

## IRWIN TO MEXICO

On February 9, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Green, announcing the appointment of Mr. William Arthur Irwin as Canadian Ambassador to Mexico, said:

"...Mr. Irwin distinguished himself as assistant editor, managing editor and then editor of Maclean's magazine from 1925 to 1950. At that time he entered the public service of Canada as Commissioner and Chairman of the National Film Board, a post which he held until his appointment as Canadian High Commissioner to Australia in 1953. In January, 1957 he was transferred from Australia to Brazil as Ambassador, where he served until his return to Canada last September. Last fall Mr. Irwin became a member of the Canadian Delegation to the fourteenth session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, where his knowledge of Latin-American affairs and his ability to establish contacts with Latin-American delegations was most helpful.

"Mr. Irwin has thus had useful and varied experience in and outside the public service and as a diplomat. As Ambassador to Brazil particularly, he had an excellent opportunity to observe at close range the economic, political and social problems of Latin-America. I am sure that Mr. Irwin will use his diplomatic experience and his knowledge of Latin-America to help fulfil the common desire of the Mexican and Canadian Governments to strengthen their already close and friendly relations, as evidenced by the highly successful visit of His Excellency President Adolfo Lopez Mateos to Mexico to Ottawa last October, and soon to be re-emphasized by the visit of the Prime Minister to Mexico next April."

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## CANADAIR PLANES FOR GERMANY

Canadair Limited of Montreal will shortly begin to produce the first sub-assemblies for the Luftwaffe's new "Super-Starfighters". Delivery to the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation in California, which is in charge of the final assembly, is scheduled for July.

This sub-contract to Canadair by the designers of the supersonic NATO fighter lays the basic for production by the Canadian company of 200 of the same aircraft for the eight RCAF squadrons in Europe. It means \$4-million worth of work for Canadair and its many sub-contractors, extending into 1962. The same period is set for construction of the RCAF's CF-104 "Super-Starfighters."

With six "pilot" assembly sets of fabricated components and approximately 6000 tools supplied by Lockheed, Canadair is producing the empennage, complete wing and aft fuselages for West Germany's F-104G's. Other components made in the United States will be added in Lockheed's California plant to complete the first F-104G, which is scheduled to fly this October.

In outward appearance identical, and basically the same aircraft in other respects, Germany's and Canada's F-104G's will work together in Europe in NATO defense. The Netherlands and Belgium have also selected the same aircraft as their basic NATO fighter. An earlier version of the "Starfighter" is now in service with the USAF, with some units in Europe. The new all-weather multi-mission "G" version is being evaluated for future USAF fighter requirements. Other nations both inside and outside NATO are considering the same aircraft. Japan has announced it will manufacture it under licence for its air force.

To handle low-flying duties, the Canadian "Super-Starfighter" will be specially braced and its wings strengthened. Basically it will be the same multi-purpose aircraft the Germans will use. Many features and much equipment will be standardized in the aircraft used by both air forces. The PHI (Position and Homing Indicator) automatic navigator designed and built by Computing Devices of Canada at Ottawa will be common to Luftwaffe and RCAF F-104G's.

Lockheed and Canadair have worked together successfully before. Under a previous licensing agreement from Lockheed, Canadair built more than 600 T-33 jet trainers for the RCAF known as "Silver Stars."

## UNEF TROOPS ROTATE

The Reconnaissance Squadron of the 1st Fort Garry Horse began its move to Egypt for a year's tour of duty with the United Nations Emergency Force from Uplands Airport, Ottawa, on February 8. The "Garrys" are replacing a similar squadron of the Royal Canadian Dragoons, which has been patrolling a section of the international frontier in the Sinai desert for the past year.

Canadian reconnaissance squadrons have been serving in the Middle East since the spring of 1957, when the composite 56th Reconnaissance Squadron, Royal Canadian Armoured Corps, began its patrol of the Israel-Egyptian border. It was replaced early the following year by the Reconnaissance Squadron of 1/8 Canadian Hussars.

Also involved in the current change-over are 35 members of other Army corps who will replace a similar number in Egypt.

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## PLASTIC BUILDING SHELTERS

Two very interesting developments in plastic shelters were shown at the recent exhibition held in connection with the annual convention of the National House Builders Association in Toronto. One of these is called the Polytarp House, manufactured by Dominion Poly Products in Toronto. It was used with great success by Consolidated Building Corporation and Saxony Construction last winter.