

land and sea searches; land and sea rescues; the conduct of mercy flights; responding to major air disasters in the north;...and training.⁴

ATG's headquarters is at Trenton, Ontario. Its Commander is directly responsible for the operational readiness of 24 units across the country, including four transport squadrons, four transport and rescue squadrons, two transport training squadrons, one separate air rescue unit, and maintenance, air movements, communications and control, and other organizations. There are some 1,300 personnel in the Regular Force squadrons, plus 200 in four air movements units, and 3,000 support personnel at major airlift bases at Edmonton, Trenton, Ottawa and Lahr, Germany. In addition, two Air Reserve squadrons are dedicated to air transport and related roles, and they have complements of about 200 reservists.

At the time of the Committee's briefings on ATG's holdings, the Group's inventory of aircraft was as follows:⁵

Some changes in this fleet are already being implemented. The two Falcons have already been retired; one of the Dash-7s has been returned to de Havilland Aircraft of Canada Ltd.; and plans have been made to trade in the other Dash-7 by the end of 1986. The three Twin Hueys will be transferred out of the ATG fleet to other duties this year.

TABLE 1: The Air Transport Group Fleet
(on 2 May 1985)

<i>Fixed-wing aircraft</i>	
Hercules	26
Boeing-707s	5*
Buffalos	14**
Dakotas	9
Cosmopolitans	7
Twin Otters	8
Dash-7s	2
Challengers	2
Falcons	2
<i>Helicopters</i>	
Labradors/Voyageurs	14***
Twin Hueys	3
Total - all aircraft	92
* Including two equipped for air-to-air refuelling.	
** Including three on stand-by for UN or similar duties.	
*** The Labrador and Voyageur helicopters are essentially the same aircraft, and will be referred to as Labradors in the remainder of this text.	

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 2:8.

⁵ Including Air Reserve aircraft. See testimony of LCol. W.A. Scott, Section Head, Air Operations and Training, Department of National Defence, *The Proceedings*, 2 May 1985 for most of the figures.