

These rates are in addition to regimental or special rates of pay, trades pay or any other extra pay to which a member of the force is entitled under present regulations. They are effective for members of the Canadian Army Pacific Force while serving beyond the territorial boundaries of Canada.

C.W.A.C.

During the war against Japan personnel of the Canadian Women's Army Corps will still be needed in large numbers. Recruiting is being actively carried on for this service. National Defence Headquarters has announced that C.W.A.C. personnel may be despatched to the Pacific theatre. In Canada they will be required for administrative units.

OTHER CANADIAN PACIFIC ACTIVITY

The Canadian Army has already sent several groups of officers and men to various Pacific war theatres to observe and gain battle experience under the new fighting conditions and to serve as technical advisers and specialists with forces that are now operating against the Japanese. At least 30 served with General MacArthur's forces; several hundred were sent to Australia to work with the Australian army; and others have from time to time been posted to India and Burma.

Early in 1943 an advance guard of 20 officers left Canada to go into action with Australian, New Zealand and United States forces. Ten Canadian army officers went ashore with American forces on Saipan in July, 1944. One of them was decorated with the United States Silver Star for gallantry in action. Canadians also landed with combat troops that invaded Morotai Island in the Moluccas in September, 1944. Twenty Canadians observed and participated in the landings and subsequent campaign on Okinawa in the spring of 1945. These men have since returned to Canada so that their experience and observations may be put to use in training the Canadian Army Pacific Force.

During the summer of 1944 a contingent of officers and other ranks was sent to Australia to be on loan to the Australian Army. Their job was mainly to assist in training Australians in the use and maintenance of Canadian-made technical equipment. In February, 1945, arrival of a Canadian signals unit in Australia was announced.

Canadians have also served in India and Burma in forward battle areas against the Japanese. A four-month study of jungle fighting conditions in Burma was completed by a group of Canadian Army personnel early in 1945. Several Canadian Army doctors travelled with combatant troops in the Indian war theatre to make a special study of tropical diseases and food conditions.

Prior to 1944 Canadian forces had been in action in other Pacific war theatres. Canadians joined with United States forces in August, 1943, in the reoccupation of the island of Kiska in the Aleutians. Nearly 2,000 Canadians were engaged in the fighting at Hong Kong where all were killed or taken prisoner when that fortress fell on December 25, 1941.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE

STRENGTH

Royal Canadian Air Force squadrons going to the Pacific will retain their Canadian identity and will be commanded by R.C.A.F. commanders and according to R.C.A.F. regulations and discipline. As in Europe, Canadian squadrons will serve with the Royal Air Force. Air officer commanding the R.C.A.F. Pacific Force is Air Vice-Marshal Charles Roy Slemon, C.B.E. Air Vice-Marshal Slemon was deputy air officer commanding-in-chief of the R.C.A.F. Overseas.

With cessation of hostilities in Europe, the R.C.A.F. is planning to reduce its strength to 100,000 (from 170,000 in May, 1945) to cover Pacific units, occupation forces in Europe and personnel for necessary training, administrative and patrol duties in Canada. The number of Canadian squadrons