

ARMY, R.C.A.F. HOMES ABROAD: The Minister of National Defence, Mr Brooke Claxton, announced on October 7 that negotiations have been completed between the Governments of Canada and Western Germany for the construction of 2,202 living quarters for married personnel of the Canadian Army and Air Force.

"The agreement was signed on September 3, 1953, and work will commence immediately," the Minister said.

"In addition to dwelling units, the plan calls for the construction of 100 school rooms and two recreation centres. The work has been divided into two phases and the German Government will endeavour to have 1,100 dwelling units and fifty school classrooms completed before the summer of 1954. It is hoped that the two recreational units will be finished within a few months. The remaining dwelling units and classrooms are to be ready for occupancy by the end of 1954.

"When the first phase of the development is completed, approximately 700 dwelling units, thirty-two school rooms and two recreational centres will be available for the Army, and approximately 400 homes and eighteen classrooms for the RCAF.

"Buildings for the Army, mostly three-storey apartment houses, will be located in the Soest area where the main body of the 27th Canadian Infantry Brigade is to be stationed this autumn. Air Force homes and schools of the same type of construction will be near the air bases of Zweibrücken and Baden-Söllingen. Permanent camp installations there are excellent and make adequate provision for recreation. Now in addition married quarters will be provided.

LEASE SUBJECT TO RENEWAL

"The German Government will own, finance, construct and manage all buildings which will be leased to the Canadian Government for a period of 5 years following the date on which the premises are handed over. This lease is subject to renewal and can remain in force for any length of time in whole or part, but can be terminated by the Canadian Government upon three months' notice after the first five years.

"Canada will pay Germany an annual rent of ten per cent of the cost of the buildings and furnishings in the schools and recreational centres, covering services, landscaping, administration, maintenance, etc.

"Estimated total cost of construction of all buildings and furnishings of the school rooms and the two clubs is 78,170,000 deutschmarks (nearly \$20,000,000), all to be borne by the German Government.

"The dwelling units, all of modern design, will consist of 102 one-bedroom apartments; 666 two-bedroom apartments; 1,098 three-bedroom apartments; 222 four-bedroom apartments; 96 one-family row houses and 18 detached houses.

"In France, if the present negotiations are successfully completed, it is planned to

build 443 dwelling units near the air base at Grostenquin, 152 at Metz, where the Air Divisional Headquarters is located, and 419 at the base of Marville which is now under construction."

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CHALK RIVER CONFERENCE: Representatives of Canada and the United Kingdom are attending a technical policy meeting on atomic energy at Chalk River, October 8 and 9. Delegates to the conference, which is similar to one held at Harwell, England, last year, are discussing in detail various developments at their respective projects.

Atomic scientists of the United Kingdom and Canada have worked closely together ever since the joint U.K.-Canada project was established in Montreal in 1942. The Atomic Energy Research Establishment was founded at Harwell in 1946. Sir John Cockcroft then left the directorship of the Chalk River project to head the Harwell project.

At the meeting at Chalk River, the relative merits of the many possible future developments of atomic energy are being discussed with a view to preventing unnecessary duplication of research. Atomic power has an important place on the agenda of the meeting and various experts will present their viewpoints on which systems appear to offer the best method of developing atomic power in Canada and in Britain.

Delegates from the United Kingdom include: Sir John Cockcroft, Director of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, who was the Director of Canada's atomic energy programme between 1944-46; Sir Christopher Hinton, Controller of Atomic Energy (Production), Risley; Dr. Robert Spence, Head of Chemistry Division, Harwell; Dr. J.V. Dunworth, Head of Reactor Physics Division, Harwell; Dr. John M. Fletcher, Chemistry Division, Harwell; Mr. L. Rotherham, Assistant Controller, Research and Development, Risley; Mr. J.C.C. Stewart, Director of Production, Factories Branch, Risley; Mr. G.L. Hopkin, A.W.R.E., Aldermaston.

Delegates from Canada include; Dr. C.J. MacKenzie, President of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited; Mr. W.J. Bennett, President of Eldorado Mining and Refining Company Limited; Dr. C.M. Solandt, Chairman, Defence Research Board; Dr. D.A. Keys, Chairman, Project Coordinating Committee, A.E.C.L.; Dr. W.B. Lewis, Vice-President, Research and Development, A.E.C.L.; Directors and senior staff of A.E.C.L.

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LIVING COSTS RISE: The Dominion Bureau of Statistics' consumer price index advanced a further 0.4 per cent from 115.7 to 116.2 between August 1 and September 1. The latest index is still two points below the peak of 118.2, reached on January 2, 1952.