

CANADA'S POLICY ABROAD

The concepts behind Canada's stand in international civil aviation are common to many states:

- 1) the sovereignty of every state in the air above it;
- 2) international regulation of world air routes in place of restrictive national barriers;
- 3) competitive conditions which permit rewards for efficient operation of air lines;
- 4) prevention of cut-throat competition between air lines of different states; and
- 5) maintenance of the principle of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity of all states to share in the world's air traffic.

Canada has already accepted the Transit Agreement, covering the first two Freedoms of the Air, in the belief that its action would contribute to the cause of world peace. In so doing it gave up the bargaining power its broad expanses might give in restricting the flight of others. Any country may now land in and fly over Canadian territories. The traffic rights of Freedoms Three, Four and Five are still reserved by Canada for bilateral agreements.

The Canadian Government, while continuously striving for a multilateral agreement which would remove or reduce the necessity for bilaterals, has nevertheless produced, with the development of its own international services and the conclusion of its bilateral agreements, a fairly consistent pattern. Canada has agreements with the United Kingdom, Ireland and Newfoundland covering operations across the North Atlantic to each of these countries. It has an agreement with the United Kingdom providing for the operation of a Canadian air service to Bermuda and British territories in the West Indies. There is an agreement with the United States by which numerous trans-border routes are exchanged. Another agreement is with Australia and in principle with New Zealand covering the operation of a trans-Pacific air service. Canada also has agreements with Portugal and Sweden although no services are operated to these countries (except for a stop at the Azores on the alternate Atlantic route). Other agreements are at present under negotiation.