

main trans-oceanic routes and new routes into areas not previously served. At the end of the war all this technical development was available to the civil air operators. The kind of service they could offer was superior to their best pre-war efforts, and there was a vastly increased demand for their services. In 1946, the first full post-war year, world-wide air traffic was fully nine times greater than it had been in 1938. It has continued to expand at a sensational rate, and in 1955 amounted to about four times the figure for 1946.

Before the war ended, the Allied governments realized that air transport had moved into a new plane of effectiveness and that aviation's new capabilities created additional requirements for intergovernmental co-operation. To deal with the whole complex of new problems and to create an environment in which civil aviation could make the maximum contribution in the post-war world, the Allied governments met in conference in Chicago in 1944.

The major results of the Chicago Conference were the signature of the International Civil Aviation Convention and the establishment of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), which is founded on the Convention. The Convention is an international charter for the control, regulation and peaceful exploitation of the air. It establishes the sovereignty of each government over its own air space, lists certain basic rights which its signatories accord to each other, governs the provision of the facilities needed for international air operations, provides for the peaceful settlement of disputes, and establishes the International Civil Aviation Organization as machinery for the promotion and negotiation of the international agreement needed by civil aviation over a great range of legal, economic and technical problems. ICAO met first as a provisional body in Montreal in 1945. By 1947 when ratifications to the Convention brought it formally into being, it had already gone far in the achievement of its objectives.

Objectives

"The aims and objectives of the Organization are to develop the principles and techniques of international air navigation and to foster the planning and development of international air transport so as to:

- (a) Insure the safe and orderly growth of international civil aviation throughout the world;
- (b) Encourage the arts of aircraft design and operation for peaceful purposes;
- (c) Encourage the development of airways, airports and air navigation facilities for international civil aviation;
- (d) Meet the needs of the peoples of the world for safe, regular, efficient and economical air transport;
- (e) Prevent economic waste caused by unreasonable competition;
- (f) Insure that the rights of contracting States are fully respected and that every contracting State has a fair opportunity to operate international airlines;
- (f) Avoid discrimination between contracting States;
- (h) Promote safety of flight in international air navigation;