilization Assignment Training Plan (MATP) and the Reserve Tradesman Training Plan (RTTP).

During the year ended Mar. 31, 1959, officer development courses were conducted for some 300 first-year URTP university undergraduates at Reserve Officer School, St. Johns, Que. Following this initial training some non-flying list cadets continued with basic courses in aeronautical engineering, telecommunications, armament, supply and accounts while others in the medical, air services and personnel lists were employed at Regular Force units on contact training. Second and third year flight cadets continued with their formal or contact training.

Approximately 450 Reserve officers and senior NCO's received contact training for mobilization assignments during 1958. The Reserve Tradesman Training Plan was also continued and approximately 1,239 recruits, both high school and air cadets, completed training.

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 World War II the Royal Canadian Air Cadets reached a peak enrolment of 30,000. The authorized peacetime ceiling has recently been increased to 25,500 and the strength at Jan. 31, 1959, was approximately 24,840, enrolled in 324 squadrons across Canada. Air cadet training is carried out in more than 225 communities from Newfoundland to British Columbia. During the summer of 1958 camps were held at RCAF Stations at Greenwood, N.S., Clinton, Ont., and Sea Island, B.C., attended by about 6,000 cadets together with 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 participated in an international drill display at Minneapolis, Minn.

The International Exchange Visits Program in 1958, 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.

About 250 senior air cadets receive flying training annually at flying clubs through scholarships awarded by the RCAF and additional scholarships are awarded by the Air Cadet League and other organizations. Under the Reserve Tradesman 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 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 members and seven other appointed members. The ex officio members are the Chiefs of Staff of the three Armed Services, the Deputy Minister of National Defence, the President of the National Research Council and a representative of the Department