

commercial airport operated by the Canadian Government in the Canada-Newfoundland service. Torbay was also to be available to the RCAF for training purposes and for storage of equipment and supplies.

- (3) Newfoundland also agreed to retain as military reserves a number of small defence sites (e.g. for coastal and anti-aircraft artillery and for radar).<sup>52</sup>
- (4) The agreement was to last for three years and thereafter to continue in force subject to revision or termination by mutual consent on twelve months' notice.

Three important facilities constructed by Canada were omitted from the agreement of 1946, namely St. John's naval base, Bay Bulls ship repair base and Goose Bay air base. It will be recalled that the St. John's naval base was built by Canada on account for the Admiralty which took title to the base. At the close of the war the RN and the RCN agreed that St. John's was a wartime base only and surplus to requirements for peacetime operations, especially in view of the existence of U.S. bases on the Island. Discussions about disposal of the base were being held between the two naval authorities at the time of the conference of 1946 and it was decided not to intervene. In the end the base was dismantled, some shore facilities going to the Newfoundland government on a use and maintenance basis.

It was agreed that Bay Bulls would not be allowed to become competitive in peacetime with other ship-repair establishments. It was accordingly dismantled, declared surplus to requirements and disposed of to private interests by the Canadian War Assets Corporation.

The status of Goose Bay had been decided only two years earlier by the Goose Bay lease agreement under which Canada was entitled to occupation for ninety-nine years.<sup>53</sup> By the end of 1946 Goose Bay was the only defence facility in Newfoundland, including Labrador, under the command and control of Canadian forces. Under the Goose Bay lease the United Kingdom and the United States had rights of use for the duration of the war and for such time thereafter as was agreed by the Canadian and Newfoundland Governments to be necessary or desirable. The primary functions of the base during wartime had been to assist in the Atlantic ferry service and in anti-submarine warfare. These functions, of course, ceased with the end of hostilities, but a new danger was appearing on the horizon. With the onset of "the cold war", Goose Bay became for a time a key base in the defence of North America against possible raids over the Arctic. The PJBD, in discussing Canada-United States post-war defence plans declared in 1946: "Goose Bay is

<sup>52</sup> For security reasons, this section of the agreement of 1946 was not published at the time.

<sup>53</sup> Appendix F. (Canada had originally requested title in fee simple to the arrangement for Torbay but the Newfoundland Government proposed a ninety-nine year lease instead, apparently on the ground that it would be more acceptable to the Newfoundland public than outright ownership.)