

## U.S.-CANADA AIRCRAFT SWAP

An agreement has been reached between the Governments of Canada and the United States for the exchange of 58 Canadian Forces CF-101 *Voodoo* aircraft for the same number of USAF 101 *Voodoos*. Under the agreement, Canada will also obtain eight additional aircraft to bring its Air Defence Command's *Voodoo* strength up to the original inventory of 66 aircraft.

The Canadian Forces CF-101s, part of Canada's contribution to North American Air Defence are based at Bagotville, Quebec, Chatham, New Brunswick, Comox, British Columbia, and Val d'Or, Quebec.

The USAF F-101 interceptors are superior to the CF-101s under all operational conditions, particularly at low level and in the electronic counter measures environment. The aircraft's fire-control system will provide Canadian aircrews with a greatly improved capability.

### COST-SHARING

The exchange-and-procurement program involves a cash expenditure by Canada of about \$7 million to be spent in Canada for work on the aircraft and to modernize facilities for the repair and overhaul of the aircraft's fire-control system. In addition, Canada will continue to assume the U.S. operation and maintenance financial responsibilities, which equate to some \$31 million, for certain Pine Tree Line radar sites until July 31, 1971. Cost-sharing arrangements subsequent to this date are the subject of current negotiations.

The CF-101 engines, the ejector systems and navigation and communication equipment have received Canadian modification over the years and will be fitted in the F-101 aircraft.

The exchange begins this month and will be completed in the autumn of 1971.

## OCEAN WEATHER WATCHERS REWARDED

The captains and officers of 41 merchant ships and Canadian Government vessels have received a total of 65 Ministry of Transport awards for excellence in their voluntary work of making weather observations during their voyages on the high seas, Canadian coastal waters and the Great Lakes in 1969.

In announcing these awards, Transport Minister Don Jamieson said that most of the information on weather conditions over the oceans of the world was provided by about 4,000 ships of about 35 maritime nations. Canada has enlisted the aid of the officers of more than 200 ships, who observe the weather at fixed standard hours each day and send coded reports by radio to the nearest coastal receiving stations. These reports are relayed by landline networks to the weather services of a score or so nations. From the thousands of such weather reports received

every day, meteorologists, in Canada or elsewhere, are able to draw their weather maps over the immense ocean areas covering 70 per cent of the earth's surface.

These maps form the basis of the marine weather forecasts and warnings broadcast to ships all over the world several times a day, only a few hours after the observations on which they are based have been made. Hence maritime meteorology is a two-way arrangement, in which mariners receive weather advice, often vital to their operations, in return for the basic weather reports provided.

The awards take the form of suitably-inscribed books of current or general interest.

## GRAIN REPORT SOON

Initial payments for wheat, oats and barley for the 1970-71 crop year are expected to be made known in the near future, Mr. Otto E. Lang, the minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, stated recently.

In an address to a special meeting of Saskatchewan Wheat Pool delegates in Regina, the minister also said that if some producers with grain on hand could not deliver their four-bushel quotas despite their best efforts, provision should be made in the new crop year "to enable their grain to be delivered".

Mr. Lang reviewed the problems facing Canadian agriculture and pointed out that export marketing of Canadian grains had improved substantially, with wheat shipments expected to be more than 100-million bushels higher than last year. This rate of shipment should bring wheat exports near the 375 million bushels predicted for this year.

"During the last six months, Canada has also sold about 150 million bushels of barley, 75 million of which are scheduled for delivery this crop year and 75 million for the next," the minister went on. "Further, the whole of the 1969-70 rapeseed crop has already been marketed and world wheat prices have stabilized over the last eight months."

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

Births registered in May totalled 29,525 bringing the year-to-date total for 1970 to 151,327. This figure is a decrease of 0.9 per cent from the 152,719 registrations for the corresponding months last year. The birth-rate for May was 16.3 in 1,000 of the population.

A total of 13,178 marriages was filed in May, giving a rate of 7.3 in 1,000 of the population. The total number of marriages for the first five months exceeded that for the corresponding period of 1969 by 4.5 per cent.

During May, 12,118 deaths were registered, giving a rate of 6.7 in 1,000 of the population. The cumulative death total for the five months was 1.7 percent higher than in the same period last year.