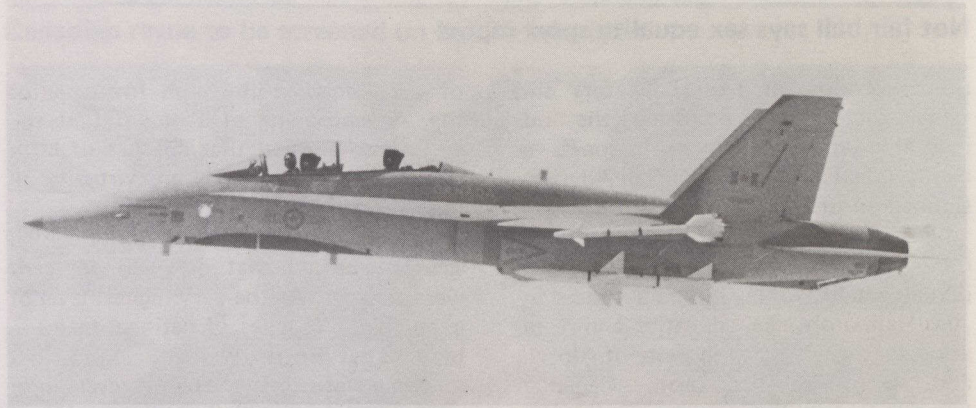


## New fighter plane

The first *CF-18* fighter aircraft was received by the Canadian government on October 25.

The new plane, built by McDonnell Douglas in Canada, was purchased for the Canadian Armed Forces through the coordinated efforts of the Departments of National Defence, Industry, Trade and Commerce, and Supply and Services.

The new fighter aircraft, which is considered to be the most modern and



(Left to right): Lieutenant-General Lewis; Supply and Services Minister Blais; McDonnell Douglas President Malvern; Defence Minister Lamontagne; and Brigadier-General Slaunwhite receive Canada's first CF-18. Photo above shows model of the plane.

amongst the finest and most advanced fighter aircraft in the world, will replace the *CF-101 Voodoo* currently used by the armed forces.

At the ceremony of acceptance in Ottawa, Defence Minister Gilles Lamontagne said the delivery of the *CF-18* indicated Canada's desire to re-equip its armed forces with the modern weapon systems necessary to maintain its domestic and international defence commitments. "It is also a reassuring signal to our alliance partners that Canada will continue to play an effective role in the defence of North America and in the contribution made to our allies' policy of deterrence in Europe," added Mr. Lamontagne.

### Turning point

Minister of Supply and Services Jean-Jacques Blais said the decision to acquire the aircraft was a turning point in Canadian aviation history. "It marks the beginning of a new chapter in the story of

Canada's defence capability. The delivery of the first *CF-18* aircraft heralds the new defence role that Canada is preparing to assume as it moves towards the twenty-first century," he said.

The contract signed by Canada with McDonnell Douglas in April 1980 was for delivery of 138 *CF-18* fighter aircraft to the Canadian armed forces between 1982 and 1988. The first aircraft was scheduled for delivery in October 1982 and the contract for the other planes is proceeding ahead of schedule, said Mr. Blais.

Owing to the success of the tests of the *CF-18*, the United States Air Force has made plans to buy at least 1 366 of the aircraft and Australia and Spain have purchased 75 and 84 respectively.

Financially speaking, Mr. Lamontagne said that the building of the *CF-18* was the largest single military project in Canadian history. Under the agreement with the United States, McDonnell Douglas have been required to place industrial

benefits in Canada which approximate the value of the contract. From 1980 to 1995 some \$2.9-billion worth of work has already been committed to Canadian firms. This is expected to provide 60 000 to 70 000 person-years of direct employment in Canada, said Mr. Lamontagne.

## Chinese hockey team visits

A hockey team from China spent the first two weeks in November playing a series of hockey games and attending clinics at a number of Canadian universities.

The team arrived in Vancouver where they first played with the University of British Columbia *Thunderbirds*. Other games were played in Halifax and Antigonish, Nova Scotia; and Sackville, Wolfville, Moncton and Fredericton, New Brunswick.

The 20-member Chinese team was mainly from the northeastern province of Heilongjiang which is twinned with Alberta. They have practised together for two years. Most of them were students, sports instructors and technicians. They were accompanied by two coaches, a doctor, an interpreter and a trainer.

## Culinary exhibition

A ten-day exhibition, "The Canadian Culinary Experience: Canadian Tastes in '83", will begin in Toronto, April 19 during which some 100 student contestants will enter a national culinary competition.

Winners will receive a \$500-scholarship and may represent Canada in 1984 during the International Culinary Olympics in Frankfurt, West Germany. The event coincides with the annual Hostex Food Show, April 24-27, and an executive meeting of the World Federation of Cook Societies, April 23-29.

Department of National Defence photos