

grated with the present Montreal transportation system and have 16 stations – most of which would be equipped with parking lots and connecting bus lines. If the TRRAMM system is approved, it would be in operation by 1981, and could handle more than 100,000 passengers each day.

Apart from passenger accommodation, cargo facilities will be a major aspect of Mirabel's operations. At present, Montreal ranks sixth among North American cities in volume of outgoing cargo, with an annual growth-rate close to 25 per cent, but this is expected to increase much faster once Mirabel is in full operation. A freight apron, covering 350,000 square feet, will accommodate up to four airplanes in Phase One. By the 1980s this will have been expanded to include two cargo terminals and a separate runway.

*Loading the mail at Dorval Airport, Montreal – 1944.*



(Article from the Bank of Montreal's "Business Review", May 1974.)

#### Some important dates and events in the history of Canadian aviation

*February 23, 1909* – First "heavier-than-air" craft flight in the British Empire at Baddeck, Cape Breton Island. (The plane, called the *Silver Dart* was of an "advanced" design piloted by John McCurdy.)

*June 24, 1918* – First experimental air-mail delivery in Canada between Montreal and Toronto.

*September 5, 1918* – Canada established a national military air service – the Royal Canadian Naval Air Service – as a distinct force from the Royal Air Force.

*June 6, 1919* – Aeronautics Act received Royal Assent establishing government-appointed air board entrusted with the regulation of civil aviation in Canada.

*July 5, 1919* – First jump from an airplane by a Canadian Frank Ellis, with a "backpack", at Crystal Beach, Ontario.

*During 1919* – First regular use of airplanes for fire patrol and map-making in the St. Maurice Valley. The group involved, which later (1922) became Laurentide Air Services, gradually extended its operations into Ontario, and included the first regular passenger and freight service in Canada.

*August 7, 1919* – First flight across the Canadian Rocky Mountains.

*October 7-17, 1920* – First experi-

mental transcontinental mail-carrying flight from Halifax to Vancouver. Actual flying time was 45 hours.

*October 15, 1920* – First commercial air trip into the Canadian North: from Winnipeg to Le Pas, Manitoba.

*April 1, 1924* – Royal Canadian Air Force established. Initially, most of its work consisted of flying for the Department of the Interior on forestry and water-power development missions, as well as patrol work for the Department of Marine and Fisheries.

*June 6, 1927* – W.R. Turnbull, pioneer Canadian aero-engineer, witnessed successful flight test of his controllable-pitch propeller at Camp Borden, Ontario.

*September 9, 1927* – Government officially inaugurates air-mail deliveries on a regular basis.

*June 27, 1930* – Canadian Airways incorporated to operate a coast-to-coast service with almost a complete monopoly over the air-transport business in Canada.

*April 10, 1937* – Trans-Canada Air Lines (renamed Air Canada in 1964) established as a fully independent Crown Corporation, with all shares owned by the Canadian National Railways.

*July 5, 1939* – Transatlantic air-mail service inaugurated between Foynes Eire and Botwood, Newfoundland, by flying boat.

*June, 1940* – British Commonwealth Air Training Plan established in Canada. Over 130,000 Commonwealth airmen trained in all aspects of flying.

*January 31, 1942* – Canadian Pacific Air Lines founded (renamed CP Air in 1969). This represented a merger of ten private aviation firms – including Canadian Airways – with the original CP company.

*April 15, 1947* – Trans Canada Airlines began first regularly-scheduled commercial overseas flights, flying *North Star* aircraft between Montreal and Prestwick.

*September 29, 1962* – Launching of first Canadian satellite *Alouette*, designed to relay information about the nature of the ionosphere.

*October 20, 1966* – The growing importance of regional carriers led to "Statement of Principles for Regional Air Carriers", widening the Air Transport Board's regulatory responsibility to cover companies such as Pacific Western, Transair, Nordair, Quebecair, and Eastern Provincial Airlines.

*March 27, 1969* – Department of Transport announced plans for construction of a "Third Generation" airport at Ste. Scholastique, near Montreal.

*July 24, 1974* – Airtransit inaugurated first STOL service between Montreal and Ottawa city centres.