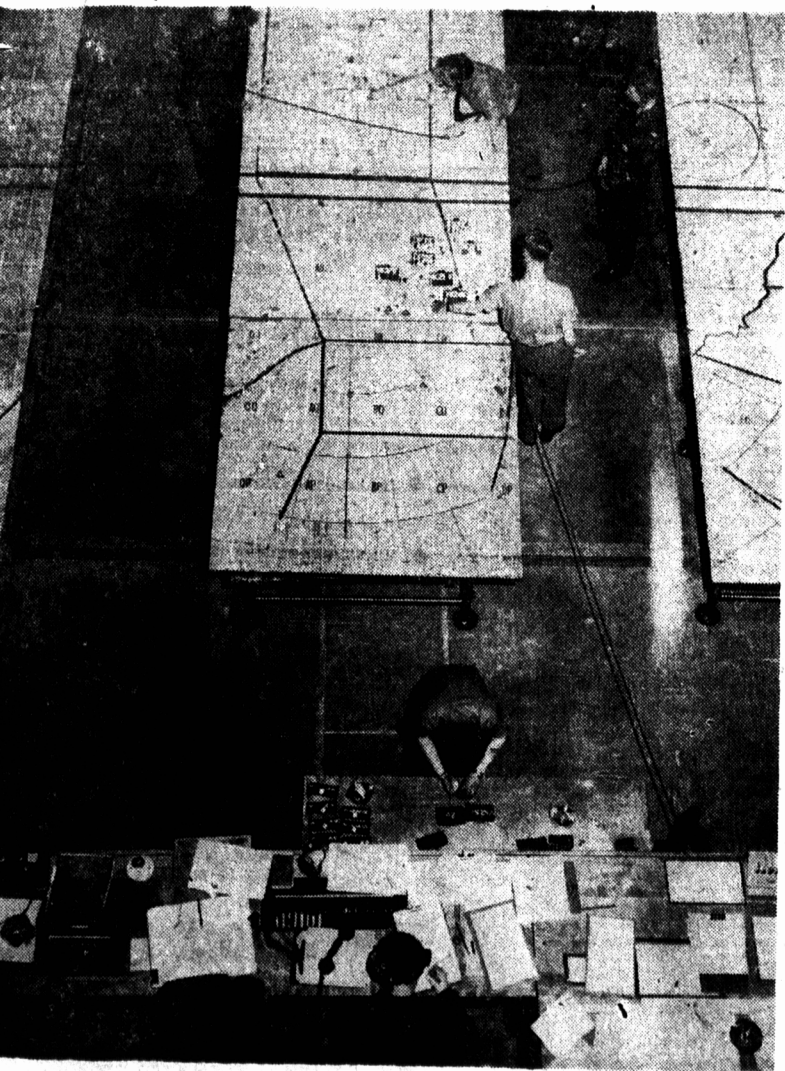


ON A SMALLER SCALE Ground of the St. Hubert Combat Operation Interceptors, or radar stations Centre. Shown above is Here on the tactical board air stations, duplicate the routine operations room of a radar station somewhere in Quebec. Here on the tactical board air stations, duplicate the routine operations room of a radar station somewhere in Quebec. Here on the tactical board air stations, duplicate the routine operations room of a radar station somewhere in Quebec.



THIS IS THE VIEW of the operation centre seen by the commanding officer of a Quebec radar station. From his point of view he has an immediate picture of air activity in his area. If the tactical board reveals unknown aircraft, he can proceed with the project of identifying them.

Combat Operations Centre Is Brain Of Air Defence

By RALPH HICKLIN
The Thomson Newspapers
ST. HUBERT, P.Q. — The Air Defence Command is here to stay. One look at the permanent station built here to house it shows that the CCAF regards this as an essential, lasting command.

But already Air Defence Command has outgrown its home. There is a long waiting list for the houses built for personnel with families. And single airmen and airwomen have been moved into the aging wooden buildings that survive from a wartime station.

Why the rapid growth? Because this St. Hubert station is the heart of Canada's most vital air operation, devoted to defending Canada from the air invasion that many RCAF authorities consider inevitable.

Air Defence Command is the nerve-centre, the brain, of a complex system of fighter stations, radar stations, and communication lines. Around the clock, these nerves, in every province and in the wastes of the north, shoot their messages to the St. Hubert brain.

But if St. Hubert is the brain for a vast network of outposts, it too has its vital point — the Combat Operations Centre.

The need for a Combat Operations Centre is plain enough: Air Defence Command lives off communications. By telephone, teletype, microwave, radio-telegraph, they arrive — and the result, at any moment could be a vast pile of written data. But the officer commanding who may have 20 seconds to decide the strategy of a crucial air operation. He needs a picture he can grasp immediately.

The Combat Operations Centre gives him just that. Its function is to present a visual summary of what is happening in the skies

over Canada at any moment of the day or night.

In essence, COC is a huge map-room. A great amphitheatre overlooked by rows of glass-enclosed offices. It contains two outside maps set horizontally at a 15-degree level. The smaller is the strategic board, a semi-circle representing the northern half of the Western Hemisphere.

TACTICAL BOARD

The other, the tactical board, enlarges the same area in three sections shaped like wedges with blunt points.

On the tactical boards are mapped the individual aircraft in whose movements Air Defence Command has an interest. The strategic board, since it is too small to display a large number of single aircraft, is reserved to show large movements in the air — an interception exercise, or conceivably the progress of an air invasion force.

The picture presented in the Combat Operations Centre, is too valuable for general viewing. Consequently entrance to the amphitheatre is restricted. Hundreds of Air Defence Command officers spend years at St. Hubert without passing through its securely locked, electrically controlled doors. Even authorized personnel, from the air officer commanding downwards, enter only after they have been registered and badged by a security policeman.

On the rare occasions when visitors enter the Combat Operations Centre, they find the end wall of the room entirely covered by curtains. That wall, as on the board of a stock exchange, appears data on the availability of fighter craft, and a wide range of other classified information.

Combat Operations Centre is the clearing-house for all information on aircraft movement over Canada. But that does not

imply that news of every air-borne craft reaches St. Hubert. It pictures only relevant information, after the irrelevant has been winnowed out at lower levels.

The winnowing starts at a Ground Control Interceptor, or radar station. If a radar station in northern Ontario registers an aircraft on its radar scope. It first tries to identify it. The most satisfactory way of doing so is by co-ordinating its course with a flight plan.

FLIGHT PLAN

Every aircraft, civilian, commercial, or military, must file a flight plan with the GCI. It is the plan of a projected flight. If, within certain very tight limits, the unknown aircraft sighted by the northern Ontario radar scope follows the pattern of a known flight plan, it is considered identified.

If, within two minutes, the airplane is not identified, the commanding officer of the GCI calls for a fighter-interceptor to be sent aloft for visual identification.

Once the plane is identified at the radar station, it is possible the information may go no further, unless it is of special interest. In the latter case, word is sent up to an Air Defence Control Centre, each of which controls several radar bases.

ADCC in turn uses the same discarding process, and transmits important data to St. Hubert, where it appears on the boards correlated with that of all other ADCC's.

Even there, the process does not stop. The data from COC's tactical and strategic boards goes also on the board of the United States air defence headquarters in Colorado Springs — seconds after it reaches St. Hubert.

On some occasions, few aircraft may appear on the tactical board at COC. One morning last week,

1956 Paynter Family Picnic Held At Long R.

Delightful summer weather favoured the Paynter family as more than 100 strong, they met at Fitzsimon's shore, Long River, for their annual reunion on July 4th. The children enjoyed bathing in the waters of the South West river, and sports were held on the shore. All were treated to ice cream and oranges and chocolate bars were given to the children who were in the races.

Following are the results of the Sporting events:

5 years and under.
1. Barbara Paynter
2. Sharon Paynter
3. Brenda and Jimmy Mayne (equal).
5 to 7 years. Girls.
1. Marlene Day
2. Joan Mayne
5 to 7 years Boys.
1. David Johnstone
2. Alden Profit
3. Ralph Paynter.
8 years.

For example, there were only five-three friendly craft (USAF bombers) off Vancouver Island; and two unknowns, one off Iceland, one in northern Ontario.

Each was marked by a small sign-post, decked with cards indicating air-speed, height, and other information. On the tops of the sign-posts a small white block denoted friendly, a red one unknown. A block checkered black and white would mean hostile.

Airwomen with headsets stood at the edges of the tactical boards, moving the markers as new communications gave new positions. Then, the red block on the marker off Iceland was changed for a white one; the craft was known and friendly.

"Pan-American from Keflavik, bound for New York," the commanding officer said, as the marker was altered. Then he explained that after experience the personnel can readily identify certain craft. However, since the Pan-Am plane over the ocean was not flying true to its registered flight plan, it was automatically an unknown until identified.

To keep the markers above all else — communication. Housed in the COC is sufficient telephone service for a city of 25,000 people — more than enough for Chatham. The teletypes, housed in four underground rooms, outnumber those in all of Montreal.

Breakdown would be fatal. Therefore the communication lines are so laid out that, should the enemy knock out telephone lines, vital calls can be re-routed over thousands of miles in a matter of seconds.

ANYTIME

The air officer commanding, Air Vice Marshal L. E. Wray, can stand in his glass-enclosed office overlooking the COC and know what is happening — at any hour of the day or night — in Canadian skies, for whose protection he is ultimately responsible. In the event of invasion, he can watch the changing picture, and speak directly to his sector commanders. Only he, at COC, has the complete picture; only he can determine the best deployment of forces.

Night and day, every day, the markers move, the teletype clack, the phone lights blink. Outside the COC building, life in the St. Hubert station goes on, hardly aware of the amphitheatre and its function.

But the solid handsome brick buildings, the houses, churches, and schools, that mark this as a permanent station, are there only because the markers are moving, the teletypes clacking.

COC's picture of the Canadian skies is the centre of Air Defence Command.

New London School Prizes

The New London School Prize List includes prizes awarded by teacher for best work done in each grade:

Grade 9, Eida MacEwen
Grade 8, Isobel Campbell
Grade 7, Elizabeth Adams
Grade 5, Sheila Somers
Grade 4, Dean MacEwen
Grade 3, Lloyd Burgoyne
Grade 2, Errol Campbell
Grade 1, Hillard Graham

Prizes awarded by the Institute for most improvement in each grade during the year:

Grade 9, Ruth MacEwen
Grade 8, Fenton McAllister
Grade 7, Elizabeth Adams
Grade 5, Wayne Adams
Grade 4, Phyllis Somers
Grade 3, Lorne Burgoyne
Grade 2, Wilma Burgoyne
Grade 1, Wilma Burgoyne

Awarded by Mrs. Constable for highest in Arithmetic in Senior Grades:
Eida MacEwen; in Junior Grades, Wilma Burgoyne.

Awarded by Mrs. Constable for highest in Spelling in Senior Grades, Isobel Campbell; in Junior Grades, Sheila Somers.

Prize for attendance, Fenton McAllister.

Those receiving Grade VIII certificates were:
Isobel Campbell
Fenton McAllister
David Morrison
Linda Bernard
Sinclair MacKay
Erma Burgoyne.

1. Marjory McKay
2. Carrol Paynter
3. Blari Haslam.
1. Louise Sharpe
2. Leah Mayne
3. Barbara Mayne.
- 10 years.
1. Mildred Bernard
2. Mabel Profit
3. Ruthie Johnstone.

1. Francis Moase
2. Jean Mayne
3. Marcella Bernard.
- 12 years.
1. Winston Yeo
2. Joyce Day
3. Wayne Sharp.
- 13-14 years
1. George Mayne (Jr.)
2. Leslie Paynter
3. Chester Paynter.

- Under 20 years Boys.
1. Wendell Profit
2. Willie Paynter
3. Errol Sharp.
- Girls 20 and under.
1. Mary Rogers
2. Shirley Paynter
3. Mildred Bernard.
- Married Women.
1. Louise Marchbank
2. Audrey Paynter
3. Ruth Paynter.
- Boys 20 and over.
1. Verdun Paynter
2. F. J. Mayne
3. Wendell Profit.

A lovely picnic lunch was enjoyed by all after which plans were made for another picnic in 1957. The new committee will be: Mrs. Verna Sharp, Mrs. Mattie Rogers and Mr. Fenton Mayne.

Mr. Bruce Paynter was called on for remarks and he very kindly thanked the retiring committee for the success of our picnic, and expressed regret to the families who had lost some of our faithful friends in the past year. He also made mention of a cousin of the Paynter families, Mr. Richard Parry, a man of eighty-six years from B.C., who seemed to enjoy himself like a man would much younger in years. Mrs. Mae Docherty from Lowell, Mass. was another cousin who enjoyed the picnic.

BEDEQUE

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Linkletter, Northam, Prince County, were guests of Mrs. Carrie Schurman, and Mr. George Taylor, on Sunday, June 24th.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Taylor, visitors here on June 24th. Aso Mr. and Mrs. J. Borden, called on friends and relatives in this village on June 24th.

Mrs. J.C. Reid, Moncton, N.B. was the guest of relatives, Middleton, on Sunday last.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald MacFarlane, Fernwood, were "showered" on Thursday evening, June 28th. On that date a large number of friends and relatives gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cyril MacFarlane and had a most enjoyable time. Many lovely and useful gifts were received. Mrs. Donald MacFarlane is the former Miss Mann of Kensington, and Mr. MacFarlane is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Herman MacFarlane, Fernwood.

Mr. and Mrs. James Ward and their son and daughter, Saint John, N.B., spent the weekend in this village. Mr. Ward is a brother of Rev. George Ward, who was pastor of the Bedeque United Church charge from 1953 to 1955.

Miss Winnie Schurman, R. N., and Mrs. Frank Deacon, Charlottetown, were visitors to Bedeque on Sunday, July 1st.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Cotton and their two sons, Dartmouth, N.S., were visitors here with Rev. and Mrs. E.S. Weeks, during the long weekend holiday. They also visited their daughter, Mrs. Shirley Enman and Mr. Enman, Victoria West, and Mr. and Mrs. George Ellis, Tye Valley, and Mr. and Mrs. Leo Lacky, Summerside.

Mr. Frank Murray, Charlottetown, returned to the city on July 1st, after being the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Affleck for several days.

At the Sunday morning service in the United Church here on July 1st, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. George Montgomery, Lower Bedeque and the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schurman, Chelton, were baptized by the pastor, Rev. G.A. Cowper-Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Murray and their two little daughters have returned from a pleasant visit to Saint John, N.B., and Apohaqui, N.B.



ISLAND MEMBERS ATTEND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

Prince Edward Island members of the Business and Professional Women's Club attending the International Congress in Montreal.

SITTING: Miss Helen Yeo, Provincial President, Miss Dorothy Cullen, Past President of Charlottetown Club, Miss Bessie Prosser, President of Charlottetown Club.

Mr. Helen Dunbar, Provincial President Club.
Missing from picture Senator E. Inman and Miss Jessie Fraser of the Summerside Club.

Mr. Alden Leard, returned to Sackville, N.B., on Monday, July 2nd, after a visit with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Walter Leard. He will be one of the teachers at the Mt. Allison Summer School.

Mr. and Mrs. Ethel Sutherland, Alma Yeo, SITTING: Miss Helen Yeo, Provincial President, Miss Dorothy Cullen, Past President of Charlottetown Club, Miss Bessie Prosser, President of Charlottetown Club.

ed relatives and friends; on their return they were accompanied by their cousin, Mrs. Carrie Reeves. Ft. Officer and Mrs. John Craig and family, are spending his furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Craig, Middle-

A very enjoyable evening was spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Brewer Waugh, Wilmet Valley, on Saturday last, when they entertained in honor of visiting relatives from abroad.

Mr. and Mrs. Melville Baker, Kensington, motored to Bedeque on Friday last, where they visit-

NOTICE

Our wool warehouse will be open for wool until July 28th. We would ask you to have all wool in by this date.

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4. Periodic painting of gutters and downspouts protects your house.

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