



## DAILY AIRMAIL BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION  
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
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**Canada To Build Sabre Fighters For NATO Force:** Ottawa, February 13 (CP) -- Canada is joining in a three-way arrangement with the United States and Britain to build, equip and man squadrons of F-86 Sabre jet fighters for the North Atlantic Treaty defence force.

The announcement, made simultaneously here and at Washington and London tonight, said Canada will build the planes at the big Canadair plant in Montreal, the United States will supply the engines and other equipment and the fighters will be manned by British fliers.

The announcement, made jointly here by the Minister of Defence Production, Mr. C.D. Howe, and the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, did not disclose the number or production schedules of the planes, but it is understood the arrangement will involve "some hundreds" of planes.

The Sabres manufactured under this new arrangement will be in addition to F-86 aircraft already being manufactured by Canada for R.C.A.F. squadrons designated for N.A.T.O. Up to now Canada is the only country outside the United States using the American F-86 fighter which saw its first actual combat tests in Korea against Russian-made MIG fighters.

The arrangement results from discussions which have been going on between the Ministers and service heads of the three countries and the announcement said:

"Under this arrangement Canada will build F-86 aircraft at Canadair, Limited, as part of the Canadian mutual aid programme. Engines and other equipment will be furnished by the United States and will be financed by Mutual Defence Air Pact funds. The aircraft will then be manned by R.A.F. personnel and will strengthen the North Atlantic Treaty force."

A spokesman, enlarging on the announcement, said Canada would supply the air frame for the Sabres, with all other parts, including engines, coming from the United States.

The spokesman said it was his understanding that the planes would be turned over to the R.A.F., which is short of modern, first-line jet fighters. The planes would be flown as R.A.F. fighters but would strengthen the NATO air defence force, to which Canada herself has promised to contribute 11 squadrons in the next few years.

**Dr. Mackenzie To Head Crown Company Directing Atom Programme:** Ottawa, February 13 (CP) -- Dr. C.J. Mackenzie is taking charge of a new Crown company to direct Canada's atomic programme with an expression of his conviction that use of the atom for power is much closer than he thought even six months ago. Formation of the Government's new "Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd." and Dr. Mackenzie's appointment came a year ahead of original plans and Prime Minister St. Laurent said the major reason is that "prospects for early and useful industrial application of atomic energy have become more promising."

The second big reason, Mr. St. Laurent said in the announcement, is that design of Chalk River's new reactor or atom-splitting nuclear furnace has progressed favourably in the last year. That is the \$30,000,000 reactor which will dwarf Chalk River's existing two, and open the way for major Canadian assaults on the problems which prevent practical use of the atom for power purposes. It won't be finished for at least two years. Chalk River, meanwhile, is making strides in the direction of power with its two existing reactors.