

# Novices At Dive Bombing Three Flyers Of Borden Beat Kingston Favorites

## Clever Runners-Up 'Out-Sighted' by Winners in First Competition of Kind in Canada

Kingston, July 8 (Staff Special)—Roaring down out of the sky at top speed, the motors of their Harvard training planes strained at full throttle, three young Camp Borden student pilots walked off with top honors in a four-team dive-bombing competition held here yesterday at No. 31 Service Flying Training School, RAF.

Pilots from Camp Borden, Dunnville, Aylmer and Kingston, all service flying training schools in the Commonwealth Air Training plan, took part in the demonstration, the first of its kind ever held in the Dominion. Ironically, the winning trio never had dive-bombed before, except for only a few hours' practice the previous day when the station commanding officer was invited to enter a team in the competition.

The best pilot of the day was 20-year-old Brian Smith, of Schomberg, who expects to win his wings in a few weeks. He led the winning Camp Borden team, ably assisted by M. Tuchak of Winnipeg, and Jeffrey Lindsay, of Montreal. They were heartily congratulated by their commanding officer, Group Captain C. Carling-Kelly, who flew down from Borden to witness the event.

### FAVORITES BEATEN

Close on their heels was a team from No. 31 Service Flying Training School, Kingston. The Dunnville airmen placed third and Aylmer fourth. It was expected that Kingston would win easily, being a Fleet Air Arm School which specializes in dive-bombing tactics. But the Camp Borden lads "out-sighted" them over the target.

Dive-bombing is a vitally important part of a pilot's training in preparation for his future fighting career when he is attacking enemy shipping or land objectives. It requires exceptional flying ability and a marksman's eye.

Actually there were two water targets in yesterday's event. No. 1 was located ten miles northeast of the Kingston airport at Milhaven, off Amherst Island, and No. 2, six miles away from the airport at Kingston Mills. The targets were triangular-shaped rafts, 30 feet to a side and painted bright yellow. Flying over one at slightly higher than 2,000 feet, it looked to The Telegram reporter no bigger than a tiny yellow blob on the water.

### DROPPED 8 BOMBS

According to the rules of the competition, the pilots were to start their dive—at a 45-degree angle—at 2,000 feet, release their bombs at 900 feet and level off at 500 feet. An experienced instructor rode as a passenger in each plane to see that the rules were strictly adhered to.

Each pilot dropped eight bombs.

On the successive runs over the target, the pilots were required to approach from four different angles, down-wind, into the wind and cross-wind in opposite directions. At strategic points on the nearby shore, score-keepers recorded the accuracy of the competitors. Distances from the target were measured accurately and each pilot's score was determined by the average of his four bombs dropped on each target. The bombs are 11½-pound missiles about 15 inches long and painted white. They are manufactured expressly for practice purposes and used extensively throughout the RCAF. A white, billowy smoke is produced when they explode which makes the scoring virtually fool-proof.

### EXCEPTIONALLY GOOD

The average miss of the winning team was 26¼ yards from the target, which is considered exceptionally good for this type of bombing.

Among the several Toronto boys who took part, Leading Aircraftman Dick Beach, 116 Braemar ave., was the best with a 22¼-yard average. Out of eight bombs, three were direct hits.

On hand to witness the competition were the commanding officers of the four stations, represented, Group Captain V. H. Patriarche, Dunnville; Group Captain Norman [unclear], Aylmer; Group Captain Le [unclear], Kingston, and Group Captain C. Carling-Kelly, Camp Borden.

Group Captain J. S. Scott, of No. 31 Service Flying Training School, representing the Vice-Marshal Frank S. McGill, who is commanding, presented the winning trophy to the Camp Borden team.