

PRESS RELEASE

INFORMATION DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

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The Minister of Transport, the Honourable Lionel Chevrier, and the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable L. B. Pearson, today announced signature of a new civil aviation agreement between Canada and the United Kingdom. The agreement which was today signed in Ottawa by Mr. Chevrier and by the United Kingdom High Commissioner in Canada, Sir Alexander Clutterbuck, replaces existing air agreements and arrangements between Canada and the United Kingdom and in addition makes provision for certain new routes and new traffic rights.

For convenience Mr. Chevrier reviewed the main features in the new agreement, a statement on which had previously been issued, adding thereto certain information with regard to new Canadian stops in the Caribbean which had not previously been made public. Mr. Chevrier's statement was as follows:

The new agreement differs substantially in form from those previously in effect between the two Governments. It follows a standard pattern that has been developing in bilateral air agreements over recent years known as the "Bermuda" pattern but it simplifies that pattern substantially by omitting much material commonly included in bilateral agreements but now covered in the multilateral Convention on International Civil Aviation and therefore considered unnecessary in a bilateral agreement. The article governing the capacity of air services to be operated is, in the new agreement, the article on capacity which was tentatively agreed at a special Conference on the International Civil Aviation Organization held in Geneva in 1947. This article based on the earlier "Bermuda" pattern represents a step forward in regulation of capacity but has not yet come in general use by other countries in their bilateral air agreement.

Air services operated under the previously existing agreements between the United Kingdom and Canada are continued under the new agreement. These involve:

- 1. A Canadian service (Trans-Canada Air Lines) from Montreal to the United Kingdom.
- 2. A United Kingdom service (British Overseas Airways) to Montreal.
- 3. A Canadian service (Trans-Canada Air Lines) from Montreel and Toronto to Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica and Trinidad.
- 4. The right to operate a British service from Bermuda and the Caribbean Islands to Montreal (this right not to be exercised before 1951).
- 5. Provisional rights for a Canadian service (Canadian Pacific Air Lines) at Fiji on its route to Australasia.
- 6. Recognition of reciprocal rights for the United Kingdom at Vancouver from Fiji (British Commonwealth Pacific Air Lines in which the United Kingdom is a partner operates this service).