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THE MID-CANADA LINE

Latest developments of the Department of National Defence in the field of aviation were reviewed by the Hon. Ralph Campney October 29 in an address to the Air Industries and Transport Association of Canada.

In his speech the Minister of National Defence dealt at some length with the Mid-Canada Line and the overall air defence system which has been established on a co-operative basis by the United States and Canada.

Excerpts from Mr. Campney's address follow:

"This year has seen substantial progress, in the field of aviation, in the Department of National Defence. Might I just remind you of a few of the major developments there.

"We have made plans for adding three new CF-100 fighter squadrons in Canada to the nine squadrons which were fully equipped with CF-100 aircraft last year, which will make twelve in all.

"We are about to commence fulfilment of our undertaking to equip four of our squadrons in Europe with CF-100 aircraft in conformity to the recommendations of SHAPE. I expect to bid the first squadron bon voyage at Uplands tomorrow afternoon. The other three will go forward next year.

"Production of the new submarine hunter, the CS2F-1, is now under way in Canada and I had the honour of taking delivery on behalf of the Royal Canadian Navy of the first aircraft earlier this month.

"Development of the larger longer range anti-submarine aircraft, the CL-28, is pro-

ceeding satisfactorily. We expect that the prototype of this airplane, the largest ever to be built in Canada, will fly next year.

"Successive improvements to the CF-100 and the Sabre jet--improvements which reflect great credit to the Canadian aviation industry--have maintained these aircraft at a highly effective level.

"The development of the new supersonic all-weather fighter, the CF-105, and the PS13 engine which will power it, are both progressing satisfactorily....

"This year has also been marked by the re-organization of the R.C.A.F. auxiliary involving a re-assignment of highly important duties of that branch of Canada's air defence. Six of the auxiliary squadrons are being equipped with T-33 and Sabre jets.

"These are all significant, forward-looking developments in the aviation picture, important for the defence of Canada, important for the success of your industry and important as representing our effort to keep our aircraft modern and up to date in a field where second best is not good enough.

"But perhaps the greatest single event which has taken place in recent years and the most important indirectly to your industry has been the construction of the Mid-Canada warning line, extending roughly along the 55th parallel from British Columbia to Newfoundland.

"The building of the Mid-Canada line has presented an unusual challenge to Canadian

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