Materiel Command

Materiel Command, with headquarters at Rockcliffe, is being organized to provide logistic support of the Canadian armed forces. It will be charged with the responsibility of providing faster, more efficient service and, at the same time, of eliminating the duplication and triplication that exists with three separate supply systems. By making full use of electronic data-processing equipment, it will eventually be possible to provide better service, maintain smaller inventories and, at the same time, to operate with substantially fewer personnel, thus freeing more of the armed forces establishment for operational requirements.

Training Command

Training Command, with headquarters in Winnipeg, will provide the individual training, including flying training and trades training, for all service personnel required by the Canadian armed forces. On January 1, this Command assumed command and control of the RCAF units which formerly composed Air Force Training Command and functional control of the RCN and Army individual training schools. In April of this year, it will assume full responsibility for the RCN and Army training schools. The Canadian Services Colleges, Army and Air Force staff colleges and the National Defence College will continue under the control of Canadian Forces Headquarters for the time being, but plans to operate an integrated staff college course are well advanced.

4 CIBG

The introduction of the M.113 armoured personnel carrier to our NATO Brigade Group in Europe is now nearly complete. This has given the Brigade Group a greatly enhanced operational capability and, for the first time, the armoured protection it would need in the face of a fully mechanized opponent. The delivery of the ENTAC and SS.11 anti-tank guided missiles, will be augmented by the introduction of the <u>Carl Gustav</u> medium anti-tank weapon now coming into service. The fire-power of the Brigade will be further improved by the introduction of the new British 81 mm. mortar, to replace current holdings. This mortar has an appreciably greater range than the one it replaces. In further support of the Brigade and field forces, a variety of major and minor equipment is being purchased. For example, bridgelayer tanks that permit the rapid crossing of small water or dry gaps will be delivered to 4 CIBG this summer.

Air Division

The introduction of the dual capability for our strike-attack squadrons in Europe is continuing and will be complete later this year. At that time, our six squadrons in Germany will be fully operational in the non-nuclear attack role, as well as in the nuclear-strike role. This will greatly increase the flexibility of these squadrons in support of NATO requirements. The two reconnaissance squadrons stationed at Marville in France are now fully operational. Each wing of the Air Division has its full complement of aircraft and is holding an "alert" status.