

## **R.C.A.F. STATION SUMMERSIDE P.E.I.**

RCAF Station Summerside was originally planned in 1940 as a training centre and was officially opened in January 1941. Its student pilot program was replaced eighteen months later by the General Reconnaissance School. From 1945 to 1947 the station was non-active. It reopened as an Air Navigation School through which many NATO student navigators later passed.

Today, RCAF Station Summerside contains three operational units.

An Operational Training Unit instructs the Pilots, Navigators, Radio Officers and Flight Engineers of Neptune aircraft.

The Maritime Proving and Evaluation Unit tests new equipment and studies new uses for existing types.

Number 415 Squadron maintains anti-submarine patrols using giant Argus Aircraft made in Canada. These planes can carry four tons of equipment for 1,500 miles, and can remain aloft for eight hours at a stretch. Their patrols frequently bridge the Atlantic before returning to base.

The main Summerside runway runs from N.E. to S.W. and is 8,000 feet by 200 feet. The station's present commanding officer is Group Captain Ainsly G. Dagg. (For biographical information about Group Captain Dagg, consult the Information Handbook prepared by the Charlottetown Press Committee.)