

as the war becomes more intense in the final struggle on the continent of Europe and elsewhere.

I was very much interested in receiving information that I asked for with regard to the number of decorations awarded to men in the Royal Canadian Air Force who were enlisted or appointed in Toronto, and I should like to put the numbers of these decorations on *Hansard* so that they may be on record. Decorations have been awarded to men enlisted or appointed in Toronto as follows:

Order of the British Empire.....	1
Distinguished Service Order.....	1
Distinguished Flying Cross.....	44
Air Force Cross.....	4
Distinguished Flying Medal.....	16
Air Force Medal.....	2
British Empire Medal.....	1
"Mention"	13
"Commendation"	6

Knowing a number of these young men who have won such honourable distinction, is it any wonder, Mr. Chairman, that I should give high praise to the service? I am sure that all hon. members will agree with me that there is very little criticism that can be applied to this branch of our armed forces. Everywhere you go you hear nothing but the highest praise of the Royal Canadian Air Force, and what has been said along that line by speakers who have preceded me is a good example for the rest of us to follow.

May I make one or two suggestions to the minister which I believe will meet with widespread approval? It is hard to say that all young men in the aircrews are of officer material, but what I should like to see is that all members of the aircrews be placed together in the use of a common mess as is the custom in the far and middle east.

I should also like to offer a suggestion in connection with the rehabilitation of the Royal Canadian Air Force personnel. This would, I believe, be a fitting conclusion to a glorious incident in Canada's air history. With your permission, Mr. Chairman, I will read what I have prepared in this connection.

REHABILITATION OF R.C.A.F. PERSONNEL

1. The question of rehabilitation of R.C.A.F. personnel is a matter which deserves not only the best thought that is possible on the particular question, but also that this thought should be initiated immediately. The success of any rehabilitation measures will depend on having them determined in all their different aspects before rehabilitation, on any large scale, becomes necessary.

2. The rehabilitation of air force personnel, more particularly aircrew, has certain special features, namely:

(i) Air force personnel, more particularly aircrew, are men and women of a high level of educational standing.

(ii) Aircrew will have been through emotional experiences which will have given them a maturity beyond their years.

(iii) The majority of aircrew personnel will be young men in their early twenties who have a good educational background but no special vocational experience.

(iv) The rehabilitation of women personnel will be a particular problem in so far as there will be many young women of good educational background who have interrupted their educational and vocational training to enter the air force.

3. There is at present within the air force an organization for the repatriation of air force personnel. It is submitted, however, that this organization must of necessity be confined entirely to the routine of arrangements for discharge of personnel. There must be a separate organization for the rehabilitation of air force personnel.

4. It is suggested that there should be established within the air force some kind of organization to provide facilities for air force personnel who are to be repatriated or discharged to enable them to do some serious thinking about their future vocation.

5. It is suggested further that the educational directorate of the air force should be so organized as to undertake immediately the whole question of rehabilitation, whereby facilities could be provided to give air force personnel who are to be repatriated or discharged, vocational guidance and an opportunity to pursue the necessary educational courses required for their future vocations. Aircrew personnel, who are to be repatriated or discharged, will require this vocational guidance during the period (in the service) in which they are being emotionally restored towards future civilian life. It will be the responsibility of the Royal Canadian Air Force to give this vocational guidance. Furthermore, it is submitted that there will be no better therapeutic measures for these young men than to stimulate in them healthy thoughts about their future vocations.

6. The answer to rehabilitation is a job, and it should be the responsibility of the air force to provide any necessary educational training to enable air force personnel to get this job. Also it is realized that there will be in the air force personnel who return many