Vol. III. No. 133

LONDON, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1944

Price 1d.

ROSS AWARDED FIRST RCAF GC OVERSEAS

AIR COMMODORE RACES TO FREE TRAPPED MEN

Two George Medals, Two BEMs go to Airmen Who Helped in Daring Rescue

DAMAGED AIRCRAFT HITS BOMB PILE

The George Cross has been awarded to Air Commodore Arthur Dwight Ross, OBE, former commanding officer of the largest RCAF bomber base in Britain. It is the first time this honour, the Empire's highest award for acts of gallantry other than in the

nighest award for acts of gallantry other than in the presence of the enemy, has been conferred on any member of the RCAF overseas.

F/S Joseph Rene Marcel St. Germain, Montreal, bomb-aimer, and Cpl. Maurice Marquet, Meadow Lake, Sask., each receive the George Medal. The British Empire Medal (Military Division) has been awarded to LAC Melvin Muir McKenzie, Tehkummah, Ont., and LAC Robert Rubin Wolfe, Toronto.

Ground Research



TWO BOMBER UNITS POST **BOND RECORD**

Group Contributes Half Total Subscription of RCAF Overseas

Bison and Alouette squadrons of RCAF Bomber Group have posted an impressive record of 100 per cent. purchases in the 7th Victory Loan campaign. Every member of the air and a crews bought a bond.

A challenge to other marked F/L G. W. to the Overseas campaign committee.

But with the conclusion of the

Air Commodore Ross

Guncial ROAF Photograph.)

SIX CREWS IN

GUN ATTACKS

Walcheren Island Target

Of Blows Helping

Army Drive

But with the conclusion of the campaign in sight at the end of this week, the RCAF had \$717,250 still to raise to reach the recently boosted overseas quota of \$4,000,000.

Bomber Group has supplied almost half of the total amount of \$3,282,750, which had been received up to last Saturday. The group total was estimated at \$1,513,650, and the average purchase has been fixed at \$145 per buyer.

The committee chairman stated results from India, the Middle East and TAF have been highly gratifying.



GOING DOWN

WINGS ABROAD

quartera, 20, Lincoln's Inn RAIL ORGY Publication Date: Thursday o

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10s. Single copy, 1d.

Editorial

LAST LAP

The Seventh Victory Loan is now in the last lap. \$717,250 is still required to reach the overseas quota of \$4,000,000. Sales have been generally satisfactory and a few units have not only far exceeded expectations, but have set up records which are a challenge to all others.

The Bison and Alouette Squadrons have both had 100 per cent. subscribers. Canadian Bomber Group has already taken in \$1,518,650 in bonds, a fine result achieved through strong and efficient sales organisation. PRC is nearing \$600,000 and, all along the line, sales reports are gratifying.

At this stage, however, our efforts must not be relaxed. The quota must be reached, and this will require sales on an average of \$120,000 each day during the last week of the campaign, until the close on November 4, 1944. This will take teamwork and enthusiasm all around until the goal is reached.

Let it be emphasised that money invested in Victory Bonds is saved. Thrift now can pay handsome dividends on returning home to Canada. So if you have not already ordered your bonds, do so now, and if you have placed an order, invest more. By this investment, RCAF personnel will be helping themselves as well as putting their money to work for Canada's war effort.

DIVE BOMBERS

An RCAF Typhoon fighter bomber wing has destroyed hearly 150 locomotives and cui enemy rail lines in 200 places during the last month. Desperate efforts at concealment are being employed by German railway workers, according to report received from Canadian piloty who are flying the dreaded Typhoons.

F/O Nicholas Rassenti, Montreal, reported seeing a locomotive and line of cars heavily amouflaged with tree branches Rassenti destroyed the locomotive with a long burst from his cannon and then strafed the roaches.

F/L Stan McLarty, Winnipeg Jying in a Canadian Spithrwing as a squadron commander sided in the destruction of one locomotive, the cutting of two rall lines and the smashing of seven motor vehicles.

SAFETY SQUADRON



CASUALTIES

KILLED IN ACTION. Fenwick, DFC, F/O, Eleux J. Louist, F/E, North bay; J.L. Lomscon, Ont.; W. B. St aterioo, Unit.; W. B. And nipag; D. H. Baser, F/O, H. Star, W.D. Kinston, Ont.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING, SELIEVED KILLED IN ACTION, HOW PRESUMED KILLED IN ACTION.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING. NOW PRESUMED KILLED MISSING.

B. M. B. P. W. W. W. O. Qu'Appeller

H. E. Brover, W. W. O. Mosse Jaw; H. E.

Grews, P. W. Wasses Jaw; H. E.

Grews, P. W. Wasses, Dat.; H. A. Bannonzer, P./O. Wasses, Dat.; H. A. Bannonzer, P./O. Wasses, C. S. W. Grey, D.

Wompher, L. L. Gesting, D. Dat.; H. W.

Wompher, L. U. Hayes, P./S. Linweed,
Onl.; H. G. James, S. Et. Aimonts, Ont.;

H. E. Metcettan, S. Et. Armherstburg, Ont.;

R. Metcettan, S. Et. Armherstburg, Ont.;

Serron, P. S. H. Wester, A. J. E.

At. Peter's bay, U. H. Pratt, St.,
At. Metcettan, D. W. W. M.

At. Deserting, P. O. Montreal;

O. B. Burette, P.O. Winnipez; G. A. Uhreban,

V. D. B. Burette, P.O. Winnipez; G. A. Uhreban,

V. D. B. Burette, P. O. Winnipez; G. A. Uhreban,

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V. O. B. Burette, P. O. Benefited,

B. D. Cauliterwood, St. Abbetslerd,

D. D. Cauliterwood, St. Abbetslerd,

WOUNDED, OR INJURED IN ACTION. D. R. Bacen, F.S. Torento; W. R. Aurton, Sgt., Torento; R. G. Briver, F/O. Torento; G. H. Bernier, F/O. Gutremont; E. B. Hudson, F/S. Casumpec, P.E.I.

MISSING, BELIEVED KILLED IN



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BUFFALO MEN BUST TANKER

Beaufighters, Mosquitos Gang Up on Convoy Off Norway

Flying low over the North Sea aircraft of the Buffalo squadro of Coastal Command, led by S/L W. R. Christison, DrC, Lennoxville, Que, struck at a small convoy off the Norwegian cons recently. Mosquitos and Beaur from RCAF and RAF squadrons took part in the attack, which resulted in one oil tanker set aflame and an escort vessel blowing up.
"The Canadian squadron was

among the leading anti-flak busters," said Christison. "At busters," said Christison. "At the first wave went in there war a flash of flame and a thick column of smoke started to rise from the tanker. Blazing oil was belching out of the tanker and forming an ever-increasing circle of flame around the ship. The escort vessel blew up and when we set course for home, she was also on fire."

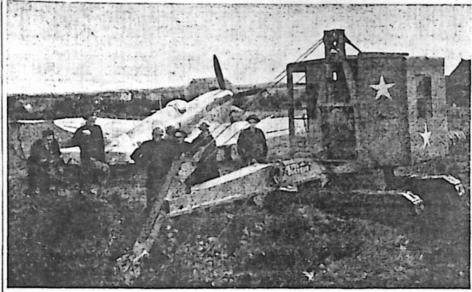
Several days later, a reconnite sance aircraft found the tanker still smoking and her shell aground on some rocks. F/O J. D. Taylor, Victoria, and F/O

FIGHTER-BOMBERS TURN ENGINEERS

TURN ENGINEERS

Approximately 30 tons of bombs on vital targets in the Munter-Coeffeld area, as well as shooting up enemy trains and vehicles. The magnificent sales the first target of the Munter-Coeffeld area, as well as shooting up enemy trains and vehicles. The magnificent sales the first target of the magnificent sales that the first target of the first target

AMATEUR ENGINEERS



Whether it's gouging a building excavation on the main drug back home, or digging a slit trench on an RCAF airfield in Holland, a power shovel is always fun to watch. Cana-dians join with Americans in superintending this trench-digging job.

CANADIAN SPITFIRES UNLOAD J. D. Taylor, Victoria, and F/O R. C. Ridge, Winnipeg, were among the leading crews to BOMBS OVER VITAL TARGETS

Holland.—Unfavourable flying weather fails to arrest the dive-bombing and ground-strafing work of Canadian Spitfire squadrons under G/C G. R. McGregor, OBE, DFC, and W/C Dal Russel, DSO, DFC and Bar. The wing recently unloaded approximately 30 tons of bombs on vital targets in the Munster-Coesfeld area, as well as shooting up enemy trains and vehicles.

A message of appreciation for the showing of RCAF personnel in the 7th Victory Loan campaign has been sent Loan campaign has been sent to the overseas Victory Loan chairman by The Hon. J. L. Ilsley, Canadian Minister of Finance.

The Alberta Government has set up machinery in overseas the theatres of war, to enable servicemen and servicewomen from the province to elect three members of the armed forces, one each from the Navy, Army and Air Force, to represent them at the next session of the legislature.

Alberta representatives, acting as returning officers, are working through service liaison officers, and details of the nomination and election procedure will be carried on in unit DROs. Nominations close November 20, and the election will be held from January 8 to 20. Voting in Canada was completed in August.

Qualifications for voting re-

HERE'S THE PAIN WHERE'S the SLOAN'S? oan's Liniment offers the quickest way of seeking the agonising pain of rheumatism. gives tingling, comforting warmth to the uscles and joints and puts an end to your If you are gripped with rheumatism or sciatica. neuritis, lumbago or backache, remember Pain fades out as Sloan's soaks in. Price 2/- from all Chemists.



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GRIDIRON TOUCH

Fliers Fancy Football

Holland.—Despite the large quantity of geography between G/C G. R. McGregor's Canadian airfield here, and that grid patch back home, autumn still means football to Canacks at this base. While lack of equipment prevents them from going the whole hog, a reasonable facsimile is enjoyed in tossing and booting the pigskin around.

the whole hog, a reasonable facsimile is enjoyed in tossing and booting the pigskin around.

Stars

Regulars in this light scrimmaging are F/L Charlie Fox, Guelph, Ont.; F/L McPherson, St. Thomas, Ont.; F/D Ernie Gosselin, Montreal; F/L Don Laubman, DFC and Bar, Edmonton, Alta.; F/O John Barrowman, Toronto, and F/O W. H. Bellingham, Magog, Que. Plans are being made for an inter-unit touch-football league.

One more of the originals of S/L Bill Olimster's squadrons in the RCAF S/L Bill Olimster's squadrons and good-bye last week when for Finance.

"The magnificent sales total of Victory Bond purchases by the RCAF is a real inspiration to Canadians at home. Congratulations on your success and my sincere total of Victory Bond purchases by the RCAF is a real inspiration to Canadians at home. Congratulations on your success and my sincere appreciation of the personal help you have given."

In forwarding the message to Overseas HQ, Ottawa AFHQ stated that it heartily endorsed the sentiments of the Minister.

IGHTER WING BACKS VICTORY LOAN DRIVE

Belgium—During the first ownessed of the 7th Victory Bond Bond Signature and Commanded a flight in Italy.

Belgium—During the first ownessed of the 7th Victory Bonds of the 7th Victory Sour Second for the Services Sourceding F/L G. W. Johnson, DFC and Bar, Hamilton, Ont., whose tour has come to an end. He is F/L Hedley Everard, DFC. Timmins, Ont., who flew Spits in Burma and commanded a flight in Italy.

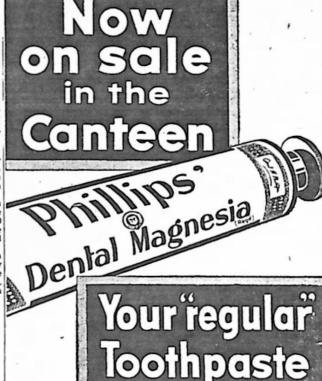
Belgium—During the first ownessed to the 7th Victory Source and the start of the Services of the 7th Victory Source and Commanded a flight in Italy.

Bonds of the 7th Victory Start of the 7th Victory Source and Start of th

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With a RAF Hally squadron, F/S T. D. Wray, Eatonia, Sask., recently ran into considerable flak trouble on a daylight do over Duisburg. His instruments were rendered useless, and when he landed at an emergency airfield he and his crew discovered their aircraft looked rather like a sleve. The first dose of flak came before the bomber reached the target and didn't do much damage, but put a few holes in the tallplece.

"But just after bombing, about two minutes from the target, the Haldax was caught in some predicted flak," Wray commented. To add further to the danger, visibility was good and it was broad daylight. A major burst of flak peppered the aircraft from the nose to the bomb bay and knocked out the port inner engine. The fuel lines apparently were shot away and the gas tank punctured.

Wray feathered the hit propeller and then found his instruments and wireless equipment were not working. A quick check of the crew revealed all were OK, and five Spitfires turned up to escort the bomber nearly all the way home. With Wray on this job was another Canuck, F/S H. C. Layton, Medicine Hat, Alta

An attack on Dulsburg culminated in a sight-seeing trip for Sgt. R. Ediott, Toronto, mid-upper with a Halifax crew. He landed by paracoute near Louvain when the New Zealand skapper gave the bail-out order just before the gas ran out. About 30 miles from the target, a serious leak in one of the petrol lines was discovered, and there wasn't enough gas left to get back to Britain. It was decided to go on to the target, bomb, and then get as far on the home journey as possible.

As he drifted down, Eliiott watched the pilot ball out, and then saw the Halliax crash and blow up. When he landed, Elliott went to a farmhouse, where he got food and learned where British troops were. An Army truck took him to Louvain, where he met another member of the crew. At an airfield he made arrangements to fly to England the next day, and then went to Brussels, where he spent the night in the Hotel Metropole. He took in a couple of free shows and ate bags of fruit.

Elliott and F/S Toews, Vancouver, have been officially credited with destruction of a JUSS nightighter during a combat over Bochum. Toews is a member of Elliott's crew, but was not on the Duisburg trip owing to illness. F/O K. L. Long, DFM, Lacombe, Alta., has been promoted to flight licutenant. He is pilot of a mixed Canadian and RAF Halifax crew and has completed many successful missions to German targets.

F/O J. Cross, Learnington, Ont., navigator, has finished a tour and now is screened. On two of his last four ops there was a sufficient excitement to liven up what otherwise might have been a dull tour. Returning from Duisburg, his Halifax was attacked by a fighter, whose aim was bad. The fighter's tracer passed 100 ft. beneath the tail of the bomber, and while the gunners blasted. It Cross lost it with violent evasive action.

A week earlier, Cross's crew were not so fortunate. Taking part in an attack on Bochum, one of the engines refused to function. No sooner had the motor acted up than three fighters attacked, but they failed to do any damage. A fourth German fighter was more persistent, and as the bomber turned for home on its three motors the Hun attacked with cannon and machine-guns. The fighter trailed the bomber for 15 minutes. Finally, the gunners in both turrets got the German fairly in their sights and opened fire. Strikes were seen and it plunged to earth. It was destroyed.

Continuing to base, the pilot found he could not feather the propeller, and ordered the crew to stand by to bail out. Before he could give the order to abandon aircraft, the prop flew off the damaged motor and eliminated the possibility of fatal damage to the kite. Crew members went back to their positions, and the pilot brought the bomber home to a safe landing.



Service and Auxiliary Personnel can obtain Coloured Copies of the above and similar pictures free for pin-up purposes Apply to "Wings Abroad," RCAF Overseas H.Q., London

MOVIE STAR ("A" GROUP)



Sgt. Fletcher Markle, who plays a featured role in the RAF's film "Journey Together."

(Official ROAP Photograph.

TROPIC TOPICS

Tuskers Get New CO

A recent issue of Tropic Topics reports the appointment of a new CO, W/C Stan McMillan, replacing W/C L. H. Randall, to head the Tusker squadrop in Ceylon. McMillan is a veterar RCAF pilot, having won his wings back in 1927. Since that time he has served in Canada, Bermuda, England and the Far East, as well as putting in many flying hours with civillan al.

Le Major Jean-Georges Perrigard du Régiment des Trols Hivières, a visité cette semaine l'unité des Alquettes et des Hiboux Blancs. "Le but de ces visites, a-t-il ex-pilqué, est de mieux nous aider à comprendre ce que l'aviation peut faire pour alder à comprendre ce que l'aviation peut faire pour nous, et ce que nous pouvons faire pour elle. Cette deu-xième visite m'a convaincu de l'importance des relations étrolles qui doivent exister entre l'a-mée de l'air et celle de terre."

Le lieutenant de section Guy Vandry, de Québec, un pilote de la défense côtière, a maintenant complété un tour d'opérations. Cette semaine il célébrait par une rèunion fraternelle à Lon-dres: en effet son frère, le lieu-tenant Jean Vandry, d'un régi-ment de l'armée canadienne vint le rencontrer dans la capi-tale pour une courte permission.

Parmi les visiteurs au quartier-général cette semaine, on remarquait deux pilotes qui ont été tamisé à l'escadrille Alouette. Le lieutenant d'aviation Jacques Terroux, maintenant séparé de son équipage, et le lieutenant d'aviation Jacques Côté, qui doit devenir instructeur en Angleterre.

Le lieutenant d'aviation Georges Chaput de St-Boniface,

a maintenant complété six voyages de son deuxlème tour d'opérations en territoire-ennemi. Ce mitrailleur est maintenant avec l'escadrille Moose. On se souvient que Chaput fut un des pionniers de l'escadrille Alouette, avec laquelle il a fait sa première série d'opérations. Il fut quelque temps instructeur de tir aux Forces Françaises Combattantes.

Nos félicitations aux deux aviateurs canadiens français qui ont été décorés de la "Georgo Medal", le sergent de section Marcel St-Germain Montréal Maurice Marquet, de Mea-dow Lake. On peut lire en anglals, dans ce numéro, le récit de leur exploit.

Le lieutenant d'aviation J. R.
L. Poulin, de Montréal, était
responsable de l'organisation de
la campagne d'emprunt dans un
escadre de Spitifre opérant de
Belgique et de la Hollande. "11
n'y avait aucun objectif fixé, ditil, et par conséquent aucune
limite. "En deux semaines,
les aviateurs de cet escadre ont
souscrit au-delà de \$25,000. Beau
travail!

Voici quelques aviateurs Voici quelques aviateurs-chefs que le correspondant français du CARC a rencon-tré en Hollande dernière-ment: L. A. Beauchamp, de Vassar Manitoba; J. R. Gauthler, de Ste-Thérèse de Hainville; H. M. Riel, de Hull; J. A. Séguin, d'Ottawa, et J. Lagacé, de Ste Perpétue.



RADIO ROUND UP

Five gents with a sizeable chunk of RAF jankers and night watches under their belt, skipped through Smoke recently on privilege leave. They formed part of a healthy hunk of radio gen men who have clustered around mobile equipment, and will be wearing that pretty red combops badge shortly.

What a Team!

The quintet included LAC Pete Marshall, Toronto; LAC Frank Bricault, Sault Ste. Marie; LAC "Mac" Chown, Hamilton; LAC Hilton Hunter, Amherst, N.S. and LAC "Baz" Mulligan, Toronto.

On arrival, they had just completed a taste of things to come after a three-hour ride in soaking clothes, preceded by a three-mile walk in the elements (censorship permits mentioning it was raining at the time).

Chown was Liverpool bound; Hunter headed for Wales; Bricault and Mulligan toured Edinburgh's monument district; Marshall went on a Cook's tour to Barrow, Manchester, London, Leatherhead, etc.

Tiger Hourls

With less than sixty days to Christmas, speculation runs high regarding incoming mail and interest in festivities to come is great. In the armament section there is another feature. They

Leatherhead, etc.

They named a lot of other Canuck tube bashers who were with them on the toughening (!!!) course. These included such radio fortunates as F/O L. H. "Dinny" Densmore, St. Catharines, F/O Bill Walker, Toronto, and F/O Don Bell. Ottawa.

Then these sections of other catharines, F/O Don Bell.

Then there were two smartles. Sgt. "Stu" Pollock, Vancouver, and Cpl. Don Chase, Winnipeg, in addition to more wheel-twisters such as LAC "Mac" McKnight.

NORTH ENGLAND

This week we have nothing but orchids—orchids for that great gang of showmen, the RCAI—"Blackouts." The RAF types in this heah part of the Island hat forgotten that Canadians could do snything but tube has but the do anything but tube bash, buifter a taste of real talent and
beauty with a capital B they
hink differently.

Double Job

Another new appointment is that of S/L J. Woolfenden Toronto, to the post of flight in the series of eaction of section Paul Gingras, stationas au quartier-général de Delhi, aux Indes. Paul est tour jours le sous-officier préposé à la salle d'ordonnance: il ne se plaint pas des conditions de vie majer extrême humidité de l'air qui a suivi le mousand dété. Voici quelques nouvelles qu'il nous donne des compatrictes.

Bernard Joubarne d'Ottawa a eu quelque succès comme lanceur du club de balle molle de l'aviation canadienne à Bombay, Grâce à son habileté, le CARC a triomphé de l'équipe américal caine dans cette même ville. Joubarne, qui était autrefois attaché à Londres, est chaufeur du aumônier, le père Lynch de Toronto a réuni tous les catholiques, dont un bon nombre de Canadiens-français. On y remarquait entre autres Gérard Lamarche et Paul Dulude, tous deux de Montréal: les aviateurs chefs Iréné Richard, du Nouveau-Bruswick et Stan Oue lette de Windsor.

Le Major Jean-Georges

Le Major Jean-Georges

Double Job

Another new appointment is that of S/L J. Woolfenden, Toronto, to the pout of fight and the Canadians could file at a table of sult with a capital B they with a capital B they with a capital B they will file a study with a capital B they will file and sury with a capital B they will file at a study with a capital B they will combine this journe of sult will be maint differently. Sign Jack Ross and yours truly worked back-stage with Terry bouding, stage manager, while sur sum stand include the Triangular with a capital B they worked back-stage with Terry bouding, stage manager, while sur sum state to the rinning and with the sports of the show it was a real thrill to the track meet. The dance of the show a track of track the sport and include the Triangular with a capital B they worked back-stage with Terry bouding, stage manager, while sur ferrien de the canadiens and include the Triangular with a capital B they worked back-stage with Terry bouding, stage manager, while sur ferrien de track

his shoes

this morning!

Charles of

SHOEPOUSH

HAD THEIR

NUGGET

THE SHINE for

SMARTNESS

IN BLACK BROWN & DARK BRUWN

SUPREME

QUALITY

EXTRA

With less than sixty days to Christmas, speculation runs high regarding incoming mail and interest in festivities to come is great. In the armament section there is another feature. They have established a young toy industry. Trains, trucks and other toys are being made for a nearby wartime nursery, and the dead-ine is December 25. F/L R. M. Howard, squadron adj., told the looys he could think of no better gesture of goodwill than giving toys to these British children.

F/S Campbell has once again

Sgt. "Stu" Pollock, Vancouver, and Cpl. Don Chase, Winnipeg, in addition to more wheel-twisters such as LAC "Mac" McKnight. Toronto.

P.S.—They can drive trucks bells.

A Flight instrument section has again dropped into the limenage. "Sad Sack" Duncan recently made his annual trip to a metropolis in the vicinity and discovered that the Mecca is still the rough-and-tumble place it was a year ago. LAC Ron Best, winnipeg, says love does the strangest things to people, and low he's happily married. For confirmation he points out Cpl. 'Chiefy' Ferguson, who turns ip at work much earlier than formerly.

—LAC L. A. Roberts.

ENDS TOUR

Recently commissioned with the Lion squadron, P/O R. W. Aawker, Toronto, Ont., has completed his first tour of ops. Piloting a Halifax, he has attacked many enemy targets, including Jamburg, Brunswick, Stuttgart, Kiel and the Ruhr Valley.

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Journey Together

"Journey Together." It is the story of you, the story of the air force type and how he got that way. An official production, made by the RAF Film Unit, it is not bleak, in the manner of narrowly conceived "official" documentaries. The Air Force has talent and has used it lavishly to make what may be the greatest air film of the war.

As in most other lines of RAF endeavour, Canadians have a share in "Journey Together." One lengthy featured part, three other speaking parts are played by RCAF personnel. Many of the extras are members of the RCAF

Outstanding Canadian contribution is that of Sgt. Fletcher Markle, who leaps half a dozen ranks to play F/L Moore, instructor at a Canadian navigation school. Other members of the RCAF who have speaking parts are F/L Vic Baker, F/L Harvey Schwartz and LAC Art Boulden.

With one of the few writers who have ever had two plays running simultaneously in London's West End, rear-gunning in a Coastal Command Sunderland, the Air Force had no search for a script writer. F/L Terence Rattigan, most promising, most prolific of the younger playwrights, did the job with the same verve that spiced "French Without Tears," "After the Dance," "Flarepath" and the current success "While the Sun Shines," dashed off in three weeks during a spot of leave.

The leads are played by a pair of real-life AC2s, Richard Attenborough and Jack Watling. Both are talented, both experienced, despite their youth. Attenborough played the part of the boy who lost his nerve under fire in the Noel Coward picture "In Which We Serve." On the stage he has appeared in "Awake and Sing" and "Brighton Rock," Eugene O'Neil's "Ah! Wilderness" and James Bridie's "Holy Island."

For Watling, a Rattigan script is nothing new. He played the lead in the West End production of "Flarepath" before he went into the RAF to undergo air crew training. He handled lesser roles in "Cottage to Let," "Once a Crook," and a Donald Wolfit Shakespeare season. He's been before the camera four times in "Sixty Glorious Years," "Housemaster," "Demi-Paradise" and "We Dive at Dawn."

The sweep of the world's greatest adventure is preserved under the direction of F/L John Boulting, who with his brother Roy, now a captain in the British Army Film Unit, was responsible for the starkness of "Pastor Hall," the provocative drama of "Thunder Rock."

In the cast of more than 70 speaking parts appear names that mean something on the English and American stage and screen; Sheila Sim, Edward G. Robinson, Rex Harrison, Alastair Sim, Bessie Love, Miles Malleson.

To get his meaty part on celluloid, Markle spent two months at Pinewood studio, 30 days before the cameras. The work went smoothly for he had more than enough ability and more than enough experience as an actor to satisfy John Boulting, a thorough and exacting director.

What appears to be the softest and most glamorous job in the Air-Force is little better than drilling, Markle says. The work is hot and at times gruelling. The hours are long. The actors were up by six in the morning and sometimes did not leave the sets until ten at night. "I have to hand it to those who can make a living at it," says the sergeant.

Writing and production are more in the Markle line. In Vancouver he was production manager of the Phoenix Theatre. For the CBC the summer before he enlisted, he wrote, produced and acted in a series of 13 half-hour radio dramas. "Baker's Dozen" was the cream of the corporation's drama output in the summer of '42.

With the RCAF Sgt. Fletcher Markle is "miscellaneous specialist (press writer), 'A' Group." He spends half his working day at a type-writer, the other half before a microphone. Recently he was loaned to Britain's Ministry of Information to write and narrate a film called "V-1," the story of the flying-bomb, slanted especially for American audiences.

The story of "Journey Together" concerns a RAF corporal fitter, David Wilton, who, after being slapped on the peg for flying when he should be working, gets himself remustered to air crew. At ITS he meets up with John Aynesworth. Wilton, being the bright type, helps Aynesworth get through ITS and both are posted to the United States. Everyone is having a fine time in the land of the free and the brave when Wilton washes out as a pilot. He is unable to judge distances when landing. Aynesworth continues on the course, wins his wings and is posted back to England.

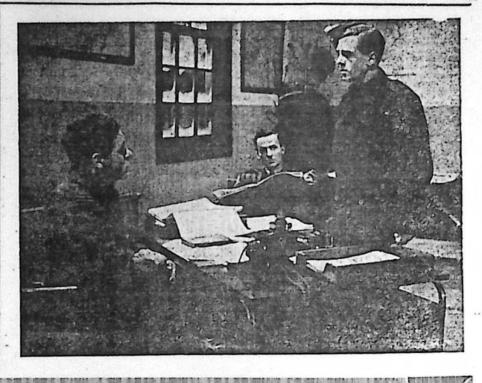
Wilton is sent to Canada to take a navigator's course. In filming the Canadian scenes, authenticity was demanded. The RCAF was able to supply the Canadian types, but to reproduce the Canadian scene it was necessary to send an expedition to Canada to collect a mass of detailed background material. On the basis of this data sets were built. Included are amazingly faithful reproductions of the exterior and interior of the Royal York, the front street entrance and the lobby. When Markle and Attenborough, as Moore and Wilton, are seen walking across the lobby there are going to be many thirsty Canadians in overseas audiences.

While in Canada, Wilton has trouble adjusting himself to the fact that any member of an air crew is important apart from the pilot. His Canadian instructors sell him on the idea that the navigator is, perhaps, the most important member of the crew. The lad finishes the course, is posted back to England and eventually to Aynesworth's crew. Complications set in which are better explained by a look at the picture itself; but it does develop into a good yarn.

A healthy proportion of the cast is made up of service personnel with operational experience, but ranks get juggled when the cameras roll. Two of the Canadians get quick but temporary promotion, Markle to a flight loot, LAC Boulden to a flying-officer. Harvey Schwartz and Vic Baker, both flight-lieutenants, stay where they are on the social ladder. The latter has to take off his battledress blouse with the well-worn Canada flashes and the ops badge to don the bald blouse of an instructor who has never left Canada. F/L Baker earned the ops badge during the Happy Valley days a couple of summers ago. F/L Schwartz, as a radar officer, saw his share of action in Malta and on the Anzio beachhead last winter.

Some of the RAF people got themselves rapid demotion. A Mustang pilot is an AC plunk in the picture; an F/O, who sports pilot's wings in real life, washes out in the film.

Rank is not the only thing upside down in the picture. Some of the Canadian lads applied plenty of spit and polish to appear before the cameras. They blinked when they were told to smudge their buttons with dirt or oil before going on the set.







In the top picture David Wilton, played by Richard Attenborough, is up on the carpet. Wilton is still chafing at having washed out as a pilot and being sent to Canada to train as a navigator. The officer giving the lad a pep talk is played by F/L Vic Baker. Instructor, F/L Moore, reading the magazine is played by Sgt. Fletcher Markle. Centre shot shows a "Journey Together" set at Pinewood studio before director John Boulting shouts "action." Look again, bub, that's Toronto's Royal York (below) transplanted to an English studio. Attenborough and Markle as Watling and Moore walk across the lobby familiar to many Canadians. Great care was taken to make Canadian sets absolutely authentic. An expedition was sent to Canada to gather background material. This Royal York set shows the thoroughness with which they did their job. Despite attention to detail a Canadian car sported an English licence plate until an eagle-eyed Canuck spotted the error. Ontario plates had to be made on the spur of the moment.

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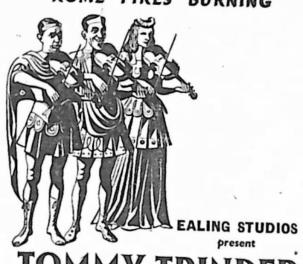
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