

CANADIAN MILITARY OBSERVERS: The nomination of three Canadian military observers to the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan was announced on July 14 by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Pearson.

The three Canadian Army officers selected are: Lt.-Col. A.G. Wygard of Ottawa; Maj. W.T. Thompson, M.C., Toronto and Maj. C.D. Ives, Charlottetown, P.E.I. They will leave Ottawa for New Delhi, India, via New York, on July 16, to replace Brig. A.V. Tremaine, CBE, of Ottawa; Maj. W.H.L. Sellings of Winnipeg and Maj. M.F.P. Vallee of Quebec City, who were appointed to the Commission last January. Lt.-Col. H.H. Angle, DSO, of Kelowna, B.C., who was also appointed to the Commission at that time is remaining in India. Major Sellings and Major Vallee returned to Canada recently and Brig. Tremaine will return within the next few weeks.

Eight countries, including Canada, were invited to nominate observers on the Commission. They are the Argentine, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, Norway, Sweden and the United States. The requirements were that all such observers should be English-speaking officers and from countries not immediately concerned with the differences between Pakistan and India. Further, they were selected from countries having no colonial possessions in the Far East.

BY AIR TO NEW DELHI

The three Canadian observers, who have been called out to active duty with the Canadian Army, will assemble at Ottawa before leaving for the United Nations' headquarters in New York. From there, they will travel by air to New Delhi.

Lt.-Col. Wygard served with a Polish armoured division in 1939 and escaped through France to the United Kingdom. He transferred to the Canadian Army as a lieutenant in 1942 and served in various staff appointments in Canada and overseas throughout the war. He holds Ph. D. degrees from European universities in Economics and International Law and also served in Kashmir from 1934-35 as Polish Trade Commissioner.

Major Thompson was commissioned in the RCA in 1941 and served overseas with the 8th Field Regiment from December of that year until returning to Canada three years later. He left the Active Force in 1946 and has since served with the 42 Medium Regiment, RCA, (Reserve Force). He was promoted to the rank of major and appointed battery commander in January 1947.

Major Ives served with the 5th Canadian Medium Regiment as troop commander and quartermaster in Italy and Northwest Europe. He was also quartermaster of the 2/13 Canadian Field Regiment with the Occupation Forces in Germany.

HIRING AND SEPARATION RATES: Overall hiring and separation rates for all industries have shown a general decline during the period from March 1947 to February 1949, covered by a new report on hirings and separations, based on data obtained by the Unemployment Insurance Commission, issued by the Bureau of Statistics. Reflecting the normal seasonal fluctuations in employment the report shows generally higher rates of hirings than of separations during the spring and summer months; a tendency towards equality in the Fall and early Winter; and generally higher rates of separations than of hirings during the Winter and early Spring.

Hirings in Canadian industry were smaller in proportion to the average number of workers on payrolls during January and February this year than in the corresponding months of 1948, amounting to six per cent in January compared with seven per cent and four per cent in February and five a year earlier. Separations were at the same rate of seven per cent both in January this year and last, but were down to six per cent of the average number on payroll in February this year as against seven per cent in February, 1948. These figures compare with eight per cent for both hirings and separations in March, 1947, first month of the period covered.

CIGARETTE RELEASES UP: Cigarette releases in May rose to an all-time monthly high figure of 1,529 million, comparing with 1,342 million in April and 1,265 million in May last year. Cumulative total of releases for the first five months of this year was 6,717 million as compared with 6,385 million in the same period of 1948.

Releases of cigars in May increased to 18.4 million from 17.0 million in April and 14.2 million in May last year.

SEA FURIES GROUNDED: Sixteen Sea Fury aircraft of the Royal Canadian Navy's 19th Carrier Air Group, now at the Joint Air School at Rivers, Manitoba, have been temporarily grounded as a precautionary measure, it was announced at Naval Headquarters on July 13. Some modifications are well in hand with the manufacturers and when these have been made the air group will continue its training schedule.

The Sea Fury is one of the newest and fastest propeller-driven carrier-borne aircraft in the world and is also used in the Royal Navy and other Commonwealth navies. In view of the advanced design of the machines, the need for modification is not unexpected or unusual.

The 19th Carrier Air Group, which consists of 803 and 883 Fighter squadrons, arrived at Rivers from the R.C.N. Air Station, Dartmouth, N.S., in late June to carry out ground support training with the Army.