

continued in close co-operation with the RCN, RCAF and Defence Research Board. The standardization program in the United States, United Kingdom and Canada and within NATO continues to promote the exchange of knowledge to the mutual advantage of the Armies concerned. Additional agreements were reached affecting procedures and equipment. Subsequent to the agreement between Belgium, Canada, France, the United Kingdom and the United States to adopt the 7.62 mm (.30-inch) calibre small arms round, the Canadian Army carried out tests and trials with various types of Fabrique Nationale (FN) rifles in an attempt to select the best rifle for use by the Canadian serviceman. On June 22, 1955 the Minister of National Defence announced that the rifle 7.62 mm C1 had been adopted as standard for use in the Canadian Army.

Training.—The policy of training is determined at Army Headquarters. General Officers Commanding Commands implement the training policy within their Commands, except for the training conducted at Army and Corps Schools, which are under the direct supervision of Army Headquarters.

The basic training of 9,206 recruits and the corps training of officers and men of the Canadian Army Regular was carried out at regimental depots, units, and corps schools. During 1954, 9,124 personnel attended courses at the schools of instruction.

Promotion qualification examinations consisting of written and practical tests were held to qualify Regular and Militia officers for the ranks of Captain and Major; 73 candidates passed qualification examinations for selection to attend the Canadian Army Staff College, and nine passed the entrance examination for the Royal Military College of Science. A training program was conducted during the winter months for all Regular officers to assist them in their professional knowledge. Militia Staff Course examinations were conducted for Militia officers to qualify Captains and Majors for Command and Staff appointments.

Qualifying courses for Junior NCO's were conducted under General Officers Commanding Commands. Senior NCO courses were conducted at corps schools in accordance with newly instituted training standards.

French/English language training which is available to all ranks of the Canadian Army was conducted by Commands and AHQ. The Canadian Army Training School conducted six month French-language courses for English-speaking officers and NCO instructors. A number of French-speaking potential NCO's received English-language training during the year.

Officers from the United States, the United Kingdom, Norway, France, Italy and Turkey attended courses at Canadian Army schools of instruction.

Trade and specialty training is given at corps schools and units. When feasible the facilities of civilian schools are used to supplement training at Army establishments. Trades training is conducted in accordance with the training standards for the appropriate trades. During 1955 several new trades were introduced in keeping with technical developments in the Army. New standards were set for instructional positions, resulting in an up-grading in the professional status and trade grouping of assistant instructors.

The apprentice training program, started in January 1953, is designed to train selected young men as soldier tradesmen and to provide them with a requisite academic background to enable them to advance to senior non-commissioned ranks in the Army. A high entry standard has been set to ensure that the prospective soldier apprentice will be capable of absorbing trade and academic training, and developing the leadership qualities essential in senior non-commissioned officers. During 1954 an additional 303 apprentices were enrolled and 39 civilian teachers were employed to provide academic instruction for about 700 apprentice soldiers. Academic credits are obtained from the educational authorities of the province where the training is conducted. Apprentices are receiving trades training as clerks, cooks, carpenters, electricians, wireless operators, radar operators, radio mechanics, storemen, gun mechanics, vehicle mechanics and armourers. A balanced training program is designed to stimulate the interest of the apprentice. Military, trades, academic and recreational training are integrated. Separate messing, canteen and sleeping arrangements are provided for apprentices.