

# MORE SCHOOLS WILL BE BUILT FOR AIR FORCE

Training Plan to Take  
Care of Extra Students,  
Vice-Marshal Discloses

## 'ALL-OUT' PROGRAM

Ottawa, Sept. 21 (CP).—Large increases in the number of air training schools in Canada and in the output of existing schools were forecast tonight by Air Vice-Marshal G. O. Johnson, Deputy Chief of Air Staff.

In an address over the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation he said "a new and greater blueprint" of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan has been handed to the Royal Canadian Air Force.

"We are approaching the point of all-out production of pilots, observers and gunners as set forth in the original agreement," he said. "You can count on the fingers of one hand the schools which that plan provided for and which remain to be opened.

"Yet today we are very nearly as busy on construction of new airfields and new schools as we were when we swung into peak construction under the original plan.

"Largely because of the Motherland's complete satisfaction with training operations in Canada, the enterprise is being very largely extended. All across Canada schools will arise on still unbroken ground.

### Easy to Enlarge Classes.

"Not only in the matter of new schools, but in that of production from the present ones will the training plan soon be vastly enlarged. We have found we can increase our student population at the service flying training schools where pilots receive their advanced instruction without overcrowding classes or diminishing the excellence of the training.

"We are steadily increasing the student population of these schools with a present objective of 25 per cent above the total set in the original schedule."

(An Air Ministry spokesman said the new schools referred to by Air Vice-Marshal Johnson were Royal Air Force schools to be operated and manned by British personnel.)

Air Vice-Marshal Johnson said the task of the Royal Canadian Air Force was threefold, to train the Empire's airmen, to help fight the war and to stand guard on Canadian coasts.

### For Coast Defense.

The process of strengthening and providing more modern aircraft for the coast defense squadrons was still going. In all sorts of weather these squadrons escort convoys of ships on the Atlantic and carry on patrols on both coasts.

"By reason of close co-operation with the United States for the defense of this hemisphere against attack steps are in progress for joint action in the event of an attack on Alaska or the Pacific coast," he said.

"A chain of what we call staging airdromes are now under construction in the northwest so that fighter squadrons both from the United States and from Canadian bases may be moved to Northern British Columbia or to Alaska from the centre of the continent without delay."

The work of building and equipping these modern airdromes in the wilderness was "well in hand" and would be completed as quickly as possible.

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