

COAST GUARD TRAINING CENTRE

Mr. J.W. Pickersgill, the Minister of Transport, recently made the following statement:

For some time, the Government has been considering the establishment of a training college for new-entry officers for the Canadian Coast Guard. It has now been decided to take advantage of the availability of surplus facilities at the Point Edward Naval Base at Sydney, Nova Scotia, to get this essential project started.

INCREASE IN WORK TO BE DONE

In recent years the work of departmental ships has expanded from the maintenance of aids to navigation and some local surveying and icebreaking to a whole range of marine activities. This fleet now mans the weather stations in the North Pacific Ocean, covers Arctic supply convoys, escorts the increasingly important winter traffic into East Coast ports and the Gulf of St. Lawrence, supports scientific work afloat, and provides a special rescue service.

Including ships now building, the Coast Guard will have grown in 15 years from 27 to 60 ships, plus some 150 large workboats, tugs and barges. The modern units in this growing fleet are increasingly complex and costly, and they are required to operate in situations of especial hazard.

SHORTAGE OF TRAINING FACILITIES

Up to the present, the Department has relied on the maritime industry to provide officers for this important

fleet; but the expanding need for officers has been met by drawing on sources that cannot be tapped again, such as the former Canadian National West Indies Service, other flag transfers and direct recruiting abroad. These sources have not provided many Canadian recruits.

The efforts of existing marine schools in various parts of Canada are mainly directed towards meeting local needs of a less complex nature. To the extent that schools such as the Marine School at Rimouski, Quebec, and the new College of Fisheries and Navigation at St. John's, Newfoundland, and other local institutions can meet the standards and syllabus requirements of the new College, arrangements will be made for cadets to take basic training in navigation and other agreed portions of their course at these institutions. This plan will prevent duplication of resources and enable the new College to concentrate on needs that cannot be met in existing schools.

In view of the critical shortage of new officers for the Coast Guard anticipated in the next few years, it is the intention of the Government to proceed with the establishment of the Canadian Coast Guard College as quickly as possible. Specific entry requirements and other related information will be made public as soon as the detailed arrangements can be worked out. The first step will be to find a suitable director and recruit a staff. It is not expected that actual training will begin until sometime in 1965.

RETIREMENT OF AIR MARSHAL SLEMON

It was announced recently by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Paul Hellyer, that Air Marshal C. Roy Slemon, Deputy Commander of the North American Air Defence Command (NORAD), would retire this summer from the Royal Canadian Air Force after more than 41 years of service. "At this time," said Mr. Hellyer, "I should like to express my personal appreciation, and that of the Government, to Air Marshal Slemon for the manner in which he has upheld the traditions of the RCAF and the good name of Canada during his four decades of service, which stretch from early Arctic exploration to his present assignment at NORAD, a post which he has held since 1957."

NEW NORAD DEPUTY

Replacing Air Marshal Slemon at NORAD will be Air Marshal C.R. Dunlap, the present Chief of the Air Staff, who will bring to his new post more than 36 years of service with the RCAF. Air Marshal Dunlap has held a number of responsible command positions both in Canada and overseas, one of which was that of Assistant Chief of Staff at Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe.

ACTIVE RETIREMENT

Air Marshal Slemon and his family will continue to reside in Colorado Springs, Colorado, U.S.A., where, as NORAD's Deputy Commander, he has lived for

the past seven years. Shortly after the news of Air Marshal Slemon's retirement had been made public, Mr. William Thayer Tuttle, President of the United States Air Force Academy Foundation Incorporated, announced that the eminent Canadian would be associated with the Air Force Academy Foundation "in its many activities which are centred in Colorado Springs". Air Marshal Slemon will be the director of a project, undertaken by the Foundation with the approval of the United States Air Force, for the creation of an Aerospace Educational Centre in the vicinity of the U.S. Air Force Academy, which will provide material to the Academy.

PROTECTION FOR RARE CRANES

A co-operative Canada-U.S. project for the protection of whooping cranes, recently announced by Resources Minister Arthur Laing and Stewart L. Udall, Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, could result in an annual addition of about 100 young cranes to the wild population, which is now hovering precariously at the 32 mark.

The plan calls for a captive breeding flock of eight to ten pairs to be built up in the United States by incubating up to six eggs a year obtained by the Canadian Wildlife Service from the nesting grounds in Wood Buffalo National Park, Northwest Territories. Several conservation groups long interested in efforts to save the big white birds from extinction have been asked to comment on the plan, which was

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