

ADDENDUM -- Details of the participation of the Royal Canadian Air Force in the war against Japan were announced by Air Minister Gibson on July 13, 1945. Arrangements have been made for the early despatch of two heavy bomber squadrons and three long range transport squadrons to the Pacific. These will be followed later by six additional bomber squadrons as required.

R.C.A.F. units will form part of a composite group which will include British, Australian and New Zealand squadrons. Operating from a base within strategic bombing range of the Japanese homeland, the whole British force will form a part of the 20th United States Air Force Bomber Group under the command of Lieutenant-General Carl Spaatz.

In order to keep Far East units adequately supplied, transport squadrons will probably operate both from the United Kingdom and from Canada. As part of its ground forces the R.C.A.F. will also supply a complete hospital unit. Air Vice-Marshal C.R. Slemon, commander of the R.C.A.F. Pacific Force, will establish his headquarters at Halifax, Nova Scotia. He will accompany the first units to move to the Pacific.

Air Minister Gibson also announced that the R.C.A.F. will provide a force of occupation of Germany consisting of nine squadrons - two heavy bomber, four fighter and three medium transport squadrons. They will alternate between the United Kingdom and the Continent and will be under the direction of the Royal Air Force. The personnel, however, will be attached to and under the immediate supervision of the R.C.A.F. Overseas Headquarters in London.