

THE SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

The Second General Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization convened in Geneva, Switzerland, between June 1 and June 22 with 39 of 48 contracting States in attendance. Max Hymans, Director-General of Civil Aviation in France, was named President of the Assembly at the First Plenary Session. Canada was represented by Brigadier C.S. Booth, the Canadian representative on the Permanent Council of ICAO, chairman of the delegation; Air Vice Marshal Alan Ferrier, a member of the Air Transport Board; Stuart Graham, Superintendent of Air Regulations in the Department of Transport; and O.G. Stoner, of the Department of External Affairs; and as advisers; Wing-Commander Marlowe Kennedy, Air Attaché at the Canadian Embassy in Belgium, and; A.V. Rosevear, K.C., Assistant Solicitor-General of the C.N.R.

The bulk of the questions before the Assembly this year were based on the deliberations of the Permanent Council during 1947-48. With few changes most of the Council recommendations were adopted by the Assembly. For the purpose of concentrating its efforts the Assembly resolved itself into four working commissions: Legal, Economic, Technical and Administrative. These commissions dealt with those specific questions falling within their competency and then submitted a series of reports for approval to the General Assembly.

Three of the decisions of the Assembly were of great interest to Canada and all those nations who subscribed firmly to the aims of the Organization:

(1) The Assembly unanimously approved the applications for membership in ICAO of Austria and Finland. In accordance with Article 93 of



Members of the Canadian delegation to the Second General Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization recently held at Geneva are shown at the meeting, left to right: Brigadier C.S. Booth, Canadian member on the ICAO Council (head of delegation); Air Vice-Marshal A. Ferrier, Air Transport Board; A.B. Rosevear, Assistant Solicitor-General for the C.N.R.; and O.G. Stoner, Department of External Affairs.

the Convention on International Civil Aviation, Austria, her application having already been approved by the 1947 General Assembly of the United Nations, will be admitted to full participation in ICAO following the deposit of her instrument of adherence to the Convention with the Government of the United States. In accordance with these same provisions, Finland must, however, await approval of her application by the 1948 General Assembly of the United Nations before she can be admitted to full membership in ICAO. The entry of these eastern European nations into ICAO should help extend and broaden the sphere of the Organization's activities.

(2) The Assembly adopted a resolution calling for the establishment of a Permanent Air Navigation Commission in accordance with Article 54 of the Convention. Up to the time

of writing this article, this clause had not been implemented and an Air Navigation Committee had been established pursuant to the Interim Agreement, but several nations, including Canada, felt that this group was prevented from carrying out the purely technical functions intended for the Air Navigation Commission by the intervention of national or political considerations. This was in part felt to be due to the presence on the existing Air Navigation Committee of several Council members. By the decision of the Assembly, the members of the new Air Navigation Commission are to be chosen by the Council from nominees of Council Member States only by the qualifications that no more than one nominee be appointed from any contracting State, and that full regard be given to the desirability of regional representation. An Air