ARMED FORCES BASES MERGE

Two Ottawa bases of the Canadian Armed Forces, Rockcliffe and Uplands, have been amalgamated into one establishment, effective November 1, under the designation Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Ottawa. Both are former Royal Canadian Air Force stations possessing historic connections with the city of Ottawa. The effect of the change, officials say, is "a streamlining of management and support functions".

No major changes are planned for occupancy of buildings or property at the two locations, nor are any units scheduled to be moved out.

Details of staff reductions, to be made over a period of a year, are still being worked out. Some transfer of military personnel is expected, however, and civilian employees within the new configuration will number only slightly fewer than before. Some 2,800 servicemen and 1,800 civilians work at the two locations now. Normal turnover will take care of reductions in civilian employees, although some shifting between the two installations may be necessary. Transfers to other locations will absorb surplus military personnel.

Advantages of the amalgamation include the consolidation of functions such as accounting, transportation, administration and the management of a number of common base facilities.

The old Rockcliffe air-station, comprising 930 acres, has a complement of about 1,400 armed forces members and 1,500 civilian employees, most of whom belong to staffs at National Defence Headquarters. Uplands contains 279 acres, and has 1,400 military personnel and 300 civilian employees.

Rockcliffe came into being in 1919; its major activities for the next 40 years included aerial photography for charting much of Canada, air transport and aeronautical experimentation.

In 1954 it became the headquarters of Air Matériel Command. Several units are situated on the base today, with main activities centering around logistics and supply, photography and intelligence operations. No military flying has taken place at the station since 1964.

WARTIME FLYING SCHOOL

Uplands, which shares airfield facilities with Ottawa's civil airport, was chosen as a site for a British Commonwealth Air Training Plan flying school in 1939. Flying stopped in 1945, and Maintenance Command moved away in 1947. Service association with the station then ceased until 1950, when an RCAF expansion came about.

Since that time it has been part of both Air Defence and Air Transport Commands, housing various flying units over the years. Until 1971 it was also the location of the Aeronautical Evaluation and Test Establishment, now operating out of Cold Lake, Alberta. The largest flying unit at the base today is 412 (VIP) Transport Squadron. Other elements include 450 Tactical Helicopter Squadron, 2 Aircraft Field Maintenance Squadron, the Canadian Airborne Sensing Unit, and No. 3 Air Movements Unit, one of the busiest military passenger terminals in Canada.

SOVIET SCIENTIST AT McGILL

A visitor to McGill University, Montreal, is Dr. Victor P. Korobeinikov, Senior Research Scientist in the Section of Mechanics and Doctor of physico-mathematical sciences with the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. and now employed at the V.A. Steklov Institute of Mathematics in Moscow.

Dr. Korobeinikov is in Canada in connection with an exchange program organized by the National Research Council in Ottawa. In order to acquaint himself with research programs, other than those of NRC, he visited the Universities of Toronto and Alberta before going to McGill, where he is to spend the remainder of his two-month visit.

Dr. J.H. Lee, Department of Mechanical Engineering, is collaborating with Dr. Korobeinikov, and from their combined research they are producing a book to be entitled Recent Progress in the Gas Dynamics of Explosions.

Drs. Lee and Korobeinikov met in Brussels in 1967 at an international conference of engineers, and in 1970 Dr. Lee was an exchange scientist visiting the Steklov Institute in Moscow.

When asked for his impressions of research in Canada. Dr. Korobeinikov said that, as far as he could see, Canada was "a small country" and "not all branches of science have been developed to the same level". He felt that there had been considerable achievement in the area of gas dynamics and was greatly impressed with the wide range of research being carried on in environmental studies. He remarked that the Soviet Union had "only just started in this field".

RESEARCH IN THE U.S.S.R.

According to Dr. Korobeinikov scientific research is constantly growing in the U.S.S.R. with new universities opening each year and, as many positions are available, graduates do not have problems in finding work. There is no discrimination against women, equal pay applies, and with many well-supervised day-care centres, working mothers have no difficulties in obtaining adequate child-care.

An interesting feature of the Soviet educational system is its method of keeping students informed of possible careers. Professionals, researchers, directors of study programs etc., meet with students from the high-school level upwards to discuss their work and to answer questions that may be put to them.