

BATTLE OF BRITAIN SUNDAY: Battle of Britain Sunday, in honour of the famous "few" fighter pilots who saved Britain in the dark days of 1940, will be observed on September 17, this year, the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton, announced on September 6.

As the tenth anniversary of the culmination of the historic battle, the day will be marked by church parades and special services at RCAF units across Canada. Members of the RCAF Auxiliary and air cadets will join with the regular air force for the services.

In Ottawa the guest speakers will be the two senior chaplains of the United States Air Force, Maj. Gen. Charles I. Carpenter, Chief of Air Force Chaplains, USAF, and Brig. Gen. Augustus F. Gearhard, deputy chief of Air Force Chaplains, USAF.

September 15 is generally accepted as the end of the critical period in the Battle of Britain, as on this date enemy losses in attacks on London rose to a peak, forcing a change in tactics by the Germans. From the second week in July, 1940, until the end of October, the Luftwaffe attempted to gain air supremacy over the British Isles.

First seeking to crush RAF fighter defences by heavy attacks on airfields, aircraft factories, harbours, shipping and radio-location factories, Goering's airmen then turned to London. Swarms of bombers and fighters smashed at the British capital in an attempt to bring the people to their knees. But the tireless efforts of the small band of RAF pilots in their Spitfires and Hurricanes dealt such stunning losses to the German attackers that Hitler was forced to ease his daylight aerial offence. Although night bombing continued, the Battle of Britain was won and the immediate threat of invasion removed.

The Battle of Britain marked the RCAF's baptism under fire as in August, 1940, a squadron of the RCAF for the first time took to the skies against the enemy, won its first victories and suffered its first casualties. Forty-seven Canadian officers and men--three of them with the RCAF and the others serving in the RAF--gave their lives in the Battle of Britain.

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FARM PRICES HIGHER: Canadian farm prices of agricultural products rose to near-peak levels in July, according to index numbers compiled by the Bureau of Statistics. The index for July, on the base 1935-39=100, stood at 262.0 as compared with 258.0 for June, 253.0 for July last year, and the all-time high figure of 263.8 for August, 1948.

The increase in the July index over June is attributable to rising prices for livestock, potatoes, poultry and eggs. Compared with a year ago, higher prices for livestock and potatoes have more than offset declines in the prices received from the sale of grains, dairy products, poultry and eggs.

DR. CUNEO-HARRISON AMBASSADOR OF PERU: Dr. Luis Cuneo-Harrison on September 11 presented to His Excellency the Governor General at Government House his Letter of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Peru to Canada. Mr. A.D.P. Heeneey, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, was present at the ceremony. Mr. Howard Measures, Chief of Protocol, presented Dr. Cuneo-Harrison to His Excellency the Governor General. Mr. Cesar A. de la Fuente, Counsellor of Embassy, Commander Juan Castro-Hart, Naval Attaché, and Dr. José Alvarado-Sanchez, Third Secretary of Embassy, accompanied the Peruvian Ambassador.

Dr. Cuneo-Harrison has had a distinguished career in the diplomatic service of his country. Born at Tacna, Peru, he graduated in the Faculty of Political and Economic Sciences with a doctor's degree. During his early years in the diplomatic service he held a series of appointments with the Protocol and Ceremonial Division of the Peruvian Foreign Office and was appointed Head of that Division in 1932. Dr. Cuneo-Harrison was subsequently Minister of Panama, Minister to Cuba, General Inspector of Diplomatic Missions abroad and Ambassador to the Dominican Republic. He returned to Lima as Head of the Co-ordination Office of the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1948. Dr. Cuneo-Harrison now succeeds Don Manuel Cacho-Sousa, former Ambassador to Canada, who returned to Peru last February.

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TO EXPAND UPLANDS AIRPORT: Plans for the development of Uplands Airport were announced on September 11 by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton.

The position of Ottawa as national capital demands runways and facilities adequate to take every type of aircraft. Defence needs of the Ottawa area also require that R.C.A.F. facilities at Rockcliffe be supplemented by an additional airport in the Ottawa area.

Uplands Airport is therefore to be expanded to take care of increased transport demands and enable aircraft of the largest types to land, at the same time as providing a base for R.C.A.F. operations.

These will include the establishment of a fighter station and various research and other installations.

The whole plan has been worked out between the Department of Transport and R.C.A.F. so as to provide for a combined use of a large airport to provide every kind of facilities.

There will be an increase in research and development activities in connection with the R.C.A.F. at Ottawa and the National Research Council.

To protect future possible developments, a considerable area is being expropriated but it is not expected that the present owners will be disturbed in their occupation for some time to come.