

22595

AIR FORCE HISTORICAL
RESEARCH AGENCY
600 CHENNAULT CIRCLE
MAXWELL AFB, AL 36112-6424

DEAR SIR OR M'AM,

8-27-12

I AM WRITING FOR INFORMATION ON
"OPERATION METROPOLIS" WHICH TOOK PLACE IN OCTOBER
1949. INFORMATION ON THIS IS TO BE FOUND ON
MICROFILM ROLL A4045 - FIRST AIR FORCE RECORDS.
IRIS NUM - 00199189. ERAMES 644-702. I WOULD
LIKE TO GET A COPY OF THIS INFORMATION FOR MY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH. I FOUND REFERENCE TO THIS
IN THE NYT ARTICLE "MOCK ATTACK ON CITY 'REPULSED'"
OCT 23, 1949. P9-54.

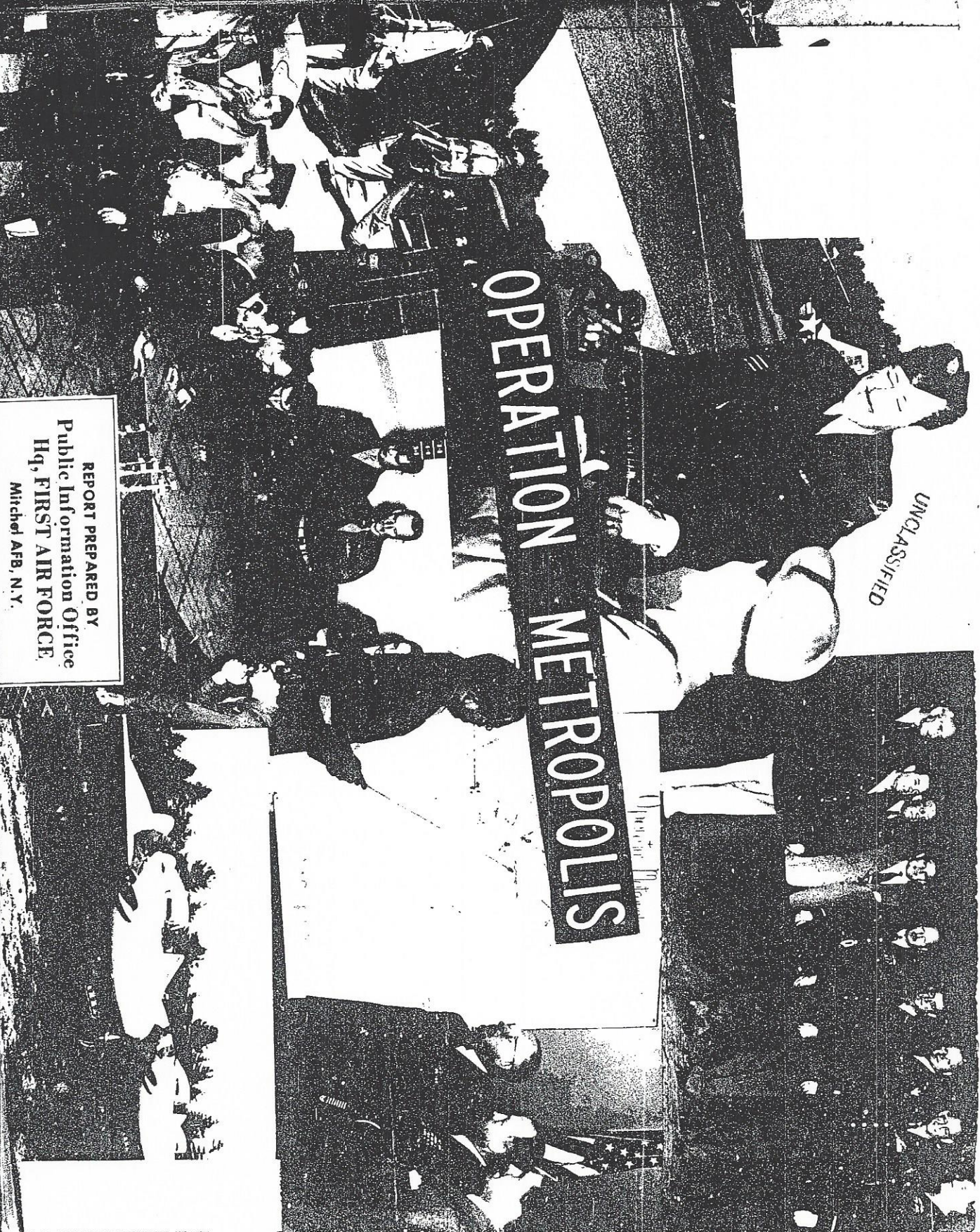
SINCERELY,

CORY NEWMAN
151 KNOLL CROFT ROAD
BUILDING 57
LYONS, NJ 07939

#199189

UNCLASSIFIED

OPERATION METROPOLIS



REPORT PREPARED BY
 Public Information Office
 Hq, FIRST AIR FORCE
 Mitchel AFB, N.Y.

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PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT
"OPERATION METROPOLIS"

FOREWORD

UNCLASSIFIED

This visual report is intended to demonstrate from a public relations viewpoint, the effectiveness of a cooperative project between the two neighboring nations -- Canada and the United States -- as exemplified in "Operation Metropolis", held on October 22, 1949.

The role of the Public Information Office, Headquarters, First Air Force, in "Operation Metropolis", an air defense training maneuver over the New York City area, was that of coordinator of public information for the participants -- the Air National Guard and the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve. This was specifically set forth in a First Air Force directive, "Operation Plan Metropolis".

Preparation of the first release announcing the maneuver had certain complications not present in an operation involving only this nation. The first release, not only required coordination with the Air National Guard, the RCAF and USAF, but also clearance by the U.S. Department of State and the Canadian Department of External Affairs. For that reason alone, proper timing of the release was essential, so that coverage in American and Canadian newspapers could be as simultaneous as possible.

Specific responsibilities of the Public Information Office, Headquarters, First Air Force were discussed at meetings with the Air National Guard and RCAF. These dealt with preparation of news releases, radio announcements, arrangements for entertainment of the Canadian visitors and publicizing of the operation through various well-known radio shows.

The elements that helped in large measure to secure wide, complete and swift advance newspaper and radio coverage of "Operation Metropolis" were established through the efforts of the Air National Guard and the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve. The AMG cooperated fully in providing the appropriate action material for advance photo coverage. Its handling of arrangements for the press conference on October 22 was outstanding, including the preparation and dispatch of invitations to Department of State officials, senior air officers of the National Guard and general officers of the Air Force.

The promptness with which the RCAF provided biographical material on its key figures in the operation, photos of personalities and of its Vampire jet aircraft was an important factor in the preparation of advance news and radio material. The liaison established by the Canadian Reserve units with the First Air Force and the Air National Guard paved the way for efficient coordination of public information activities.

The following report, both textual and visual, shows the results of a well-planned public information program. While "Operation Metropolis", involving approximately 400 men from both nations and about 40 aircraft, was a comparatively small training exercise, the newspaper and other media coverage emphasized -- and properly -- the importance of integrating forces of Canada and the United States in event of an emergency.

MEDIA

The First Newspaper release on "Operation Metropolis" was prepared for release on October 11, 1949, simultaneously in the American and Canadian press. However, it first had to be approved by the RCAF and ANG and sent to Headquarters USAF for clearance by the U.S. Department of State. Headquarters USAF arranged to distribute the release on a national basis.

Once the green light on clearance was given, the Public Information Office of Headquarters First Air Force distributed the release to newspapers on Long Island and in Westchester County, and through its Air Officer at the Armed Forces Public Information Center, 90 Church St., New York, to newspapers in New York. The latter office also distributed a package of five radio spot announcements to stations in New York.

Accompanying the initial release were a variety of photographs taken by First Air Force staff photographers of activities of the 52nd Fighter Wing, Air National Guard, and photos of Canadian Vampire jet aircraft used in "Metropolis".

Copies of the first release with photos also were given the 52nd Fighter Wing, ANG for distribution to media in various Westchester communities.

A second release, dated October 18, 1949, featuring the expected arrival of Air Marshal W.A. Curtis, RCAF Chief of Staff, and Air Vice Marshal C.R. Stemon, was prepared and distributed by this office to media in the New York area. This release was accompanied by photos of Air Marshal Curtis.

The 52nd Fighter Wing released a round-up story to newspapers in its area the day prior to "Operation Metropolis".

This office also prepared a Fact Sheet for distribution to newspaper representatives at the press conference held on October 22, just prior to the start of the operation. (Press Conference discussed separately). With the Fact Sheet were detailed biographies of Air Marshal Curtis and Air Vice Marshal Stemon.

Considerable information was given by telephone by the PIO to newspapers requesting additional details.

Following the operation, stories with photos were released to service publications.

PRESS CONFERENCE

A press conference arranged by the Air National Guard was held at the State Armory, White Plains, N.Y. on the day of the operation and drew about 50 members of the U.S. and Canadian press. Details for this conference had been worked out with the Air National Guard and RCAF on October 16, and included the manner of briefing newspapermen and scheduling of inspection trips to Mitchel AFB, and Stewart Field.

Fact Sheets prepared by this office and briefing manuals furnished by the Air National Guard were distributed to representatives of both American and Canadian newspapers. This office also furnished photo processing facilities for the RCAF Reserve and ANG.

Briefing of American and Canadian press representatives at the press conference was accomplished by general officers of the RCAF and Air National Guard. Brig. General Clyde H. Mitchell, Commanding General of the 52nd Fighter Wing, N.Y., ANG, explained the tactical exercise and the anticipated results and pointed out that it was a test of the ability of the two Reserve forces to work in concert in event of an emergency. At the end of the operation, General Mitchell described it as "an unqualified success".

Both General Mitchell and Air Marshal Curtis gave a resume evaluating the results of the training maneuver. Air Marshal Curtis told newspapermen that "although the success of the defense was important, it was more important for the men of the Air National Guard and the RCAF to work and train together."

First Air Force Public Information staff officers assisted in briefing newspaper representatives at White Plains, N.Y. and at Mitchel Air Force Base and assisted them in photo coverage.

RADIO AND TELEVISION

Newspaper coverage of "Operation Metropolis" was immeasurably enhanced by appearance of Air National Guard and RCAF personalities on New York stations and networks through arrangement by First Air Force Public Information office. Television shows added to the effectiveness of their coverage by showing films of participating aircraft and maps illustrating the scope of the test.

WNBT-NBC -- New York

October 21, 1945 - "Easy Does It", 6:30-7:00 P.M. Brig. General Clyde H. Mitchell, Commanding General, 52nd Fighter Wing, interviewed. Films showing Canadian Vampires and AH6 F-47s and map supplemented interview.

MCBS-TV --- New York

October 21, 1949 -- CBS Television News with Doug Edwards, 7:30 P.M. Squadron Leader Light Gervais of RCAF Reserve interviewed by Mr. Edwards. Films of F-47s and Vampires also shown.

WNBC-NBC -- New York

October 21, 1949 - "Hi Jinks" (Tex McCrary and Jim Falkenberg), 8:30 A.M. Flight Lt. H.F. Tracy of RCAF Reserve and Lt. Colonel James A. Clark, 52nd Fighter Wing, ANG, interviewed. This program was recorded in advance.

WOR-Mutual -- New York

October 21, 1949 -- Stan Lomax sports roundup, 6:45 P.M. Flight Lt. H.F. Tracy RCAF Reserve, and Pilot Officer T.J. Mackinnon, RCAF Reserve, interviewed. Since Pilot Officer Mackinnon was a Hockey Player, this interview lent itself particularly to a sports program.

WKNY - Kingston, N.Y.

October 22, 1945 - "Wings over the Hudson", edited by Edgar Bauman, aviation syndicated columnist, 11:30 A.M. Greater part of this program devoted to discussion of "Operation Metropolis".

SPECIAL EVENTS

First Air Force PIO arranged with the Radio Corporation of America organization for a tour by visiting Canadian officers and airmen of Radio City on October 23, 1949, the day following "Operation Metropolis". Seventy-five tickets for this tour were distributed.

Motor transportation for representatives of the Canadian press on October 22 and 23, 1949 was arranged by this office.

A dance for Canadian reserve airmen was held at the Non-Commissioned Officers Club at Mitchell AFB on the evening of October 22, 1945. Partners were obtained from Adelphi College and from the Nassau County General Service Organization.

KCAF Reserve officers were guests at the regular Officers Club Dance at Mitchell AFB on October 22, 1945. The club was appropriately decorated with Canadian and American colors.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
HEADQUARTERS FIRST AIR FORCE
Mitchel Air Force Base, N.Y.

FACT SHEET -- "OPERATION METROPOLIS"

DEFINITION -- "Operation Metropolis" is an air defense training maneuver to be conducted jointly by units of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve and units of the Air National Guard of New York and New Jersey.

WHEN -- The afternoon of October 22, 1949, starting about 2:00 P.M. and continuing for approximately three hours.

WHERE -- Over the New York metropolitan area.

PURPOSE -- To demonstrate the ability of the RCAF Reserve and Air National Guard to integrate forces in event of an emergency; to demonstrate degree of efficiency of participating units, and enable senior staff officers to assess these Reserve forces; to stimulate Reserve morale; to encourage public interest and boost recruiting in the Reserve programs of the two nations.

PARTICIPATING UNITS:::

RCAF RESERVE

1 - 401st Fighter Squadron of Montreal, consisting of about 25 officers and 35 airmen and equipped with four Vampire* jet aircraft. Commanded by Wing Commander J.W. Reid, the 401st has an honored World War II record. It was the first RCAF unit to engage the Nazi Luftwaffe in combat and won the RCAF's first battle decorations. At the end of the war, the unit had the highest score of enemy aircraft destroyed of any day fighter squadron of the RCAF.

2 - 438th Fighter Squadron of Montreal, consisting of 25 officers and 35 airmen, with four Vampire* jets. This unit, now commanded by Wing Commander Claude Hebert, also has a fine war record. The 438th shared in the fighting around the Falaise Gap in France and at Eindhoven, Holland. It logged over 4,000 operational sorties and almost 4,000 hours operational flying.

3 - No. 1 Radar and Communications Unit of Montreal, a post-war Reserve unit, commanded by Squadron Leader K.R. Patrick, one of the RCAF's top wartime technical officers in the electronics field. Squadron Leader Patrick is manager of the Engineering Products Division of RCA Victor in Montreal.

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* The DeHavilland Vampire is a jet-propelled, single-seat fighter, powered by a gas turbine engine producing 3,000 pounds of static thrust. Its maximum speed is 525 mph. At 30,000 feet the Vampire has a range of 930 miles carrying a normal fuel load of 330 gallons. With drop tanks, the total fuel load carried is 530 gallons, giving a range of 1,620 miles.
.....

FACT SHEET - "OPERATION METROPOLIS"

-2-

U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD

1 - 119th Fighter Squadron of the 108th Fighter Group of New Jersey, assigned to the 52nd Fighter Wing of the N.Y. Air National Guard for tactical operations.

2 - 137th Fighter Squadron of the 107th Fighter Group, N.Y. Air National Guard, stationed at Westchester County Airport, N.Y.

3 - 102nd and 114th Bombardment (Light) Squadrons of the 106th Bombardment Group, N.Y. National Guard, stationed at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, N.Y.

4 - 106th Aircraft Control Squadron and 107th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron of the 152nd Aircraft Control and Warning Group, N.Y. Air National Guard, with headquarters at State Armory, White Plains, N.Y.

"OPERATION METROPOLIS" COMMANDERS

Brig. General Clyde H. Mitchell, commander of the 52nd Fighter Wing, N.Y. Air National Guard, will be operational control commander of the exercise.

Wing Commander Claude Hebert of the 438th RCAF Reserve Fighter Squadron will command all Canadian units in the exercise.

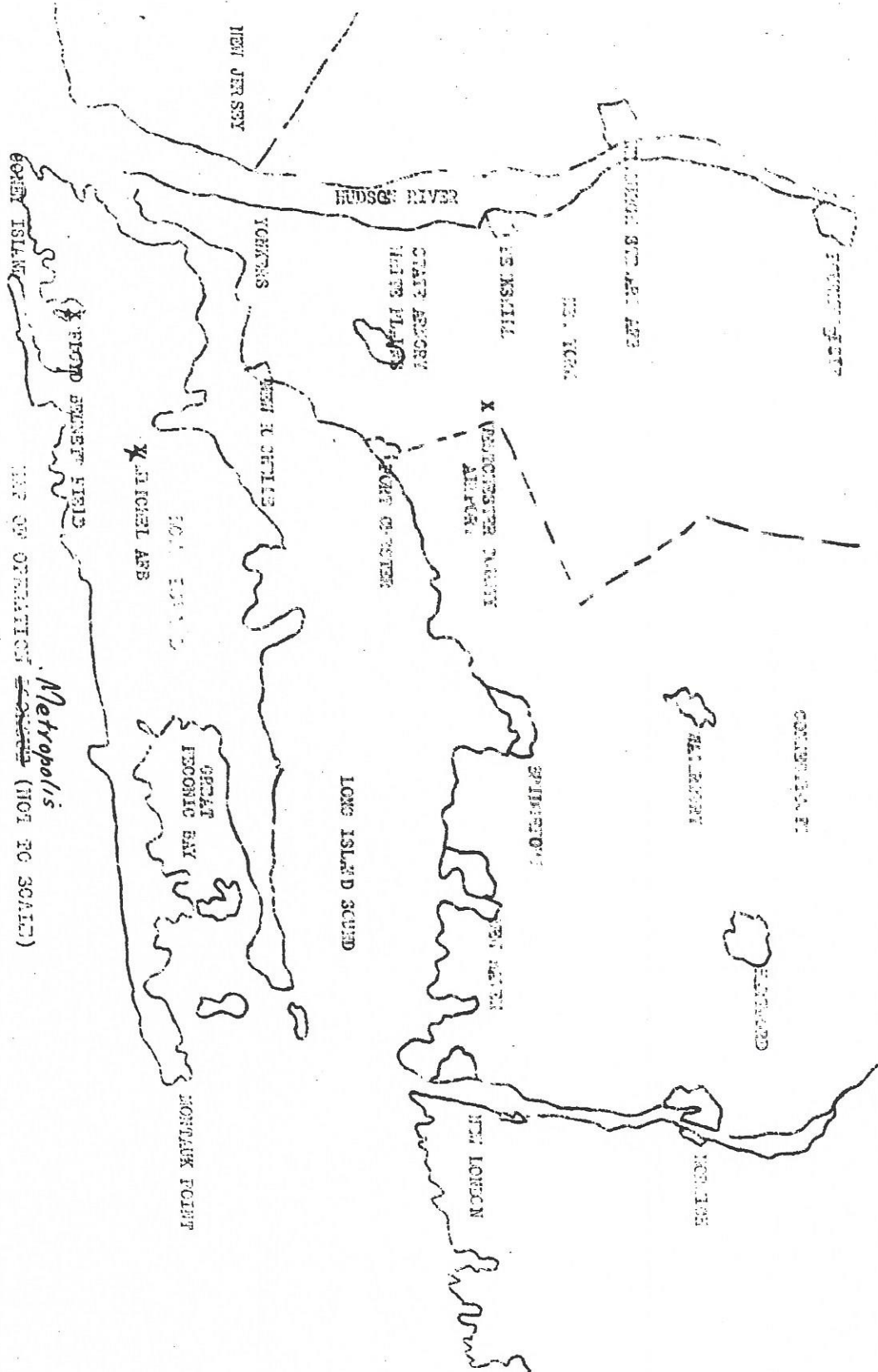
DETAILS:::

Air National Guard's B-26 Invaders are designated as the "attacking" force. RCAF Reserve Vampires and Air National Guard F-47 Thunderbolts are the intercept forces. Defense operations will be directed from 52nd Fighter Wing Headquarters in the State Armory at White Plains.

As soon as attack is determined by radar, interception flights will be dispatched and guided to the "enemy". "Attacking" aircraft will range from their home base at Floyd Bennett Field, while intercept action will come from Mitchel Air Force Base, L.I. where RCAF Reserve units will be based for the exercise; from Westchester County Airport; from Newark, N.J. and from Floyd Bennett Field.

RCAF Reserve No. 1 Radar and Communications Unit will use mobile radar equipment set up at Stewart Air Force Base, Newburgh, N.Y. and at Mitchel Air Force Base,

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Metropolis

Map of Metropolitan Area (Not to Scale)

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
HEADQUARTERS
FIRST AIR FORCE
Slocum Air Force Base
New Rochelle, New York

Tel. - New Rochelle 2-5060, Ext. 75

FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

"OPERATION METROPOLIS"

Operating jointly in the first post-war maneuver of its kind, units of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve and the United States Air National Guard will participate in "Operation Metropolis", a simulated air-raid and intercept training exercise, over the New York City area on October 22.

In announcing the training maneuver, U. S. Air Force and RCAF officials declared that one of the chief purposes of the joint maneuver will be to demonstrate the ability of the Canadian Air Reservists and United States Air National Guardsmen to integrate forces in the event of an emergency.

The operation will furnish valuable data to the senior staffs of both countries for assessing the efficiency of the participating units. In addition, the exercise will serve to stimulate public interest, increase the morale of the Reserve forces, and encourage Reserve recruiting activity of both countries, it was stated.

An estimated two hundred and forty RCAF reserve members, including eighty officers and one hundred and sixty airmen, will be flown from their home base at Montreal, Canada to Mitchell Air Force Base, Long Island, for the exercise. The RCAF's intercept force will consist of eight latest type jet De Havilland Vampire Fighters.

The 52nd Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard, under the command of Brigadier General Clyde H. Mitchell, will have operational control of all participating forces.

Air National Guard B-26 Invader type light bombers designated as the attacking force; swift British De Havilland jet-type Vampires flown by RCAF Reservists, and Air National Guard F-47 Thunderbolts, the fighter aircraft made famous for its ground support operations during World War II, will be highlighted during "Operation Metropolis."

Defense operations will be directed from the 52nd Fighter Wing Headquarters, State Armory, White Plains, New York; the radar equipment and facilities being furnished jointly by the RCAF Reserve and the 152nd Aircraft Control and Warning Group.

"Attacking" Bombers will fly a prescribed course across the exercise area. As these simulated "attack" aircraft penetrate the fringe of the defense zone and are picked up by radar and identified, the intercept units attached to the particular zone for which they are responsible will be signalled to seek out the advancing elements.

Defense interceptors will be controlled by radio from the Air Defense control center at the 52nd Fighter Wing Armory. As soon as the "attack" has been detected by radar, interception flights will be dispatched and guided to the intruder force. The Canadian Reserve units will operate out of Mitchel Air Force Base. Air Operations of the participating Air National Guard units will emanate from their home stations.

Air National Guard units will consist of the 137th Fighter Squadron of the 107th Fighter Group from Westchester County Airport, White Plains, the 119th Fighter Squadron of the 108th Fighter Group from Newark, New Jersey; and the 114th and 102nd Bombardment Squadrons of the 106th Bombardment Group from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn.

4 --

RCAF Reserve Units participating in the air operations will be the 401st Fighter Squadron and the 438th Fighter Squadron. In addition, No. 1 Radar and Communications Units of Montreal will furnish the lions share of the radar equipment used in this exercise.

"Operation Metropolis" was announced following an exchange of letters between General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Chief of Staff, USAF, and Air Marshal W. R. Curtis of the RCAF giving their countries' approval to the joint training exercise.

It is planned that the RCAF Reserve units will participate in at least two intercept maneuvers. Dividing their eight plane squadron into two flights of four each, they will be on stand-by alert for the exercise beginning around 2 P.M. It is anticipated that the alerts to scramble for intercept action will be given at twenty minute intervals during the afternoon of the maneuver.

E N D

October 7, 1949

Air Force Office
ARMED FORCES PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICES
90 Church Street, New York, New York
Tel.- Rector 2-9100, Ext. 8380

Below are a series of spot announcements in connection with "Operation Metropolis" to be held in the New York City area on 22 October 1949.

Frank DeK Huyler Jr
FRANK DeK. HUYLER, JR
Lt. Colonel, USAF/10
Air Officer.

Spot Announcement # 1.

This Saturday afternoon, 22 October, during "Operation Metropolis", Air National Guardsmen flying B-26 Douglas "Invader" bombers will attempt to penetrate the defenses set up around New York City by the local Air National Guard and the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve.

The interceptor force, which will try to throw back the make-believe bombing attack by B-26 "Invaders" will consist of F-47 Republic "Thunderbolts" piloted by local Air National Guardsmen and the speedy jet De Havilland "Vampire" fighters, flown by the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve.

Spot Announcement # 2.

Famous World War II F-47 Thunderbolts fighters will take to the skies this Saturday afternoon to protect New York City from a make-believe bombing attack. The Thunderbolts will be piloted by many war-time fighter aces of the local Air National Guard. The Air National Guard will be assisted in this "Operation Metropolis" by the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve flying the swift jet fighter, the De Havilland "Vampire". The fighter interception will be controlled through the joint use of Radar facilities by the RCAF Reserve and the Air National Guard.

Spot Announcement # 4.

The Air National Guard Control Center at White Plains, New York, will be the scene of much activity this Saturday afternoon, October 22nd, as Air National Guard Bombers attempt to penetrate the New York City aerial defenses.

High military personnel of the RCAF and the U.S. Air Force will witness the first post-war joint Canadian-American defense operation.

Known as "Operation Metropolis" the maneuver will bring together fighter pilots of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard endeavoring to intercept the flights of the B-26 "Invaders".

Spot Announcement # 5.

The first Royal Canadian Air Force unit to engage the German Luftwaffe in combat during the past war will be on hand this Saturday afternoon October 22, to assist the local Air National Guard defend New York City against a simulated bombing attack.

The 401st Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve flying swift De Havilland jet "Vampire" fighters, will aid the Air National Guard F-47 Thunderbolts in interception of the B-26 "Invaders" which will endeavor to break through the New York City defenses.

Spot Announcement # 3.

Taking part in "Operation Metropolis", a joint Royal Air
Canadian Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard training
maneuver, designed to protect New York City from a make-
believe bombing attack this Saturday afternoon, will be the
"Alouette" Squadron. The "Alouette" Squadron is composed
mostly of French-Canadian fighter pilots who will fly the
swift De Havilland fighters known as "Vampires".

J 6 5 6

BIOGRAPHY OF AIR MARSHAL W.A. CURTIS

Air Marshal W.A. Curtis, CB, CBE, DSC, ED, Chief of the Air Staff, Royal Canadian Air Force, was born at Havelock, Ont. and was educated in Toronto, leaving school in 1915 to join the 34th Infantry Battalion. He later won his commission with the 21st Regiment, and like his predecessor Air Marshal Leckie, learned to fly at his own expense at the Curtis Flying School at Long Branch, near Toronto. In 1916 he transferred to the Royal Naval Air Service and served overseas as a fighter pilot. His operational career was a highly distinguished one and before being invalided home in 1918 he was awarded the DSC and Bar.

Upon return home Air Marshal Curtis joined the Reserve of the Canadian Air Force, and subsequently served for eight years as an officer of the Toronto Scottish Regiment. His interest in flying continued, however, and he was one of the founders of the Toronto Flying Club, acting as its president for three years. He assisted in the organization of the 110 auxiliary Squadron, RCAF, in Toronto, and became officer commanding in 1935. In 1938 he was promoted to Wing Commander in charge of the Squadrons at Toronto, Hamilton and London.

He was called up for regular duty on Sept. 1, 1939 and was placed in charge of a committee selecting aerodrome sites in Ontario for the BCATF. He became director of Postings and Records at Ottawa headquarters shortly thereafter, and in April 1941 was named Commanding Officer at No. 2 Flying Training School at Uplands near Ottawa. He later served in various headquarters positions, and in November 1941 went overseas as Deputy commander in chief. He served overseas until January 1944, when he returned to Canada to become Air Member for Air Staff at Ottawa. With the consolidation of the

three Services under one Department in January 1946 He became Air Member for Air Plans, and in 1947 succeeded Air Marshal Lockie as Chief of the Air Staff. In addition, he is the senior Canadian Service member on the Permanent Joint Board of Defense.

In 1924 Air Marshal Curtis married Pearl Burford in Toronto. They have three children, 22 year old Glen, Wilfred Austin 20 years, and daughter Rhonna 14 years of age. They reside in Ottawa.

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AIR VICE MARSHAL C.R. SLEMON

Air Marshal C.R. Slemen, Air Officer Commanding, Training Command, RCAF, is 44 years old and has 25 years continuous service with the RCAF. He is one of the Service's five "originals", who on the recent Silver Jubilee were able to look back over continuous service from the very creation of the RCAF.

Born in Winnipeg, in 1904, Air Vice Marshal Slemen began his military career in the Army's OTC while an engineering student at the University of Manitoba. In 1923 he joined the non-permanent, non-professional body known as the Canadian Air Force, going to Camp Borden as a cadet. In the spring of 1924, he was commissioned in the newly-created RCAF, and received his wings the following autumn, the first Air Force pilot to get his wings in Canada after the war.

AVM Slemen was one of the Forces' outstanding pilots during the early days of the RCAF, and his log book reflects the big part played by the Air Force in opening Canada's North. His early flying days provide a fund of stories about the photo survey operations, forest fire patrols, and other similar jobs that the RCAF carried out before the last war. Flying aircraft slow and flimsy by today's standards, AVM Slemen rolled up more than 100,000 miles on this type of work.

From 1935 until 1937 he served as operations staff officer at Ottawa. He was then selected to attend the RAF Staff College course in the United Kingdom, returning to Canada in the spring of 1939, taking over as Senior air staff officer of Western Air Command on the Pacific Coast. He rose to head of this Command after which, in July 1941, he became Director of

Operations at Ottawa. In 1942 he went overseas to help organize the famed All-Canadian Bomber Group. From January 1943, the date of its formation, until September 1944, he held the position of Senior Air Staff Officer, during which period the RCAF Heavy Bomber Squadrons reached their peak strength and efficiency. The coordination of the expansion and the operational training of the Group was his personal responsibility and of necessity had to be carried out simultaneously with the heavy operational commitments. His steady and unflagging efforts in the accomplishment of these tasks was a major individual contribution to the success of the Canadian Bomber Group. After a few months operational staff duty at RAF Bomber Command Headquarters, he assumed the duties of Deputy Air Officer Commanding in Chief of the RCAF Overseas.

AVM Slemen was named to command the RCAF Pacific Force, a position that dissolved when the Japanese surrendered. In late 1945 he became Air Member for Supply and Organization, and in March 1947 became Air Member for Operations and Training, a position he held until September 1949.

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Public Information Office
HEADQUARTERS FIRST AIR FORCE
Mitchel Air Force Base, New York

FOR RELEASE:

10 A.M. OCTOBER 18, 1949

CANADIAN CHIEF OF AIR STAFF TO OBSERVE "OPERATION METROPOLIS"

Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, Chief of Air Staff of the Royal Canadian Air Force, will arrive in White Plains, New York, Saturday, October 22, to observe "Operation Metropolis", the air defense training maneuver to be held jointly by RCAF Reserve and U. S. Air National Guard units, Headquarters of the First Air Force announced today.

One of the chief purposes of the joint maneuver, the first post-war operation of its type, will be to demonstrate the ability of the Canadian Air Force Reservists and the Air National Guardsmen to integrate forces in the event of an emergency.

Air Marshal Curtis, accompanied by Air Vice Marshal C. R. Slemmon, will arrive at Westchester County Airport, White Plains, at noon Saturday. He will be greeted there by Brigadier General Clyde H. Mitchell, Commanding General of the 52nd Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard, who will have operational control of the participating units in "Operation Metropolis".

On arriving at the airport, Air Marshal Curtis will also be met by an honor flight of Air National Guardsmen, commanded by Lt. Colonel Robert O. Hereford. The 552nd Air Force Band of the New York National Guard, will play "God Save the King" followed by the RCAF anthem, "March Past". Air Marshal Curtis will then go directly to the Filter Center in the State Armory at White Plains to observe maneuver operations, which begin at 2 P.M.

M O R E

Air Marshal Curtis, a native of Havelock, Ontario, was in the Canadian air service in the first World War. After serving briefly with an infantry unit, he transferred to the Royal Naval Air Service in 1916 and served overseas as a fighter pilot. Before being invalided home in 1918 he was awarded the DSC and bar.

On his return to Canada, Air Marshal Curtis joined the Reserve of the Canadian Air Force and served for eight years as an officer of the Toronto Scottish Regiment. His interest in flying continued, however, and he assisted in organizing auxiliary squadrons to the RCAF. Called up for regular duty on September 1, 1939, he subsequently became commanding officer of a flying training school near Ottawa. He later served in various RCAF headquarters assignments and in November 1941 went overseas as Deputy Commander-in-Chief. He served overseas until January 1944 when he returned to Canada to become Air Member for Air Staff at Ottawa.

With consolidation of the three services under one department in January 1946 Air Marshal Curtis became Air Member for Air Plans. The following year he became Chief of the Air Staff.

Air Vice Marshal Slemmon, who will accompany Air Marshal Curtis to White Plains, is commander of the RCAF Training Command and has 25 years continuous service with the RCAF. He is one of the service's five "originals" who can look back over continuous service from the creation of the Canadian air force.

Two RCAF Reserve units, the 401st Fighter Squadron and the 438th Fighter Squadron, will fly De Havilland Vampire jet fighters in "Operation Metropolis" as intercept forces. The 119th and 137th Fighter Squadrons, N. Y. Air National Guard, flying F-47 Thunderbolts, also will serve as intercept forces,

while the 102nd and 114th Bombardment (Light) Squadrons of the ANG, with B-26 Invaders will be the "attacking" forces.

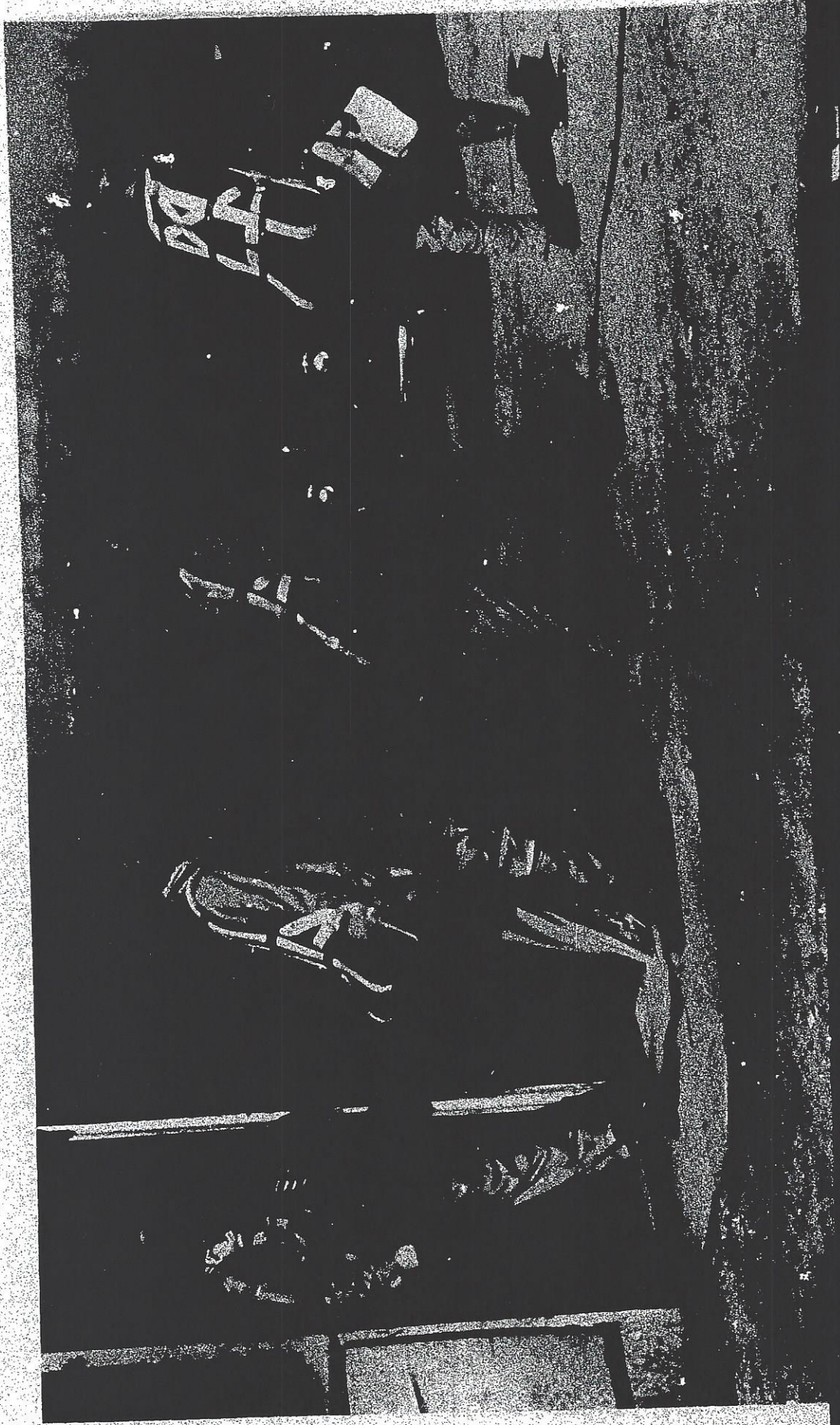
In addition to the flying units, the Canadians will bring No. 1 Radar and Communications Unit of Montreal to furnish radar equipment. Also participating will be the 106th Aircraft Control Squadron and 107th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, N.Y. Air National Guard.

Defense operations will be directed from the 52nd Fighter Wing headquarters in the State Armory at White Plains. As soon as the "attack" is determined by radar, interception flights will be dispatched and guided to the "enemy". "Attacking" aircraft will range from their home base at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn while intercept action will stem from Mitchel Air Force Base, Long Island, from Westchester County Airport, from Newark, N.J. and from Floyd Bennett Field.

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Oct 17, 1949

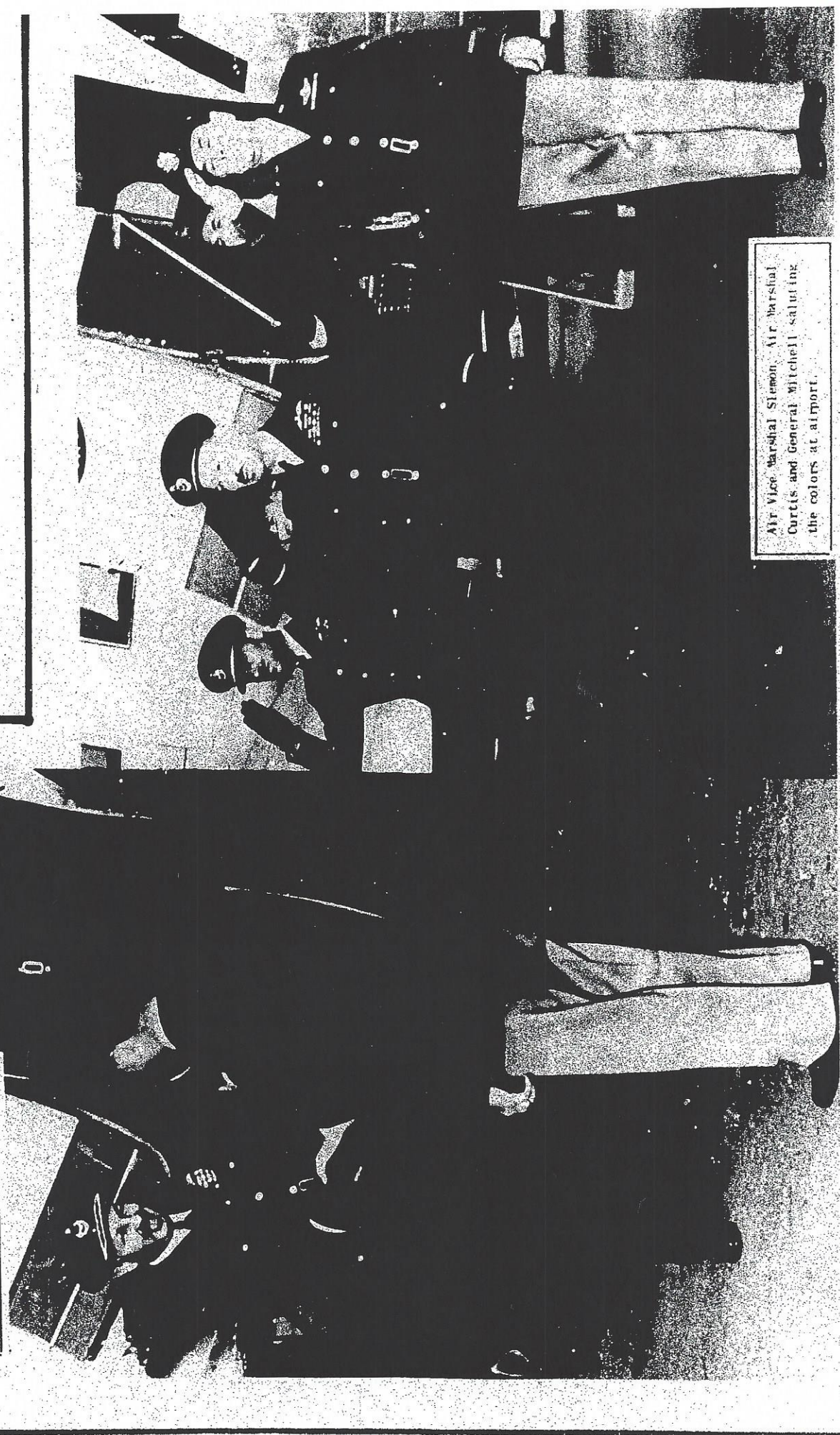
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Papers



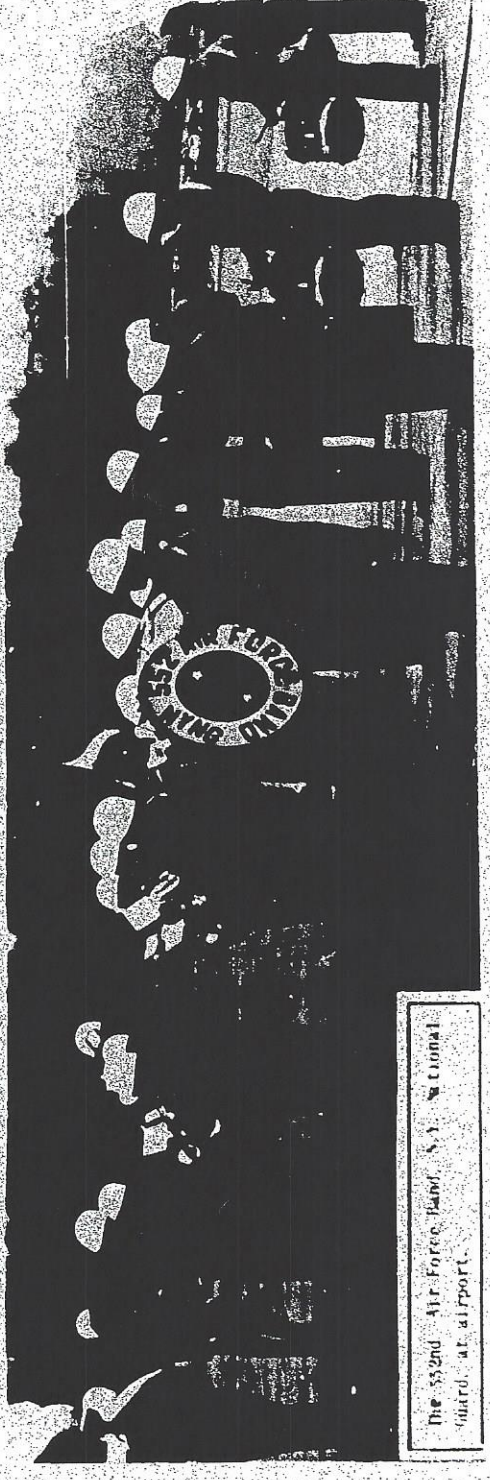
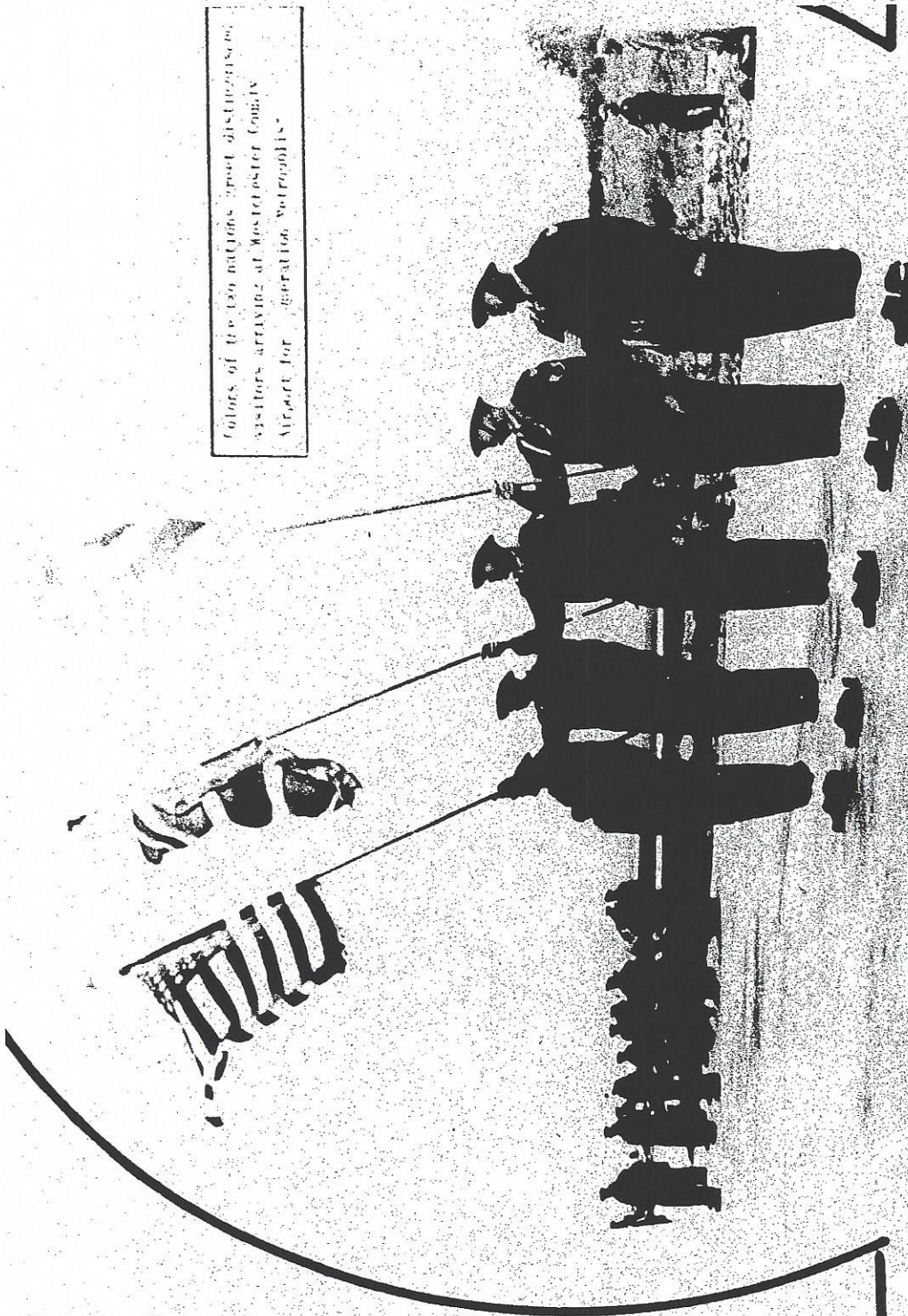
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Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, Chief of Air Staff, RCAF, is greeted by Brig. General Clyde H. Mitchell, 52nd Fighter Wing Commander, on his arrival at Westchester airport. In background is Air Vice Marshal C. R. Stemon.

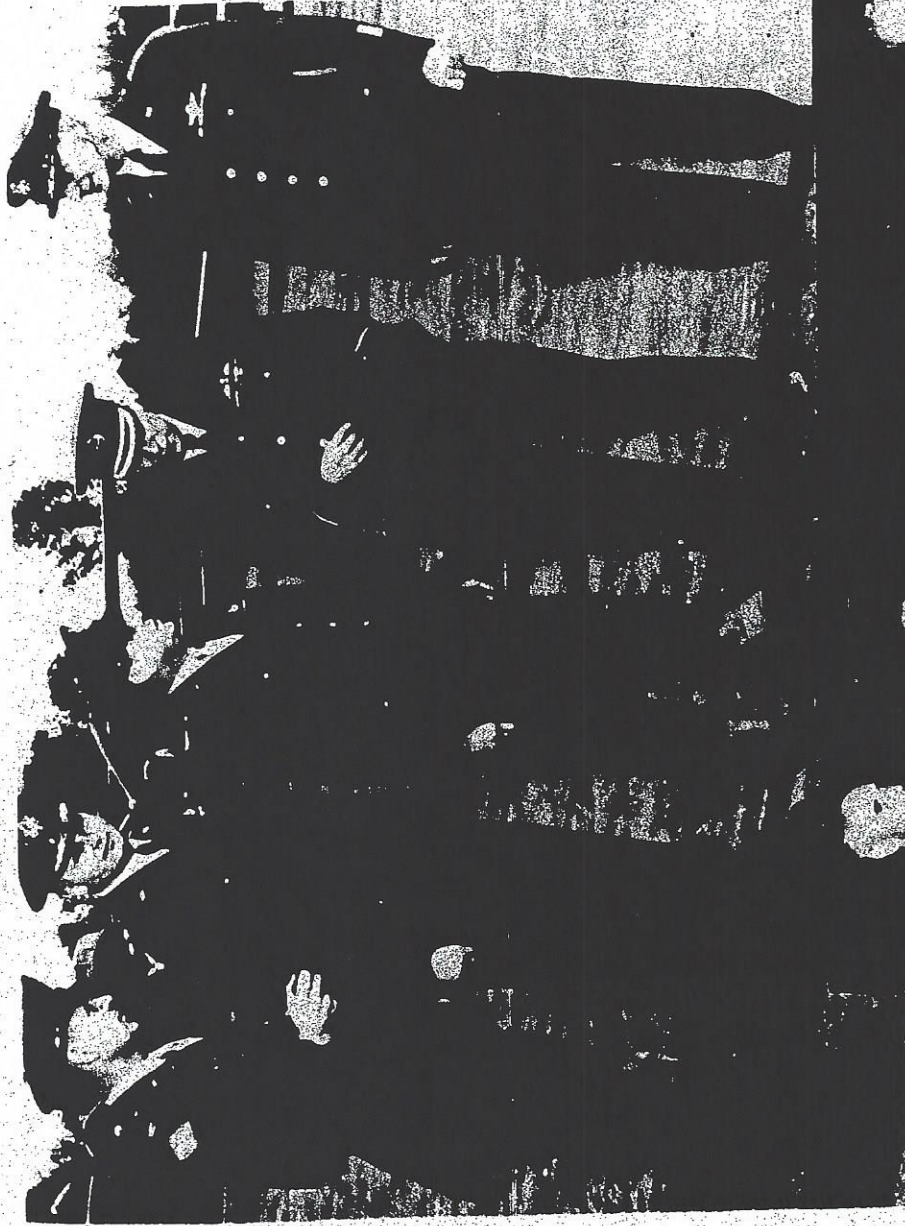
Air Vice Marshal Stemon, Air Marshal Curtis and General Mitchell saluting the colors at airport.



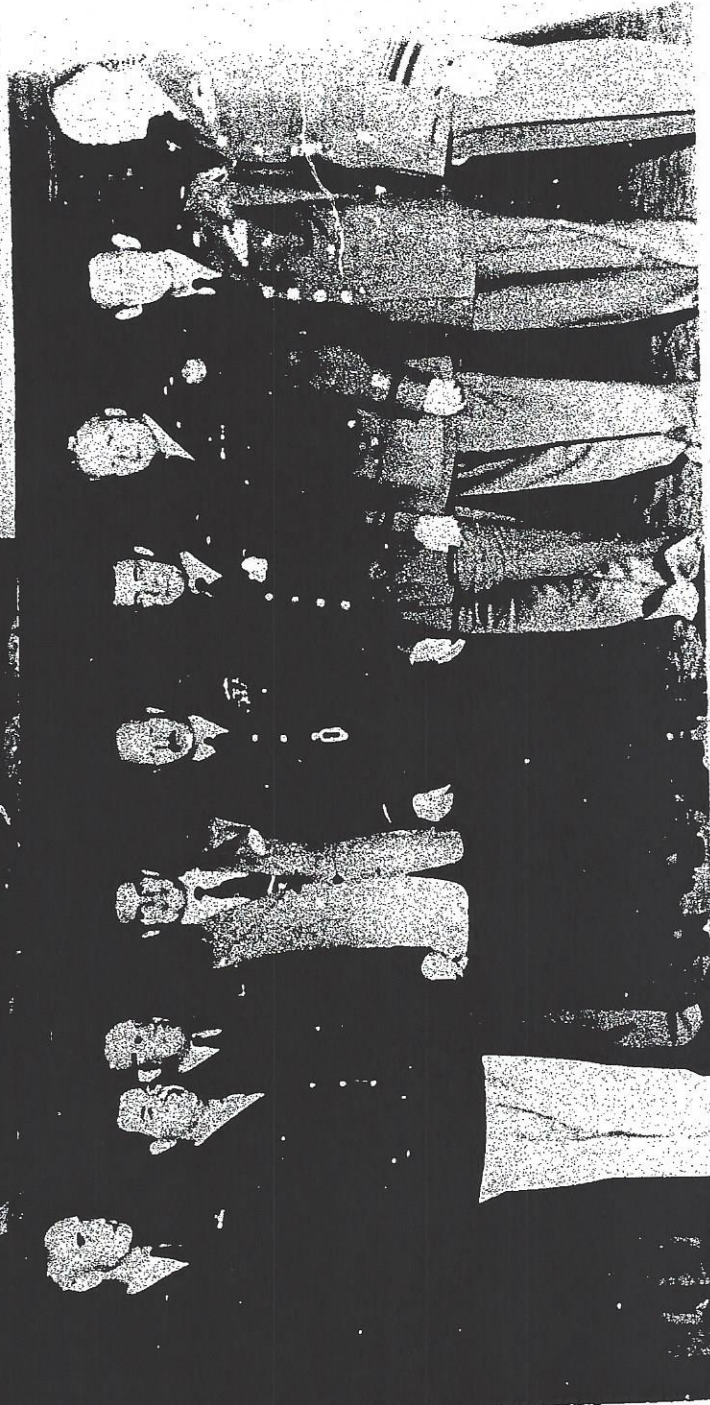
Colors of the two nations were distributed to visitors arriving at Westchester County Airport for "Operation Metropolitan."



The 552nd Air Force Band, U.S. National Guard, at airport.



Awaiting arrival of Air Marshal
 Curtis. Left to right, Col. E. S.
 Nichols, Senior Instructor with
 52nd Fighter Wing; Maj. General
 Glenn O. Barcus, Commanding General
 of the First Air Force; Brig. Gene-
 ral Clyde H. Mitchell, Commanding
 General, 52nd Fighter Wing; Air
 Commodore Gordon of the Canadian
 Embassy; and Maj. General Robert
 M. Webster, Commanding General of
 the Eastern Air Defense Force.



Officials witnessing 'Operation Metropolis'.
 Left to right: General Webster, General
 Mitchell, General Whitehead, Mr. Stuart,
 Air Marshal Curtis, Maj. General C. T. Myers,
 Vice Commander, ComAC; General Barcus,
 Brig. General Clifford C. Natt, Vice Com-
 mander, First Air Force, and Air Vice
 Marshal Simon.

Pilots of the 52nd Fighter Wing,
NY Air National Guard, leave for
their aircraft following briefing.



Pilots of the HCAF Reserve stand by
their Vampire jets ready for joint
air defense maneuver.

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

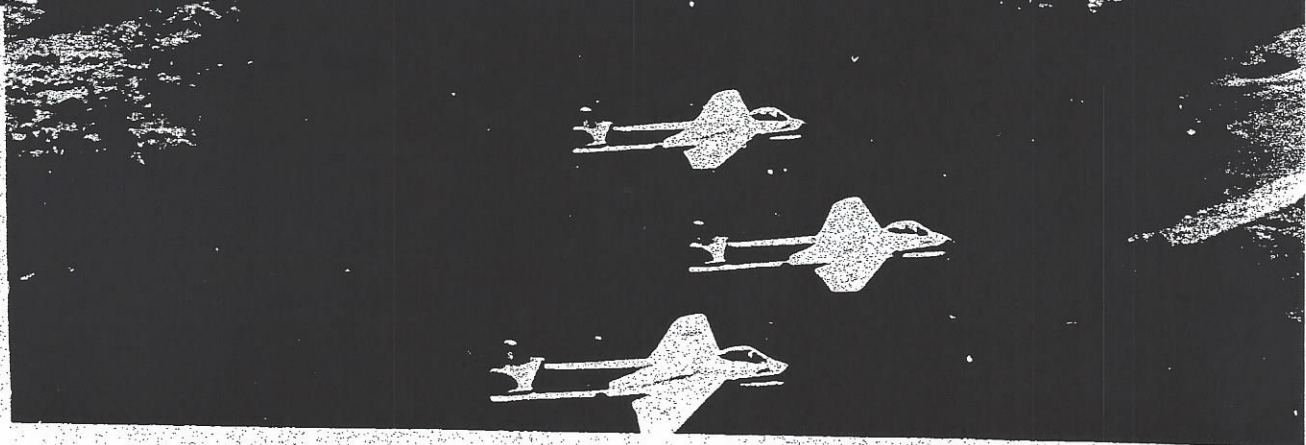
Operation Metropolis

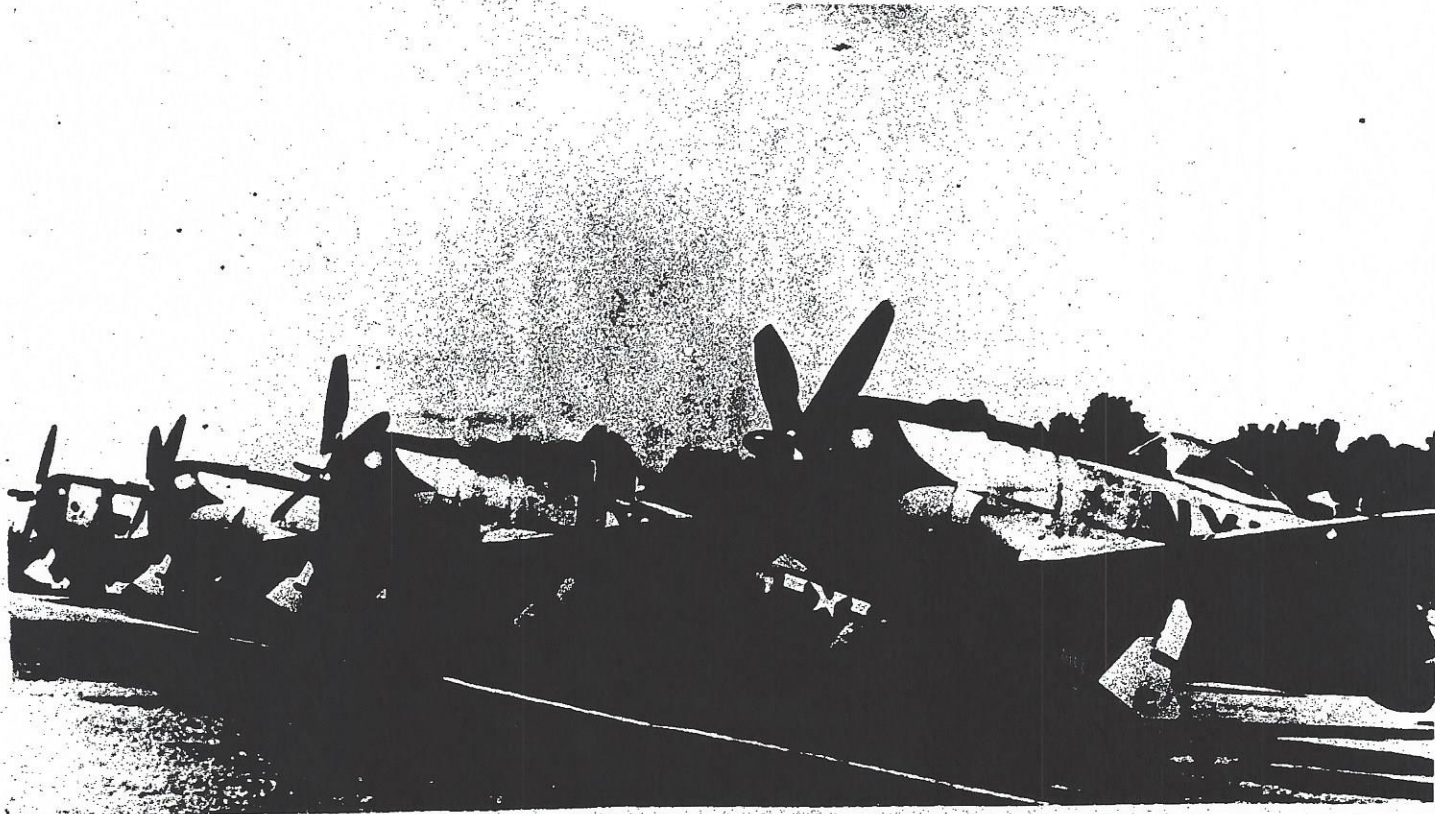


Brig. General Clyde H. Mitchell, Commanding General, 52nd Fighter Wing, NYNG, points out route of 'Operation Metropolis' to Lt. General Emnis C. Whitehead, Commanding General, Continental Air Command; Air Marshal W.A. Curtis, RCAF Chief of Staff, and Mr. H.C. Stuart, special consultant to the Secretary of the Air Force.



Air Defense Control Center at State Armory, White Plains, N.Y. is nerve center of Operation Metropolis in which ANG F-47 Thunderbolts, and RCAF Vampire jets took part as defense force.






Operation Metropolis' defense aircraft.
Above, F-47 Thunderbolts of the Air
National Guard, and below, Vampire
jets of the RCAF Reserve.

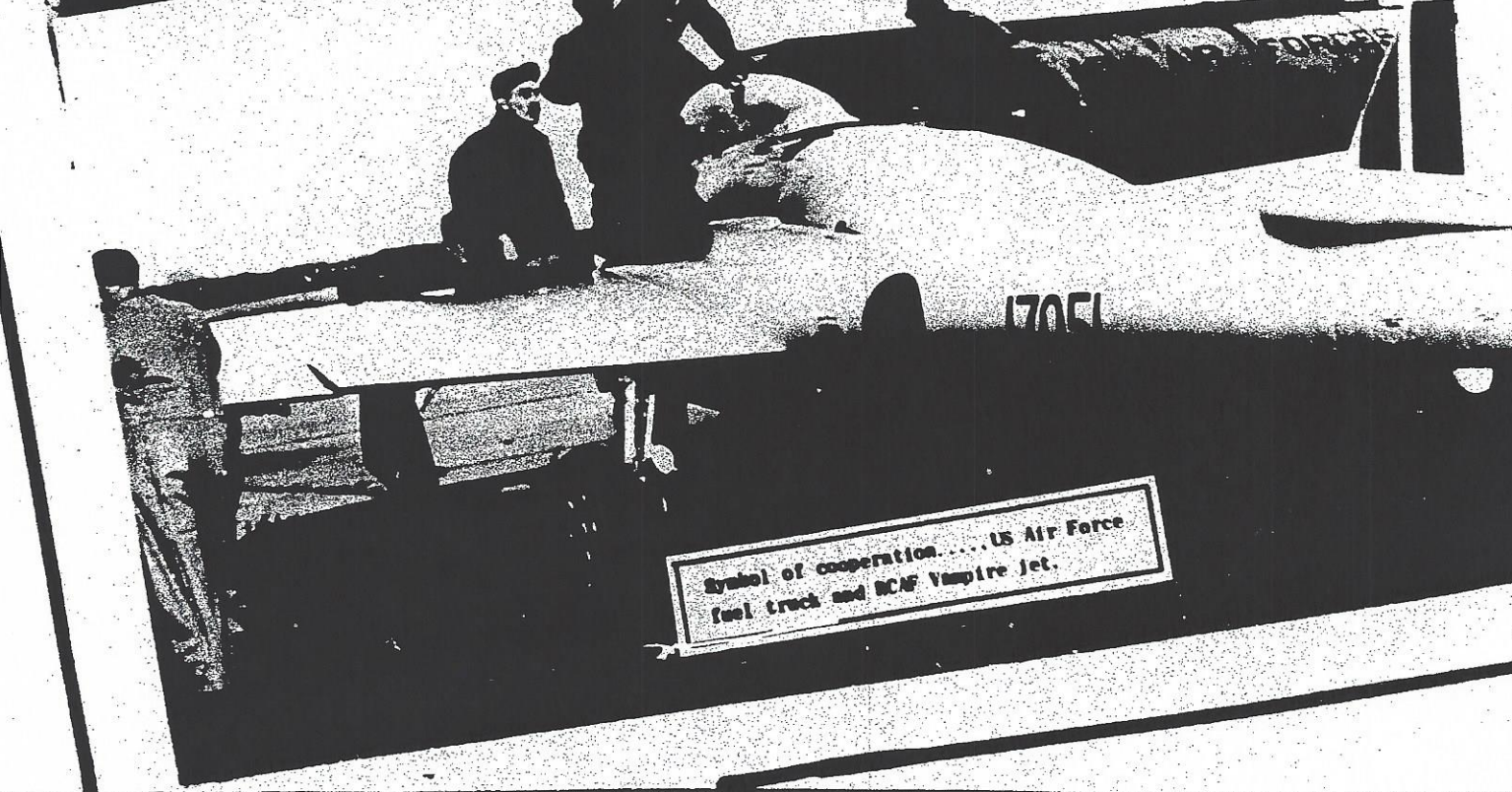


Below, Canadian airmen open up the gas cover of a Vampire. At right, an RCAF Reservist willingly assists in the job of gassing up.



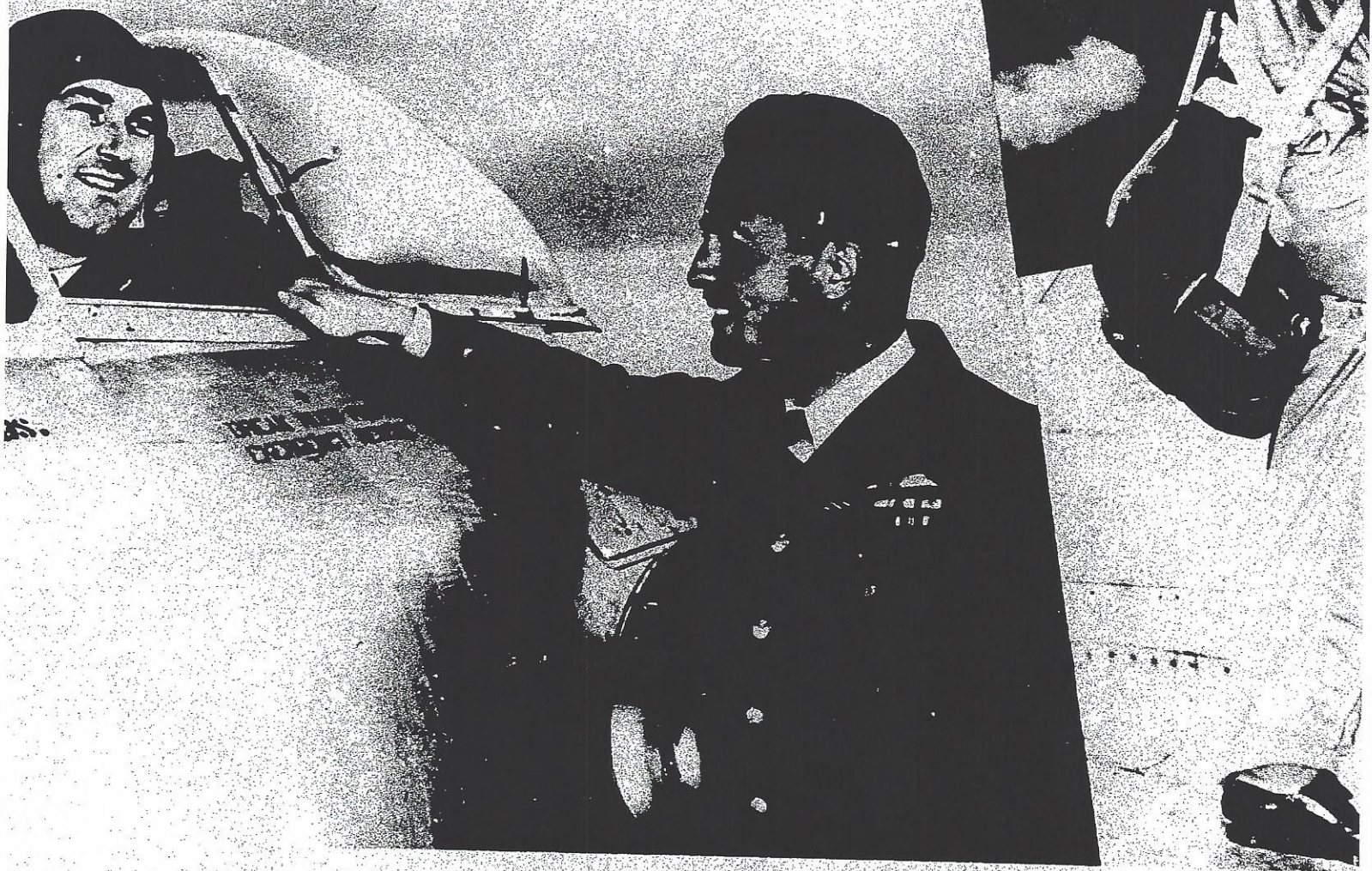


ANG pilots check over last minute details of route for 'Operation Metropolis'.



Symbol of cooperation.... US Air Force fuel truck and RCAF Vampire jet.

Ready for takeoff....Closeups of an
HCAF Reserve pilot and an Air
National Guard pilot.



The New York Times

CANADIAN, U. S. FLIERS PLAN 'ATTACK' ON CITY

United States and Canadian airmen will fly wing to wing in an "attack" on New York, scheduled for Oct. 22, it was announced yesterday.

The first post-war maneuver of its kind, Operation Metropolis will be a simulated air raid and interception training exercise involving reserve units of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the United States Air National Guard.

It was said that the object of the joint air maneuvers would be to demonstrate the ability of the two countries to coordinate their forces in the event of an emergency.

The offensive role will be taken by Air National Guard units flying B-26 light bombers. The intercepting teams will consist of Canadian pilots flying jet Vampire fighters and American pilots in F-47 Thunderbolts.

As the bombers fly a prescribed course in the New York area, ground radar stations will be ready to report positions of the city's defenses to Air National Guard headquarters at Westchester County Army Airfield, White Plains. Interceptors will be based at Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, Newark Airport, and Westchester County Airport, White Plains. The exercise will begin about 2 P. M.

Two hundred and forty reservists of the RCAF will be brought down from their base at Montreal and will make their headquarters at Mitchel Air Force Base, L. I. The Canadians also will conduct radar exercises.

Oct. 12, 1949

DAILY NEWS
NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWS

RCAF to Join USAF in Drill Over the City

In the first postwar joint exercise of its kind, Canadian and American airmen will participate in a simulated air-raid and interceptor defense over New York on Saturday, Oct. 22, headquarters of the First Air Force announced yesterday.

Down from Montreal will fly about 240 Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve officers and men. They will be based temporarily at Mitchel Air Force Base, L. I.

Guard to Take Part.

Operating with them will be U. S. Air National Guardsmen from the 157th Fighter Squadron of the 107th Fighter Group from Westchester County Airport, and the 119th Fighter Squadron of the 108th Fighter Group from Newark. Also participating will be the 114th and 102d Bombardment Squadrons of the 106th Bombardment Group from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn.

The Canadians will bring eight of their own De Havilland Vampire jet fighters to join the American F-47 Thunderbolts in warding off American B-26 Invader light bombers making the attack.

It promises to be a good show and the name will be Operation Metropolis.

NEW YORK

Herald



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A European Edition Is Published Daily in Paris

Oct. 12, 1949

MIRROR Oct. 12, 1949 RCAF to Join In Air Games Here

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11 (AP).—In the first such maneuver since the war, the Royal Canadian Air Force and the U. S. Air National Guard will take part in a simulated air-raid over the New York City area on Oct. 22. Officials said one chief purpose of "Operation Metropolis" is to demonstrate the ability of the two outfits to integrate forces.

Brig Gen. Mitchell, commander of the Guard's Fighter Wing, will have operational control. Defense operations will be directed from the Wing's headquarters in White Plains. The RCAF reserve and the 152d Air Group, Control and Warning Group, will furnish the radar equipment. Two-hundred-and-forty Canadian reserves will come from Montreal to Mitchell Field, L. I., from where they will operate.

Air National Guard units participating will include the 17th Fighter Squadron of the 107th Fighter Group from Westchester Airport, White Plains; the 119th Fighter Squadron of the 108th Fighter Group from Newark and the 114th and 124th Bombardment Squadrons of the 100th Bombardment Group from Floyd Bennett Field.

NEW YORK POST

Oct. 11, 1949

Canada Joins U.S. in Air Test Of City's Defenses Oct. 22

Washington, Oct. 11 (AP).—In the first maneuver of its kind since the war, units of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the U. S. Air National Guard will take part in a simulated air-raid and intercept exercise over New York Oct. 22.

The training exercise has been dubbed "Operation Metropolis." Officials said one purpose is to demonstrate the ability of the two outfits to integrate forces in event of an emergency.

Canadian Jets To Join Guard In Drills Here

2 Fighter Squadrons Will Share in Defense Test Over New York Oct. 22

By Ansel E. Talbert

Jet fighter units of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve will join squadrons of the United States Air National Guard over New York City on Oct. 22 in Operation Metropolis, the first air-raid and fighter-interception training exercise of its kind ever held, it was announced yesterday.

Operation Metropolis was organized as the result of letters between General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force, and Air Marshal (Walter A. Curtis, Chief of the Air Staff of the Royal Canadian Air Force. Its purpose is to demonstrate the ability of Canadian air reserves and American "minute men of the skies" to integrate their forces in any emergency caused by heavy bomber attacks against North America.

It was disclosed Monday in the New York Herald Tribune that members of Carrier Air Group 18 of the Royal Canadian Navy have just completed three months of intensive anti-submarine training at the Naval Air Station at Quonset Point, R. I.

Strategists believe that an enemy nation attempting atomic-bomb attacks on North American cities and industrial areas most likely would launch them through long-range bombers or submarines firing rocket-propelled missiles.

200 Canadians Coming

Before the exercise begins 250 C. A. F. reserve airmen, including eighty officers, will be flown from their home base at Montreal to Mitchell Field, L. I. The Canadian units involved are the 401st Fighter Squadron and the 438th Fighter Squadron of the R. C. A. F. Reserve.

NEW YORK



Tribune

Paris Edition Is Published Daily in Paris

Oct. 12, 1949

Canadian Jets To Join Guard In Drills Here

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Strategists believe that an enemy nation attempting atomic-bomb attacks on North American cities and industrial areas most likely would launch them through long-range bombers or submarines firing rocket-propelled missiles.

200 Canadians Coming

Before the exercise begins 200 C. A. F. reserve airmen, including staff officers, will be flown from their home base at Montreal to Mitchell Field, L. I. The Canadian units involved are the 401st Fighter Squadron and the 600th Fighter Squadron of the R. C. A. F. Reserve.

The main share of the radar equipment used to detect planes simulating enemy bombers will be furnished by a crack Canadian outfit, the Number 1 Radar and Communications Unit of Montreal.

Canada's pilots will fly new deHavilland Vampire jet fighters, one of the most maneuverable interceptors in the world and the type which most nations of Western Europe friendly to the United States and Britain have chosen as their standard defensive aircraft.

The 52d Fighter Wing of the New York Air National Guard commanded by Brigadier General Clyde H. Mitchell, will have operational control of all participating forces. Defense operations will be directed from the wing's headquarters at the Air National Guard Armory in White Plains, N. Y.

As soon as "attacking bombers" penetrate the fringe of the defensive zone surrounding the vital New York City area and are picked up by radar and identified, interceptor units controlled by radio and other means will be dispatched and guided into the intruder force. Air National Guard bombers of the B-26 type will simulate the enemy.

Guard Units Listed

Guard units operating from their home airports during the exercise will be the 137th Fighter Squadron of the 107th Fighter Group, from Westchester County Airport near White Plains, N. Y.; the 119th Fighter Squadron of the 108th Fighter Group from Newark, N. J.; and the 114th and 102d Bombardment Squadrons of the 106th Bombardment Group, from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn.

The United States 152d Aircraft Control and Warning Group also will take part.

The entire operation is expected to make available for the first time to the senior air staffs of Canada and the United States sufficient data for assessing the efficiency of integration operations and of participating units. Operation Metropolis also is intended to increase the morale of the reserve forces of both nations and encourage recruiting activity.

ORK POST

11, 1949

U.S. in Air Test Exercises Oct. 22

Oct. 21 (AP)—A number of its kind, units of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the U. S. Air National Guard will take part in a simulated air-raid and fighter exercise over New York City.

The exercise has been named "Metropolis." One purpose is to test the ability of the reserve forces in emergency.

Canada, U.S. Fliers Join In Air Attack On New York City

Operating jointly in the first post-war maneuver of its kind, units of the Royal Canadian air force reserve and the United States air national guard will participate in "Operation Metropolis," a simulated air-raid and intercept training exercise, over the New York city area, October 22.

In announcing the training maneuver, United States air force and RCAF officials declared that one of the chief purposes of the joint maneuver will be to demonstrate the ability of the Canadian air force and United States air national guard to cooperate in the event of an emergency.

The operation will furnish valuable data to the senior staffs of both countries for assessing the effectiveness of the participating units. In addition, the exercise will serve to stimulate public interest, interest, increase the morale of the reserve forces, and encourage reserve recruiting activity of both countries, it was stated.

AN ESTIMATED 200 RCAF reserve members, including 80 officers and 160 airman, will be flown from their home base at Montreal, Canada to Mitchell Air Force base, for the exercise. The RCAF, in a separate force will consist of eight latest type jet De Havilland Vampire fighters.

The 32nd Fighter wing, New York air national guard, under the command of Brigadier General Cyril H. Mitchell, will have operational control of all participating forces.

An national guard B-26 Invader type light bombers designated as the attacking force; eight English De Havilland Viceroy-type Vampire jets of RCAF reserve; and air national guard P-47 Thunderbolts will be highlighted during "Operation Metropolis."

Defense operations will be directed from the 32nd Fighter wing headquarters state armory. While the radar equipment and facilities being furnished jointly by the RCAF reserve and the 152nd Aircraft Control and Warning group.

"ATTACKING" bombers will fly a prescribed course across the exercise area. As these simulated "air-raid" aircraft penetrate the fringe of the defense zone and are picked up by radar and identified, the

intercept units attached to the particular zone for which they are responsible will be signalled to seek out the advancing element.

Defense interceptors will be controlled by radio from the air defense control center at the 32nd Fighter wing armory. As soon as the "attacker" has been detected by radar, interception flights will be dispatched and guided to the intercept force.

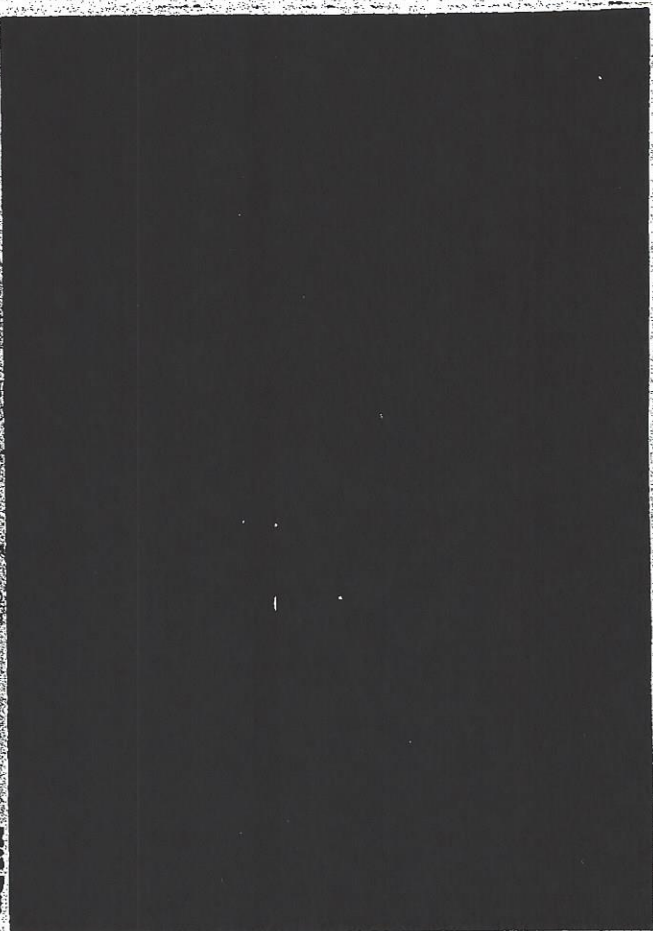
Canadian reserve units will operate out of Mitchell Air Force base. Air operations of the participating air national guard units will emanate from their home stations.

Air national guard units will consist of the 15th Fighter squadron of the 101st Fighter group from Westchester County airport. While the 18th Fighter squadron of the 10th Fighter group from New York, N. Y., and the 14th and 12nd Bombardment squadrons of the 10th Bombardment group from Ford Bennett field, Brooklyn.

RCAF RESERVE units participating in the air operations will be the 401st Fighter squadron and the 48th Fighter squadron. In addition, No. 1 Radar and Communications unit of Montreal will furnish the lion share of the radar equipment used in this exercise.

CANADIAN JETS PREPARE TO 'DEFEND' NEW YORK

NASSAU DAILY REVIEW-STAR



These are three of the eight De Havilland jet fighters which will participate Saturday in Operation Metropolis, a joint exercise of the United States National Guard and the RCAF Reserve in the town of New York city. The Canadians will come from Mitchell Air Force Base on orders from a radar air defense command center in White Plains. Their mission: To intercept "enemy" bombers of the National Guard.

RCAF Press

Long Island Daily Press

LONG ISLAND DAILY PRESS, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1943

Sky's the Limit U.S., Canadian Planes To 'Bomb' Long Island

Long Island is going to be "bombed" a week from next Saturday. The planes of two nations—the United States and Canada—will streak through the skies, snarling and spitting . . . while two Long Islanders pit their respective forces against each other, one in an attempt to "destroy" the area, the other trying to defend it.

The "bomber" will be a B-24 Liberator, and the "defender" will be a P-51 Mustang. The B-24 will be piloted by a Canadian pilot, and the P-51 will be piloted by a U.S. pilot. The B-24 will be flying from the Long Beach, Calif. base, and the P-51 will be flying from the New York base.

The "bomber" will be flying at an altitude of 10,000 feet, and the "defender" will be flying at an altitude of 5,000 feet. The B-24 will be flying in a line, and the P-51 will be flying in a circle around the B-24.

The "bomber" will be flying over the Long Island Sound, and the "defender" will be flying over the Long Island Sound. The B-24 will be flying over the Long Island Sound, and the P-51 will be flying over the Long Island Sound.



General Mitchell

General Mitchell is a "happy warrior." He was just recently named to that rank and placed in charge of all air guard units within the state. This includes New York's four P-51 fighter squadrons, two B-24 bombardment squadrons, two air service groups and an aerial reconnaissance group and allied units. What's more, the Garden City reversal would assume tactical command of New Jersey units in terms of a national emergency. The Air National Guards of both states are committed to the defense of New York on Monday.

LONG ISLAND'S two Marine aviation squadrons have been

assigned to defend the Long Island Sound. The B-24 will be flying over the Long Island Sound, and the P-51 will be flying over the Long Island Sound.

The "bomber" will be flying at an altitude of 10,000 feet, and the "defender" will be flying at an altitude of 5,000 feet. The B-24 will be flying in a line, and the P-51 will be flying in a circle around the B-24.

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Rome Daily News

RCAF to Join Air Guard in War Games

Oct. 11, 1949

WASHINGTON — In the first maneuver of its kind since the war, units of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the U. S. Air National Guard will take part in a simulated air-raid and intercept exercise over the New York City area Oct. 22.

The training exercise has been dubbed "Operation Metropolis." Officials said one chief purpose is to demonstrate the ability of the two outfits to integrate forces in event of an emergency.

Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, commander of the 52nd Fighter Wing, New York National Guard, will have operational control.

Defense operations will be directed from the wing's headquarters in White Plains. The RCAF Reserve and the 152nd Aircraft Control and Warning Group will furnish the radar equipment.

Canadian Reserves, numbering 240, will come from their home base in Montreal, to Mitchell Air Force Base at Hempstead, Long Island, from which they will operate.

NIA

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Daily Sentinel

NIAGARA FALLS GAZETTE

NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.,

Joint Maneuver Planned by RCAF And Air Guard

WASHINGTON, Oct. 11. (AP)—In the first maneuver of its kind since the war, units of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the U. S. Air National Guard will take part in a simulated air-raid and intercept exercises over the New York City area October 21.

The training exercise has been dubbed "Operation Metropolitan." Officials said one chief purpose is to demonstrate the ability of the two outfits to integrate forces in event of an emergency.

Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, commander of the 52nd Fighter Wing, New York National Guard, will have operational control.

Defense operations will be directed from the wing's headquarters in White Plains, N. Y. The RCAF reserve and the 122nd Aircraft Control and Warning group will furnish the radar equipment.

Canadian reserves, numbering 200, will come from their home base in Montreal, to Mitchell Air Force base at Hempstead, L. I., from which they will operate.

Air National Guard units participating will include the 137th Fighter squadron of the 107th Fighter group from Westchester County airport, White Plains; the 119th Fighter squadron of the 108th Fighter group from Newark, N. J.; the 114th and 122nd Bombardment squadrons of the 105th Bombardment group from West Coast Naval Air station, Garden City, N. Y.

BUFFALO EVENING NEWS

Canadian, U. S. Fliers To Join in Operation Over New York City

Canadian and U. S. Air Force fliers will be joined in a joint operation over New York City, according to reports from the Buffalo office of the War Relocation Authority. The operation is expected to take place in the near future and will involve the participation of both Canadian and U. S. fliers. The operation is being conducted in cooperation with the War Relocation Authority and is expected to be a significant event in the history of the city.

Journal ~~of the~~ American

PAID, 3 Cents. SATURDAY, 10 Cents. SUNDAY, 10 Cents.
No. 22521—DAILY TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1949

CANADA TO JOIN IN 'BALTIC' OVER CITY

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L'aviation canadienne participe à la défense aérienne de New-York

NEW-YORK. — (De notre correspondant particulier John Neva.) — Des chefs militaires américains et canadiens s'étaient rassemblés dans la salle de contrôle de White-Plains, New-York, pour diriger les opérations des avions de chasse chargés de repousser l'attaque simulée de bombardiers ennemis contre New-York.

En dépit de la température inégalement qui régnait au-dessus de Manhattan, les unités d'attaque furent repérées par les défenseurs de la métropole américaine et "théoriquement abattues" avant d'avoir pu jeter leurs bombes sur la ville.

Trois unités de radar avaient été organisées pour ces manoeuvres appelées "opération metropolis". Deux de ces unités étaient transportables et avaient été emmenées sur place par le colonel Earl-R. Thomas, de l'aviation militaire canadienne, qui commandait les unités de radar.

Le lieutenant-général Ennis Whitehead, général commandant de la région aérienne continentale, et le maréchal de l'air W.-A. Curtis se trouvaient parmi les 500 personnes qui suivaient les opérations, de la salle de contrôle.

Le maréchal de l'air Curtis dé-

clara que le Canada considérait les Etats-Unis comme un grand frère et qu'il espérait que son pays pourrait encore prêter son aide en cas de danger.

Ce sont des bombardiers du type B-26 qui simulèrent l'attaque contre New-York. Les Canadiens, montant huit nouveaux De Havilland Vampires, des avions à répulsion, et les Américains, des Thunderbolts Republic F-47, repoussèrent l'attaque.

Les opérations de défense furent conduites du quartier général de la 52e escadrille de combat, à White-Plains, juste à la sortie de la ville. Les unités de radar furent fournies et conduites conjointement par l'aviation de réserve canadienne et le 152e groupe de contrôle aérien et d'alerte.

On avait expédié, par avion, 240 membres de la réserve de l'aviation canadienne, de leur base, à Montréal, à Mitchel Field, New-York, pour ces manoeuvres.

Certains de ces aviateurs formaient des équipages d'avions chargés d'intercepter les bombardiers, mais la plupart étaient des spécialistes du radar, dont la mission fut d'assurer le fonctionnement du rideau de radars.

Les unités canadiennes de réserve ayant pris part aux manoeuvres étaient la 401e escadrille de combat et l'unité de radar et de communications No 1 de Montréal, qui avait fourni une grosse proportion du matériel de radar.

VOL. 10-

Can Show

MITCHELL Reserve joined the greater New York "Metropolis" training exercise demonstrated to a group the ability of the joint team for to High-ranking of Force, the RCAF, Command, 1st Air Force, Air National Guard, pressing the impression agreed that the joint operation held over New York and surrounding areas. Effective demonstration of ability of Canada and the States to integrate forces of an emergency.

ALTHOUGH original called for the "attack" to launch their surprise attack around 12,000 feet, it was decided that, because of the weather conditions, it was wiser for safety reasons to go lower.

Guard B-26s of the 206th group from Floyd Bennett Brooklyn, made up the attack force, while ANG Thunderbolts famous in World War II ground-support operations, finished by the 137th Fighter squadron from White Plains, the 119th Fighter squadron of New Jersey ANG, made up the U. S. half of the defense force. The Vampires of the RCAF Reserve 401st and 432nd squadrons...

Novembre
cipe à
-York

Air Force Times

VOL. 10—No. 13 23 NOVEMBER 5, 1949 \$2.50 Per Year By subscription TEN CENTS

Canada-U. S. Air War Game Shows Joint Reserve Power

MITCHEL AFB, N. Y.—Fast Vampire jet fighters of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve joined forces with Air National Guard F-47 Thunderbolts to successfully defend the greater New York area recently in "Operation Metropolis," a simulated "attack-intercept" air defense training maneuver.

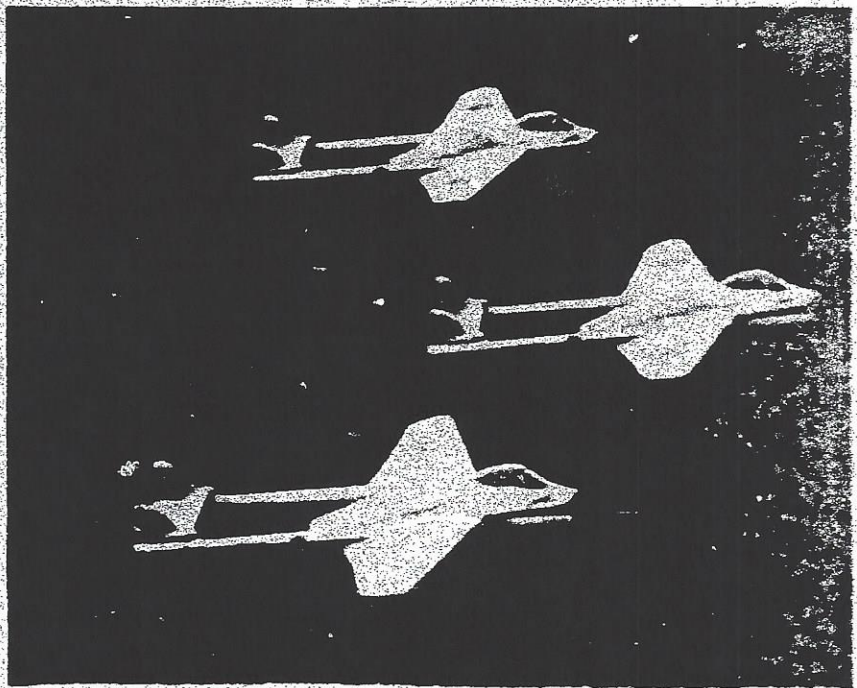
"Metropolis," the first post-war joint training exercise of its type, demonstrated to a remarkable degree the ability of the two countries to work together as a harmonious team for total defense.

High-ranking officials representing the Secretary of the Air Force, the RCAP, Continental Air Command, 1st Air Force, and the Air National Guard, after witnessing the impressive exercise, agreed that the joint air defense operation held over New York City and surrounding areas, was an effective demonstration of the ability of Canada and the United States to integrate forces in event of an emergency.

ALTHOUGH original plans called for the "attack" bombers to launch their surprise attacks from around 12,000 feet, it was later decided that, because of the poor weather conditions, it would be wiser for safety reasons to operate lower.

Guard B-26s of the 206th Bomb group from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, made up the attacking force, while ANG Thunderbolts, famous in World War II for ground-support operations, furnished by the 137th Fighter squadron from White Plains and the 119th Fighter squadron of the New Jersey ANG, made up the U. S. half of the defense force.

The Vampires of the RCAF Reserve 401st and 438th Fighter squadrons, operating from Mitchel AFB, L. I., during the exercise, formed the Canadian half of the force for the exercise.



THREE RCAF VAMPIRES seek out a target near New York in "Operation Metropolis."

When it was all over, Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, RCAF chief of staff, and Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, commanding the 52d Fighter wing, New York Air National Guard, described the maneuver as an unqualified success. General Mitchell was operational control commander of the joint maneuver.

The Air Defense Control center, established at the White Plains Armory to train the Air National Guardsmen in the "know-how" of radar search and tracking procedures, served as the nerve-center of the air defense exercise, directing operations of the fighter planes to disperse the "attack" bombers.

In constant touch with the defense center were two Canadian radar detection units set up as field units at Mitchel AFB and at Stewart Field, Newburgh, New York, and a radar unit of the Air National Guard at Westchester County airport, White Plains.

The radar units were operated by the 106th Aircraft Control and the 107th Aircraft Control and Warning squadrons of the 152d ACand W group, New York ANG, with headquarters at the White Plains armory. The No. 1 Radar and Communications unit of Montreal, Canada, maintained the two RCAF Reserve field radar units.

The Standard-Star

CONSOLIDATION OF THE STANDARD GUARDIAN AND THE DAILY STAR

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1949



OPERATION METROPOLIS plans are studied by Brig. Gen. Hyde H. Mitchell, commanding general of the 52nd Fighter Wing, New York National Guard, and his staff at Wing headquarters in White Plains.

"Operation Metropolis," a coordinated NYANG and Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve air defense training maneuver, will take place over New York City on Saturday. From left to right, air instructor: Capt. N. P. John-

Col. E. S. Nichols, USAF senior son, intelligence: Lt. Col. E. A. Ferdon, communications: Maj. V. J. Castellano, adjutant: Maj. D. M. Sarkosian, operations, and Gen. Mitchell.

Standard-Star

SON OF THE EVENING STANDARD AND THE DAILY STAR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1949



Metropolis," a co-NG and Royal Air Force Reserve air maneuver, will be held at New York City on Oct. 19. Capt. N. P. John-

Col. E. S. Nichols, USAF senior intelligence; Lt. Col. E. A. Ferdon, communications; Maj. V. J. Castellano, adjutant; Maj. D. M. Sarkosian, operations; and Gen. Mitchell.

BAND WILL WELCOME CANADA AIR CHIEFS

The 552d Air Force Band of the New York National Guard, based at White Plains Armory, will serenade Canadian air commanders when they land at Westchester County Airport Saturday noon.

Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, Chief of Air Staff of the Royal Canadian Air Force, and Air Vice Marshal C. R. Slemon, will fly here from Montreal to observe Operation Metropolis, the air defense training maneuver to be held jointly by the RCAF Reserve and the U. S. Air National Guard.

The Canadian officers will be met by an honor flight of Air National Guardsmen led by Lt. Col. Robert O. Hereford, and greeted by Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, commanding general of the 52d Fighter Wing.

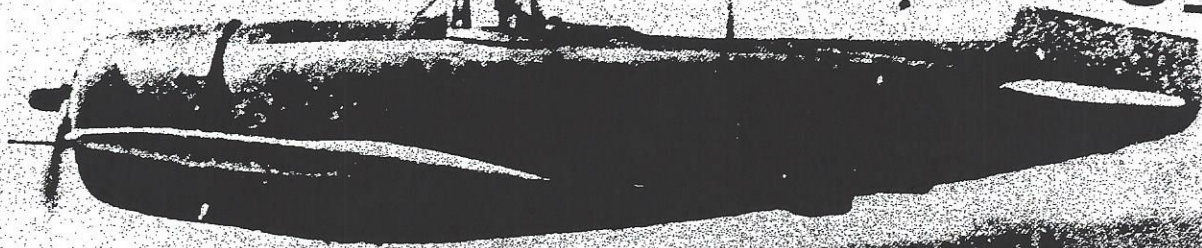
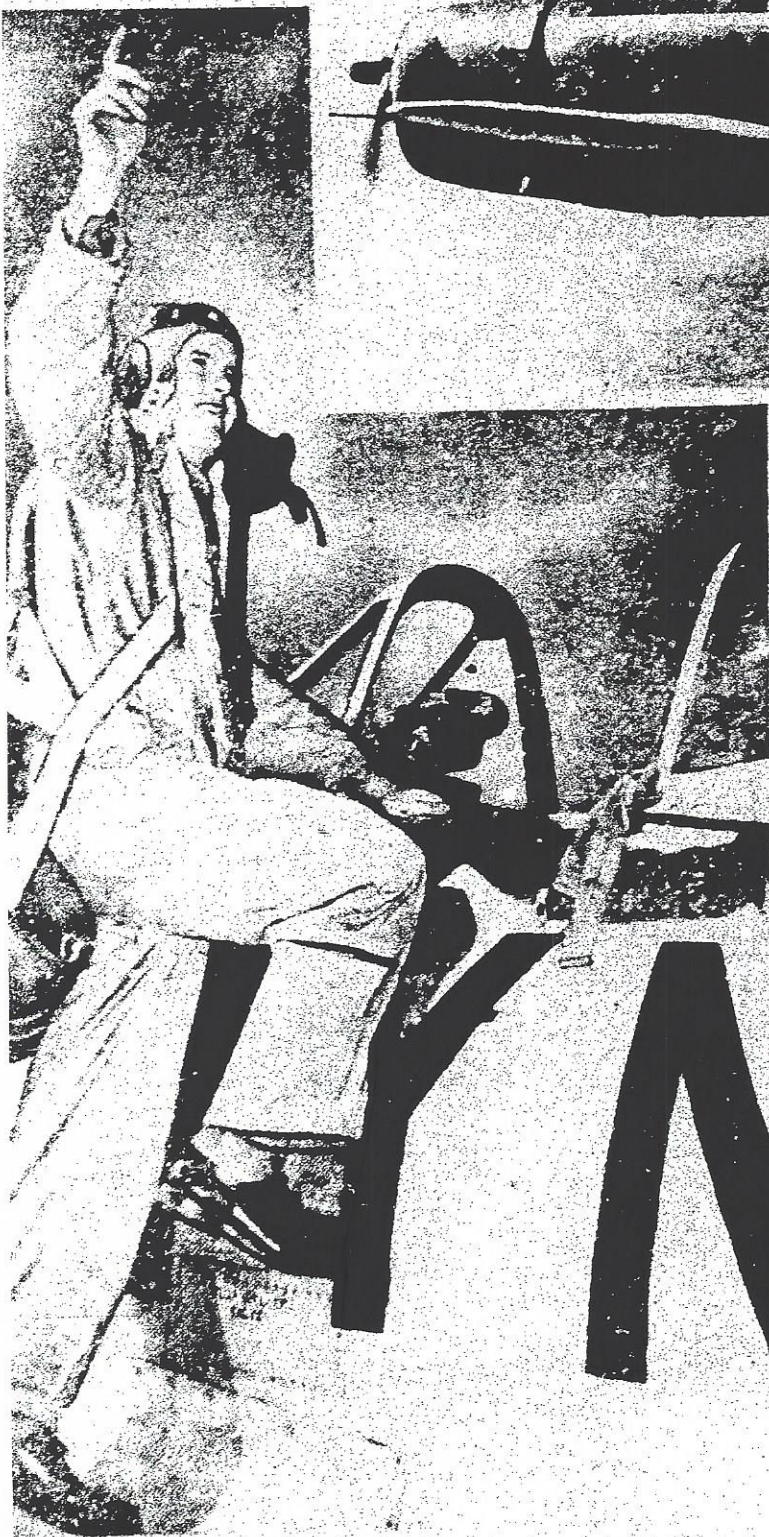
The band will play "God Save the King" and the RCAF anthem, "March Past." The party then will go to the filter center at the

Armory. The maneuvers will begin at 2 P. M.

Two RCAF units will fly De Havilland Vampire jet fighters and two ANG units will use F47 Thunderbolts as interceptor forces, operating from the County Airport, Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn, Mitchel Field and Newark. The "attacking force of B26 Invaders will fly from Floyd Bennett Field. As soon as "attackers" are spotted by radar at the Armory, the appropriate intercepting flights will be sent up.

Ready to 'Defend' New York

World-Tel



Lt. Seifert of 87-21 87th St., Woodhaven, a pilot with 137th Fighter Squadron, N. Y. National Guard, ready for take in a practice flight in preparation for today's Operation Metroplex. The squadron, flying F-47 Thunderbolts (above), takes to the air this afternoon in a joint air defense training maneuver with units of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve. Official Air Force Photo.

City Will Enjoy Atom 'Raid' Today

New York City will be attacked by B-26s carrying atomic bombs today. But all in fun.

The simulated bombing raid will begin at 2 p. m., B-26s taking off from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn. They are from the 102nd and 114th Light Bombardment Squadron.

Reserve flyers of the 52nd Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard, aided by jet fighter planes from the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve, are expected to repel the enemy.

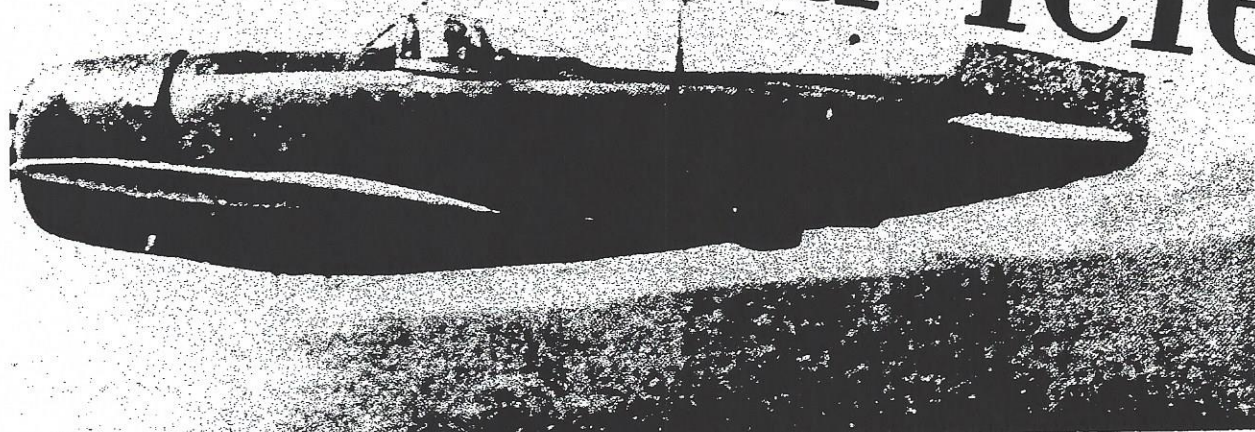
The American defenders are the 137th Fighter Squadron from White Plains and the 119th Fighter Squadron based at Newark.

Officers of both the Royal Canadian Air Force and the U.S. Air Force will watch the maneuver from a control room in White Plains.

LT. PAUL SEIFERT.

to 'Defend' New York

World-Telegra



Lt. Seifert of 87-21 87th St., Woodhaven, a pilot with the 137th Fighter Squadron, N. Y. National Guard, ready for takeoff in a practice flight in preparation for today's Operation Metropolis. The squadron, flying F-47 Thunderbolts (above), takes to the air this afternoon in a joint air defense training maneuver with units of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve. Official Air Force Photo

City Will Enjoy Atom 'Raid' Today

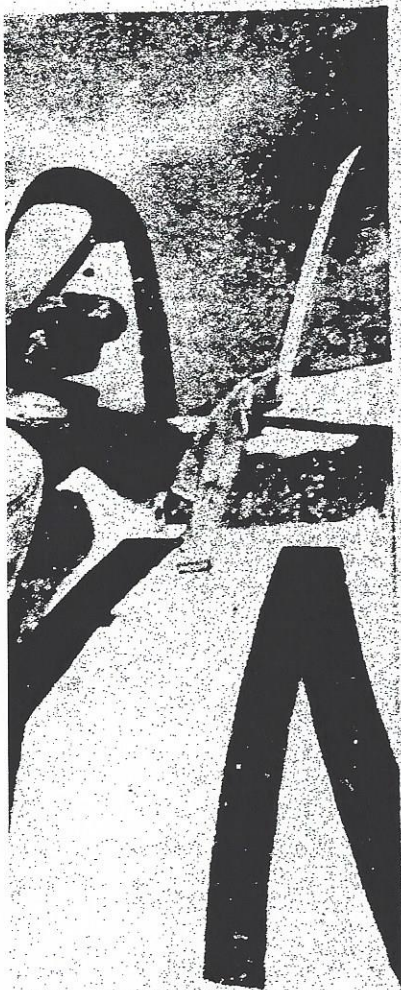
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SEIFERT.

Fri., Oct. 21, 1949

U.S.
SYRACUSE, N.

Newsday

Canadian-U.S. Air Team to Defend New York in War Test Tomorrow

Mitchel Field—In the first postwar joint maneuver of its kind, planes of U.S. Air National Guard and the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve will participate tomorrow in "Operation Metropolis." Five Long Island Reservists will take part in the simulated air raid and defense of the New York City area.

Heading the Long Island contingent will be Lt. Col. James E. Clark of Westbury, Eagle Squadron veteran of World War II, credited with knocking down 14 Nazi planes. He will lead the 137th Fighter Squadron of the 107th Fighter Group which will operate out of Westchester Airport. Other Long Island men to take part are:

First Lts. Eugene E. Bennett, Lloyds Neck, Huntington; Howard W. Halford, East Norwich; Phillip L. Hunt, Valley Stream and James W. Peel, Wantagh.

Arriving today at Mitchel will be an advance contingent of a dozen Canadian fliers, while the remainder, some 230 are expected to check in here tomorrow. Later, they will take off for operation

headquarters in White Plains.

Stress Teamwork

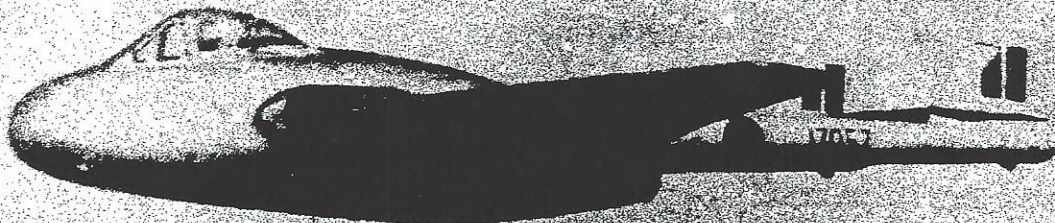
According to joint U. S. and Canadian announcements, the training maneuver will demonstrate the ability of the Canadian Air Reservists and U. S. Air National Guardsmen to integrate forces in the event of an emergency.

Planned with the blessing of top brass of both countries, the exercise first was broached in letters between Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg and Air Marshal W. A. Curtis Chief of Air Staff, RCAF.

Craft to take part are B-26 Invader light bombers and F-47s, in addition to British DeHavilland

jet Vampires. "Attacking" bombers will fly a prescribed course across the metropolitan area. As these penetrate the fringe of the defense zone and are identified by radar, intercepting units will be signalled to seek out the "invaders".

Defense interceptors will be directed by radio from the control center at White Plains. The Canadians, operating out of Mitchel Field, will participate in two intercept maneuvers. Dividing their eight-plane squadron into flights of four each, they will be on standby alert at 2 P.M. Alerts to scramble for action will be given at 20-minute intervals during the maneuvers.



STAR PERFORMER in the air show, Operation Metropolis, tomorrow will be the RCAF jet Vampire, above, which will join U.S. National Guard planes in a reserve exercise over the metropolitan area.

POST-STANDARD

SYRACUSE, N. Y., SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1949

Mock Air Raid Hits New York

NEW YORK (AP)—Canadian and U. S. "Weekend Fliers" yesterday staged a mock air attack and defense of New York city.

The maneuver, known as "Operation Metropolis" earlier had had been threatened with postponement when the Canadian planes were forced down in Albany by heavy winds. The planes took off later, however, and arrived in time to start the maneuver on schedule.

Twenty planes of the New York and New Jersey national air guard took part in the maneuver, including twelve B-26 bombers and eight F-47 fighter craft.

The Canadian air reservists used eight Vampire jet fighters.

Radar installations were set up in Westchester county airport, Harrison, Mitchel field, and Stewart field at West Point.

As the "enemy" bombers roared toward New York city, the radar screens picked up their approach and fighters soared up to intercept.

Four interceptions were made. They were in Waterbury, Conn.; Suffolk county airport; Hicksville, and Mitchel field.

Senior U. S. and Canadian air officers watching the show issued a joint statement saying they were "very pleased" by the maneuver. The mock raid and defense were held to demonstrate how reserve forces could operate in an emergency.

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New York World-Tele

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Local Forecast: Rain early tonight. Cloudy tomorrow. Weather Fotocast on page

NEW YORK 15, N. Y., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1949

Air Reviewer



AIR MARSHAL W. A. CURTIS.

RCAF Photo.

The Chief of Staff of the Royal Canadian Air Force will fly here Saturday to witness Operation Metropolis, joint U.S. National Guard-RCAF Reserve exercise. In this first postwar joint maneuver, the RCAF will send eight jet Vampires and radar equipment and personnel from the Montreal Reserve Units.

The



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NEW YORK TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18,

To See Maneuvers



Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, Chief of the Air Staff of the Royal Canadian Air Force, will be on hand in the command center at White Plains during Operation Metropolis, the first post-war joint air maneuvers by reservists of the two countries.

World-Telegram

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tomorrow. Weather Forecast on page 14.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1949



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Sun

RK TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1949.

To See Maneuvers



Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, Chief of the Air Staff of the Royal Canadian Air Force, will be on hand in the command center at White Plains during Operation Metropolis, the first post-war joint air maneuvers by reservists of the two countries.

That Big Noise Upstairs Is a Mock Air Raid

"Enemy" bombers will strike New York City today some time after 2 P. M. and, in the first post-war maneuver of its kind, jet units of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve and fighter units of the U. S. Air National Guard will scramble to the skies to knock them down.

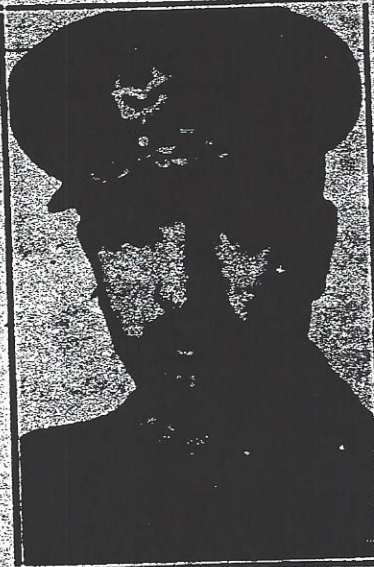
Labelled "Operation Metropolis," the maneuver is designed to demonstrate the ability of the two forces to integrate action in an emergency.

Some 240 members of the RCAF reserve, whose home base is Montreal, will be at Mitchel Air Force Base, L. I., for the exercise. The Canadian interceptor force will consist of eight latest type De Havilland Vampire jet fighters. The U. S. interceptor force will fly Republic F-47 Thunderbolts, the type which gained so much fame for ground support operations in World War II.

Air Guard to Attack

Air National Guard B-26 Invader type light bombers will be used as the attacking enemy.

Defense operations will be directed from the 52d Fighter Wing Headquarters, State Armory, White Plains. Radar equipment and facilities



Air Marshal W. A. Curtis
Chief of Air Staff, RCAF

Oct. 22, 1949

DAILY NEWS

ilities will be furnished and operated jointly by the RCAF reserve and the 152d Aircraft Control and Warning Group.

"Attacking" bombers will fly a prescribed course across the exercise area. As these simulated "attack" planes penetrate the fringe of the defense zone and are picked up by radar and identified, the interceptor units attached to the particular zone for which they are responsible will be scrambled to fight them off.

Will Fly by Radar

Once airborne the interceptors will be guided to the intruder force by radar. The Canadians will operate from Mitchel Air Force Base, while the Air Guard units will operate from their home bases.

Participating will be the 137th Fighter Squadron of the 107th Fighter Group from Westchester County Airport; the 119th Fighter Squadron of the 108th Fighter Group from Newark; and the 114th and 102d Bombardment Squadrons of the 106th Bombardment Group from Floyd Bennett Field.

All the action will be under control of Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, commander of the 52d Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard. Watching will be Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, chief of the Air Staff, RCAF, who will fly here today for the operation. If weather interferes, the problem will be held tomorrow.



Copyright, 1949, by The New York Sun, Inc.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1949.

U. S. and Canada to 'Defend' City From Bombers Today

New York city will be the target at 2 P. M. today of American bombers in a mock raid in which the area will be defended by Reserve fighter pilots of the United States and Canada. The maneuvers are listed as "Operations Meteorite."

Jet fighter planes of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve will land at Mitchell Field, L. I., from Montreal. They will be integrated with units of the United States Air National Guard under Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, commander of the 52d Fighter Wing.

The "attack" will be made by Air National Guard B-24's from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn. The Canadian jets and United States F-47 Thunderbolts of the National Guard will be the intercepting forces.

The maneuvers will be watched by officers of the United States Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force from a control room at the 52d Fighter Wing in White Plains. In addition to the pilots and ground crews of the Air Guard members of the 124th Aircraft Control and Warning Group will participate.

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE.

OCTOBER 22, 1949

Jets From Canada 'Defend' City Today

To Help Air Guard Repel Atom Bomber 'Attack'

Jet fighter planes of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve will roar across the border today to help protect New York City from a simulated enemy atomic bombing raid.

Pilots of the Canadian Vampire jet interceptors will land at Mitchell Field, L. I., after a high-speed flight from Montreal and integrate their forces with units of the United States Air National Guard under Brigadier General Clyde H. Mitchell, commanding general of the 52d Fighter Wing. The Canadian pilots are members of reserve fighter squadrons 461 and 436 of the R. C. A. F. They are bringing with them the officers and men of No. 1 Radar and Communication Unit who will set up Canadian electronic equipment for detecting hostile aircraft.

The joint Canadian-American air defense exercise has been designated Operation Meteorite and will be directed from the Air National Guard Academy in White Plains, N. Y. In addition to pilots and ground crews of the Air Guard, members of the 124th Aircraft Control and Warning Group will take part.

The "enemy" will be simulated by B-24 bombers of the 100th and 114th Light Bombardment Squadrons of the Air National Guard's 100th Bomb Group from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn.

New York City
OCTOBER 22, 1949
City Bar for an Attack
In Mock Air Raid Today

New York will be "attacked" this afternoon by American B-24's in a mock bombing raid in which the maneuvers will be directed by reserve fighter pilots of the United States and Canada. The maneuvers are listed as "Operations Meteorite." Jet fighter planes of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve will land at Mitchell Field, L. I., from Montreal. They will be integrated with units of the United States Air National Guard under Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, commanding general of the 52d Fighter Wing. The Canadian pilots are members of reserve fighter squadrons 461 and 436 of the R. C. A. F. They are bringing with them the officers and men of No. 1 Radar and Communication Unit who will set up Canadian electronic equipment for detecting hostile aircraft.



Sun

Printed and Published by The Sun Newspaper, Inc.

ATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1949.

Canada to 'Defend' from Bombers Today

The "attack" will be made by Air National Guard B-24s from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn. The Canadian jets and United States P-51 Thunderbolts of the National Guard will be the intercepting forces.

The maneuvers will be watched by officers of the United States Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force from a control room of the 15th Fighter Wing in White Plains. In addition to the United States and ground crews of the Air Guard members of the 124th Aircraft Control and Warning Wing will participate.

New York Times.
OCTOBER 22, 1949.
City Bus for an Attack in Mock Air Raid Today

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The joint Canadian-American air defense exercise has been designated Operation Meteorite and will be directed from the Air National Guard Academy in White Plains, N. Y. In addition to pilots and ground crews of the Air Guard, members of the 124th Aircraft Control and Warning Group will take part.

The "enemy" will be simulated by B-24 bombers of the 104th and 114th Light Bombardment Squadrons of the Air National Guard's 100th Bomb Group from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn.

New York will be "attacked" this afternoon by American B-24s in a mock bombing raid in which the intercepting force is made up of United States P-51 Thunderbolts of the National Guard and Canadian jets. The simulated maneuvers are scheduled for 2 P. M. and will be watched by officers of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the United States Air Force from a control room at the headquarters of the 15th Fighter Wing, White Plains, N. Y. The number of planes involved was not disclosed.

The 100th Bomb Group from Floyd Bennett Field, Brooklyn, will make the attack and United States P-51 Thunderbolts of the National Guard will make up the intercepting force. Air National Guard units in the participating units will comprise the 15th Fighter Squadron from White Plains and the 124th Aircraft Control and Warning Group from New York, N. Y.

The Standard - S

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1949

Canadian, U. S. Air Chiefs Meet In County To Plan Raid Drills

High ranking officials of the Canadian and American air arms will be in White Plains Saturday for Operations Metropolis, the first post-war maneuver of its kind, involving a simulated air raid and interceptor flights.

Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, chief of the Air Staff, and Air Vice Marshal C. R. Slemon of the Royal Canadian Air Force, will join top officers of the U. S. Air Force at White Plains Armory. Either Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg or his deputy, Lt. Gen. Lauris Norstad, are expected to attend.

Other U. S. officers expected include Lt. Gen. Ennis C. Whitehead, commanding the Continental Air Command; Maj. Gen. Robert M. Webster, commanding the

Eastern Air Defense Command; Maj. Gen. Glenn O. Barcus, commanding the First Air Force; Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer, chief of the National Guard Bureau, and Maj. Gen. George S. Finch, air chief of the National Guard Bureau.

The White Plains Armory is headquarters of the 52d Fighter Wing of the New York Air National Guard. An estimated 340 RCAP men will operate from Mitchel Field in attack sweeps and their course will be plotted by radar installations at the Armory, and defense interceptor planes dispatched from the Westchester County Airport, Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn, and Newark, N. J.

Oct. 11, 1949

Canada, Guard Fliers To Join In Air Tests Over County

WASHINGTON, (AP)—In the first maneuver of its kind since the war, units of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the U. S. Air National Guard will take part in a simulated air-raid and intercept exercises over the New York City Westchester area Oct. 22.

The training exercise has been dubbed "Operation Metropolis." Officials said one chief purpose is to demonstrate the ability of the two outfits to integrate forces in event of an emergency. Defense operations will be di-

rected from the 52nd Fighter Wing's headquarters in White Plains Armory in White Plains with Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Bell, wing commander, in charge. The defense intercept operations will be controlled by radio from the White Plains Air Defense Center. As soon as the raid is detected by radar, the 137th Fighter Wing will be alerted. The 107th Fighter Wing will operate out of the County Airport at Westchester. These units, which the War Department has been training during the past year, will have support of the 119th, 108th, 106th, 105th, 104th, 103rd, 102nd, 101st, 100th, 99th, 98th, 97th, 96th, 95th, 94th, 93rd, 92nd, 91st, 90th, 89th, 88th, 87th, 86th, 85th, 84th, 83rd, 82nd, 81st, 80th, 79th, 78th, 77th, 76th, 75th, 74th, 73rd, 72nd, 71st, 70th, 69th, 68th, 67th, 66th, 65th, 64th, 63rd, 62nd, 61st, 60th, 59th, 58th, 57th, 56th, 55th, 54th, 53rd, 52nd, 51st, 50th, 49th, 48th, 47th, 46th, 45th, 44th, 43rd, 42nd, 41st, 40th, 39th, 38th, 37th, 36th, 35th, 34th, 33rd, 32nd, 31st, 30th, 29th, 28th, 27th, 26th, 25th, 24th, 23rd, 22nd, 21st, 20th, 19th, 18th, 17th, 16th, 15th, 14th, 13th, 12th, 11th, 10th, 9th, 8th, 7th, 6th, 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd, 1st.

Standard-Star

ROCHELLE, N. Y., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1949

I. S. Air Chiefs Meet To Plan Raid Drills

of the Eastern Air Defense Command: Maj. Gen. Glenn O. Barcus, commanding the First Air Force; Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer, chief of the National Guard Bureau, and Maj. Gen. George S. Finch, air chief of the National Guard Bureau.

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Oct. 11, 1949

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WASHINGTON, (AP)—In the first maneuver of its kind since the war, units of the Royal Canadian Air Force and the U. S. Air National Guard will take part in a simulated air-raid and intercept exercise over the New York City Westchester area Oct. 22. The training exercise has been dubbed "Operation Metropolis." Officials said one chief purpose is to demonstrate the ability of the two countries to integrate forces in event of an emergency. Defense operations will be directed from the 52nd Fighter Wing's headquarters in the State Armory in White Plains, N. Y., with Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, wing commander, in charge. The defense interceptors will be controlled by radio from the White Plains Air Defense Control Center. As soon as the attack is detected by radar, intercepter flights will be dispatched and guided to the "enemy."

The 137th Fighter Squadron and the 107th Fighter Group will operate out of the Westchester County Airport with F47 Thunderbolts. These fighter aircraft, which the Westchester men have been training, were made famous during the war by their ground support operations.

Other Air National Guard units participating will include the 119th Fighter Squadron of the 108th Fighter Group from Newark, N. J.; the 114th and 102nd Bombardment Squadrons of the Floyd Bennett Naval Air Station at Brooklyn, N. Y. Canadian reserves, numbering 240, will come from their home base in Montreal, to Mitchel Air Base at Hempstead, from where they will operate.

The Standard-Star

CONSOLIDATION OF THE EVENING STANDARD AND THE DAILY STAR

NEW ROCHELLE, N. Y., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1949



OPERATION METROPOLIS plans are studied by Brig Gen Clyde H. Mitchell, commanding general of the 52nd Fighter Wing, New York National Guard, and his staff at Wing headquarters in White Plains.

"Operation Metropolis," a coordinated NYANG and Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve air defense training maneuver, will take place over New York City on Saturday. From left to right, air instructor: Capt. N. P. John-

Col. E. S. Nichols, USAF senior intelligence; Lt. Col. E. A. Perdon, communications; Maj. V. J. Castellano, adjutant; Maj. D. M. Sarkisian, operations; and Gen. Mitchell.

BAND WILL WELCOME CANADA AIR CHIEFS

The 553d Air Force Band of the New York National Guard, based at White Plains Armory, will serenade Canadian air commanders when they land at Westchester County Airport Saturday noon.

Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, Chief of Air Staff of the Royal Canadian Air Force, and Air Vice Marshal C. R. Stemon, will fly here from Montreal to observe Operation Metropolis, the air defense training maneuver, to be held jointly by the RCAP Reserve and the U. S. Air National Guard.

The Canadian officers will be met by an honor flight of Air National Guardsmen led by Lt. Col. Robert O. Hereford, and greeted by Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, commanding general of the 52d Fighter Wing.

The band will play "God Save the King" and the RCAP anthem, "March Past." The party then will go to the filter center at the Armory. The maneuvers will begin at 2 p. m.

Two RCAP units will fly De Havilland Vampire jet fighters and two ANG units will use P-47 Thunderbolts as interceptor forces, operating from the County Airport, Floyd Bennett Field in Brooklyn, Mitchell Field and Newark. The "attacking force of B-26 Invaders will fly from Floyd Bennett Field. As soon as "attackers" are spotted by radar at the Armory, the appropriate intercepting flights will be sent up.

TIME

THE WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

CANADA

"Operation Metropolis"

One cloudy afternoon last week, twelve B-26 light bombers roared down the runway at Floyd Bennett Field, took off and disappeared to rendezvous for a bombing run on New York City. Minutes later, three radar stations in outlying areas, two manned by Canadians, one by Americans, had picked up the bombers and flashed instructions by radio to eight waiting Canadian Vampire jets and eight U.S. F-47 Thunderbolts. "Operation Metropolis," a simulated air attack and defense of New York, was underway.

In the first peacetime U.S.-Canadian joint air maneuver, 240 R.C.A.F. reserves worked from a defense control center with the U.S. Air National Guard. Every bomber was intercepted by the defending fighters before it got within range of its target. Limited and simple as the problem was, it demonstrated, said the R.C.A.F., "the ability of the Canadian Air Reservists and United States Air National Guardsmen to integrate forces in the event of an emergency."

The maneuver was one more small piece in the growing pattern of joint defense. Both Washington and Ottawa want a pool of officers and men who know how both services work. Recently Canada's Naval Air Group 18 finished an intensive three-month course at Quonset Point, R.I. With U.S. pilots, they concentrated on detecting and bombing schnorkel submarines. This month, the Canadian destroyer *Haida* spent two weeks training in Chesapeake Bay, then sailed with a U.S. Navy amphibious force for a practice assault on the coast of Labrador.

Three weeks ago such team work got a priority policy rating from the North Atlantic Treaty Defense Committee. If North American forces were to work as an operational unit, both Washington and Ottawa wanted many more get-togethers like Operation Metropolis.

The New York

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Postoffice, New York, N. Y.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23,

MOCK AIR ATTACK ON CITY 'REPULSED'

Canadian Units Join Guard in Show Designed to Test Unified Defense Action

By FREDERICK GRAHAM

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Oct. 22

A United States Canadian unit sat in a control room here today and directed the operation of fighter planes that dispersed a simulated bomber attack on New York City.

The intercepting operation, first in which Canadian air units cooperated, was successful despite poor weather conditions over Manhattan. Attacking air units were picked up and "shot down" before they could drop their bomb loads on the city.

The show was staged by the New York Air National Guard and the Canadian equivalent of our weekend warriors. The guardsmen flew Republic F-47s and the Canadians flew British-designed jet Vampires.

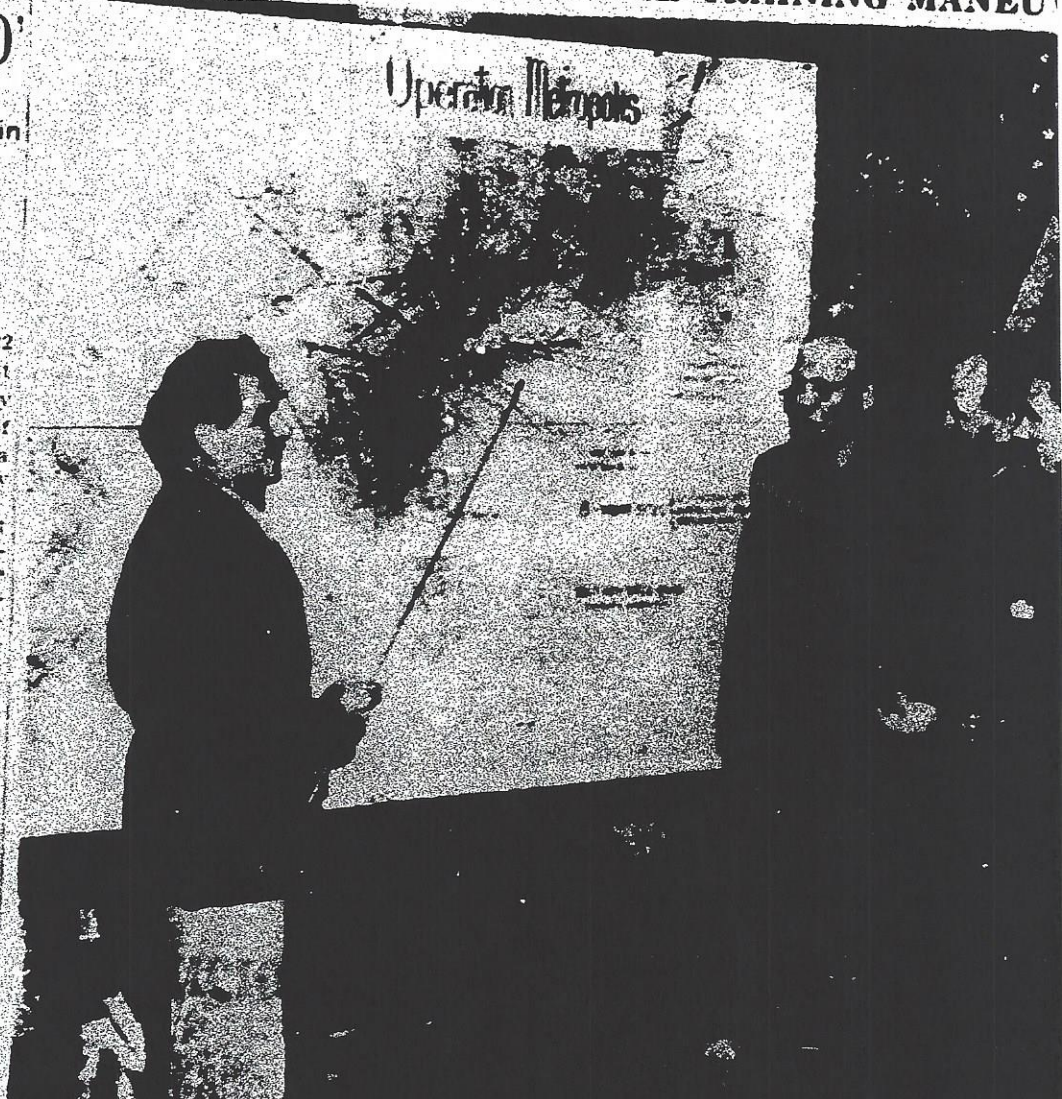
The attacking bombers were Martin B-26s of the 105th Bomb Group, commanded by Col. Lewis A. Curtis. They took off from Floyd Bennett Field and made two runs over the Manhattan area to give both the Americans and Canadians an opportunity to intercept them.

Weather Reduces Altitude

Original plans had called for them to come in at about 12,000 feet but weather conditions were so poor that they finally made their bombing runs at about 6,000 feet. In times of combat the 6,000-foot run would be difficult but the low altitude did not detract from the effort of the intercepting fighters.

Three radar stations were set up for "Operation Metropolis." Two were portable units brought

DISCUSSING AIR DEFENSE TRAINING MANEUVER



Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, commander of the 52d Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard, and Commander of "Operation Metropolis," points to targets on map while Lieut. Gen. Kenneth G. S. Stewart, head of the Continental Air Command of the U. S. Air Force, Air Marshal W. A. C. Stewart, Staff of the Royal Canadian Air Force, and Harold C. Stuart, Assistant Secretary of the U. S. Air Force, look on at the headquarters in the White Plains Armory.

here by the Royal Canadian Air Force and the third was set up by the Guard.

The Canadian radar units were at Stewart Field, airport for West Point, and at Mitchel Air Force

Base. The Guard unit was at the Westchester County Airport.

The attacking bombers took off shortly after noon and tried immediately to get out of the range of the radar net. Once they had

gone beyond the limit of the screen, the bombers were prepared for their attack on New York City.

The fighters, held in readiness, held off the bombers until they had some

New York Times.

Copyright, 1949, by The New York Times Company.

NEW YORK, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1949.

Including Magazine
and Book Review.

NYANG AIR DEFENSE TRAINING MANEUVERS



Well, commander of the 53d Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard, "Operation Metropolis," points to targets on map while Lieut. Gen. Ennis C. Whitehead, commander of the U. S. Air Force, Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, Chief of Force, and Harold C. Stuart, Assistant Secretary of the U. S. Air Force, at White Plains Army.

The New York Times

Base. The Guard unit was at the Westchester County Airport. The attacking bombers took off shortly after noon and tried immediately to get out of the radar net. Once they had gone beyond the limits of the radar screen, the bombers wheeled and prepared for their "attack" on New York City. The fighters, held on the ground until they had something definite

to fly against, took to the air only when the bombers appeared in the radar screen. At this base, where Canadian and American personnel worked together, the "attackers" were followed and defending fighters sent up to intercept.

Canadian Air Marshal Watches

Col. Earl R. Thomas, group commander in charge of radar and, in civilian life, chief test engineer for Consolidated Edison, was at the head of the radar unit. He was assisted by Capt. Bernard Saul, communications officer for the 152d Aircraft Control and Warning Group of the NYANG.

Lieut. Gen. Ennis Whitehead, commanding general of the Continental Air Command, and Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, chief of staff of the Royal Canadian Air Force, were among the 500 persons who watched the show from the control center here. Both said they were pleased with the operation.

Air Marshal Curtis said that Canada looked upon the United States as a "big brother" and hoped that it would be able to aid again in time of stress. He added that he felt that any defense put up by the RCAF would be about 90 per cent to the benefit of Americans because of the more important targets in this country.

"Operation Metropolis" was based on the assumption that "enemy" fighters or bombers had penetrated the inner ring of our defenses and were coming into the New York area for an attack. The cooperation of United States and Canadian air reserve units in the final stand was to prove that they could operate as a unit. It was agreed that they had worked together with great force and efficiency.

Herald

NEW YORK

Canadian Jets Join U. S. Forces

A European Edition is Published Daily

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23



Men of the Canadian Royal Air Force studying maps and reports at the radar detection center set up yesterday at Mitchel Air Force Base, L. I. The blackboard announced a busy day in the operation because jet-propelled Canadian Vampire planes taking part were held up at Albany by bad weather.

By Ansel E. Talbot
WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., Oct. 22.—Canada sent some of its fastest jet fighter planes to the United States today to aid units of the Air National Guard in defending one of the nation's most concentrated target areas—Manhattan Island. Air Marshal Wilfrid A. Curtis, Chief of the

Air Staff of the Royal Canadian Air Force, who arrived here by air at the head of an array of Canada's top air strategists, called the air-raid interception exercise a success and the harbinger of "many more joint Air National Guardsmen flying propeller-driven P-47 Thunder-

bolts and then Canada's crack reserve fighter units equipped with jet-propelled Vampires reared off the runways of airfields outside New York City to attack a simulated enemy. All the defending units, which were under the command of Brigadier General Clyde H. Mitchell, chief

of the 134 Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard, had a heavy overcast and other unfavorable weather conditions to make their task more difficult.

The nerve-center of the air defense was at the Air National Guard Armory here, where a key central organization has been established by the Air Force. Today this was in constant operation. Two Canadian radar detection

units set up in short order for the exercise at Stewart Field near the United States Military Academy at West Point, N. Y. and at Mitchel Air Force Base, L. I. were in constant contact with the center along with one of the Air National Guard at Westchester County Airport.

As soon as word was received this afternoon at the center of the approach of an "invader" force consisting of approximately forty B-24 bombers of the 20th Bomb Group from Floyd Bennett Field; Brooklyn, fighters from the 110th Fighter Squadron of the Air National Guard at Newark, N. J. and from the 137th Fighter Squadron of the guard from Westchester Airport were ordered to "scramble."

airborne, the radar told to take over and to the bomber formation.

The Canadian pilot successful interceptive American Air National accomplished an equivalent from the size of announced that the visioned an attempt atomic bombardment of New York City, which never was confirmed.

Two key United States commanders, who right the assignment of protection from atomic attack, lieutenant General Ennis, commanding general Continental A. Corps, Major General Robert M.

chief of the Eastern Force, were in the command all-afternoon. Harold Ar:stant Secretary of Force, also was on hand developments to the in Washington.

At Air Marshal Curtis were Air Marshal Curtis, one of the younger commanders of A. F., and Wing Commander Lecomte, commandant of the R. C. A. F. station Borden, near Toronto.

It was difficult to distinguish new "Air Force blue" from those of the Canadian both are approximately color.

In a brief talk to fifty members of the Canadian American aviation press today's air operations, Air Curtis pointed out that a few vital targets worth by a major effort in his and added that all of air preparations were for past of giving additional of early warning to the

States. A shrewd antagonist, noted, would strike at industrial and population of the United States.

NEW YORK

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1949

Tribune

airborne, the radar stations were told to take over and guide them to the bomber formations.

The Canadian pilots made two successful interceptions and the American Air National Guardsmen accomplished an equal number during the afternoon. It was obvious from the size of the target announced that the exercise envisioned an attempted enemy atomic bombardment of the heart of New York City, although this never was confirmed officially.

Two key United States Air Force commanders, who right now have the assignment of protecting the nation from atomic attack, Lieutenant General Ennis C. Whitehead, commanding general of the Continental Air Command, and Major General Robert M. Webster,

chief of the Eastern Air Defense Force, were in the control center all afternoon. Harold C. Stuart, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, also was on hand to report developments to the top echelon in Washington.

At Air Marshal Curtis's side were Air Marshal C. R. Slemon, one of the outstanding younger commanders of the R. C. A. F., and Wing Commander Joseph Lecomte, commanding officer of the R. C. A. F. station at Camp Borden, near Toronto.

It was difficult to distinguish the new "Air Force blue" uniforms from those of the Canadians, since both are approximately the same color.

In a brief talk to fifty or more members of the Canadian and American aviation press covering today's air operations, Air Marshal Curtis pointed out that there were few vital targets worth attacking by a major effort in his country and added that all of Canada's air preparations were for the purpose of giving additional moments of early warning to the United States. A shrewd antagonist, he noted, would strike at the vital industrial and population centers of the United States.

Air Marshal Curtis announced that the R. C. A. F. had abandoned a traditional policy of ordering only British-built armaments and had directed the dominion's aircraft industry to start building America's fastest jet fighters, the North American F-86 Sabre, which holds the official world speed record. At least 50 per cent of the instruments and other fittings of this plane would have to come from the United States, he said, and added that it would be almost impossible for Canada to buy this unless the United States purchased some equipment in the dominion.

At present the United States government is forbidden by law to purchase aircraft or military equipment in Canada or any other foreign nation except under special conditions almost impossible to fulfill. Air Force officers present today said that a repeal of this "Buy America" law probably would

be considered by Congress before long.

Canadian units taking part in today's exercise are the 401st Reserve Fighter Squadron from Montreal and the 439th Reserve Fighter Squadron of the same city. Most of the radar equipment which provided the "eyes" of the interceptions was operated by Number One Radar and Communications Unit of Montreal. Co-operating with the Canadian radar specialists was the 106th Aircraft Control Squadron and the 107th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron of the 153d Aircraft and Warning Group with headquarters at the armory here.

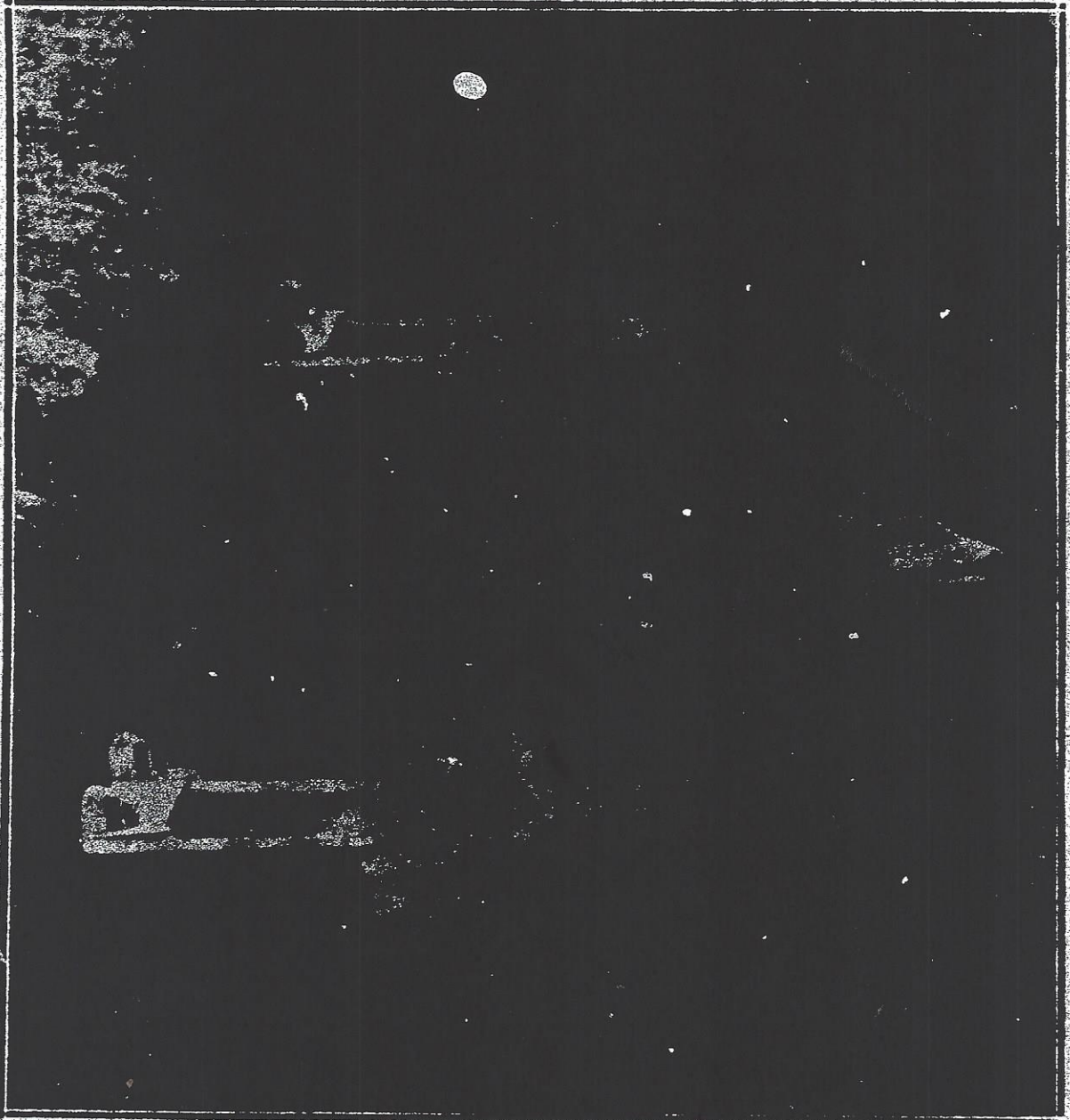
... radar detection center set up ... brief delay in the operations ... up at Albany by bad weather ... lifts set up in short order for the ... marches at Stewart Field near the ... United States Military Academy ... West Point, N. Y. and at ... Mitchell Air Force Base, L. I. were ... a constant contact with the cen ... along with one of the Air Na ... tional Guard at Westchester ... buntly Airport.

As soon as word was received ... afternoon at the center of the ... approach of an "invader" force ... consisting of approximately forty ... 25 members of the 106th Bomb ... sump from Floyd Bennett Field; ... fighters from the 110th ... ter Squadron of the Air Na ... tional Guard at Newark, N. J. and ... the 137th Fighter Squadron ... be guard from Westchester Air ... t were ordered to "scramble." ... on these defensive fighters were of ... of the United States.

Daily Mirror

DAILY MIRROR, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1940

'Operation Metropolis'



RCAF JET VAMPIRES engage in flight training for joint U. S. National Guard-RCAF Reserve exercise over New York City, this Saturday. "Operation Metropolis" is the first post-war maneuver to demonstrate ability of the two Reserve air forces to integrate action in the event of an emergency.



New York 17, Sunday, October 23, 1949*

4 Se



NEWS photo by Sam Plarnick
Pilots scheduled to take part in yesterday's raid examine blackboard in briefing room at Mitchel Field.

'Blast' Air Invaders Beyond the Horizon

By EDWARD O'NEILL

American fighter planes, operating jointly with a contingent of Canadian jet fighters, successfully defended New York City against two squadrons of "enemy" bombers yesterday afternoon, according to jubilant announcements by air chiefs of both countries.

A heavy, all-day overcast, obscured the maneuvers, but even clear weather would not have yielded a glimpse of the show. So well did air and ground units perform that observers estimated that every attacking bomber had been "shot down" not once but several times—and always miles short of the Manhattan target.

Obviously pleased, Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, commander of the 52d Fighter Wing of the New York National Guard and boss of the exercise, called the maneuver "an unqualified success."

Praise Cooperation.

Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, chief of the Royal Canadian Air Force, said he was pleased with the part eight De Havilland Vampires of the RCAF had played in turning back two flights of 12 enemy raiders.

"Although the success of the defense was important, it was more important for the men of the Air National Guard and the RCAF to work and train together," he added. "Today, they cooperated in wonderful fashion."

The attack, by 12 B-26 light at-

tack bombers, began at 2 P. M. The B-26 flights, which took off from Floyd Bennett Field, went out to sea and began their run on New York north of Waterbury, Conn. They didn't get far before they ran into opposition.

Get Them Again.

At 2:45 P. M., guided by radar which tracked the invaders, four F-47 Thunderbolts planned with the attackers and theoretically settled their hash for keeps.

Nevertheless, at 3:02, over Suffolk County airport, four more Thunderbolts intercepted the already doomed dozen, which were stacked into two formations of six each, and gave them another going over.

Ten minutes later, radar-guided jet Vampires shot up the "enemy"

and at 3:36 P. M. a flight of six Vampires also blasted the attackers.

At that point, with New York City still dim on the horizon, the attackers gave up. They "limped" back to their Floyd Bennett Field base.

Gen. Mitchell, hailing the air work of the defenders, declared: "The handicap of a low ceiling was easily overcome." Spokesmen for both countries predicted further operations on a larger scale.

BROOKLYN EA

WEATHER—Fair, cooler today.

BROOKLYN 1, N. Y., SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1949

'Down' 12 Big Bombers; No Defenders Hit

Sixteen American and Canadian jet fighter planes successfully defended New York against an attempted mock atomic bomb attack yesterday, "shooting down" 12 B-26 bombers twice each before the big ships gave up and returned to their base.

Not one of the Royal Canadian Air Force, New York State Guard or New Jersey State Guard fighter planes was "damaged" by the "enemy" force, authorities in charge of "Operation Metropolis" reported.

The practice maneuver was considered more of a test of the co-operation between American and Canadian forces than of atom bomb defenses, but officials representing both countries were pleased that the attacking bombers didn't get within striking distance of the nation's biggest city.

The twin-engine bombers took off from Mitchel Field. The fighters left from Floyd Bennett Field, a New Jersey airport and Westchester County Airport. Operation Metropolis headquarters at White Plains, N. Y., reported that the first flight was "decimated" about 30 miles from New York. The second flight was intercepted near Bear Mountain, on the Hudson River.

Brooklynites who thought they were going to have ring-side seats for a preview of atom war techniques craned their necks in vain. They probably wouldn't have been able to see any "fighting" anyway, as the skies were overcast and the ceiling was far below the heights usually reached by bombers and jet fighters.

16 U.S., Canada Jets Crush Mock Atom Attack on City



'OPERATION METROPOLIS'—Members of the State's Air National Guard and co-operating Canadian airmen place markers on the operations board showing the location of attacking bombers and intercepting aircraft during mock attack on the metropolitan area.

KLYN EAGLE

WEATHER—Fair, cooler today.

ROCKY HILLS, N. Y., SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1949

Canada Jets Crush Mock Atom Attack on City



ROCKY HILLS—Members of the State's Air National Guard and co-airmen place markers on the operations board showing the attacking bombers and intercepting aircraft during mock attack on the

Radars furnished by the Canadians was used to detect the progress of the "enemy" planes. U. S. radar installations were

not used because American authorities did not want any secrets to leak out about the tight defenses for New York.

Brigadier General Clyde H. Mitchell, commander of the 52nd Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard, and operational control commander of the exercise, said the maneuver was an "unqualified success."

"The handicap of a low ceiling was easily overcome," he said, "as is evident by the successful defense of the metropolis."

Air Marshal W. A. Curtis, chief of the RCAF air staff, also was pleased with the outcome.

"Success of the defense is not important," he said. "It was more important for the men of the Air National Guard and the RCAF to work and train together."

The intercepting jets included eight RCAF Vampires—jet De Havillands—and eight F-47 American Thunderbolts, four from the New Jersey National Guard and four from the New York National Guard. The bombers were from the 106th New York National Guard bomb group. The Canadian planes were from the 401st RCAF fighter squad, stationed at Montreal.

The planes flew at about 6,000 feet during the maneuvers. The first flight of bombers was "knocked out" at 2:46 p.m. and again at 3:12 p.m. The second group was intercepted at 3:02 p.m. and again at 3:37 p.m. Six Vampires stopped the last invading force only two minutes after the small planes took to the air.



Oct. 17, 1949

Operation Metropolis Scheduled

SLOCUM AFB, N. Y.—Operating jointly in the first post-war maneuver of its kind, units of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve and the U. S. Air National Guard will participate in "Operation Metropolis," a simulated air raid and intercept training exercise, over the New York area on October 22.

In announcing the training maneuver, USAF and RCAF officials declared that, one of the chief purposes of the joint maneuver will be to demonstrate the ability of the Canadian Air Reservists and U. S. ANG to integrate forces in the event of an emergency.

AN ESTIMATED 240 RCAF reserve members, including 80 officers and 160 airmen, will be flown from their home base at Montreal to Mitchel AFB for the exercise. The RCAF's intercept force will consist of eight latest type DeHavilland "Vampire" fighters.

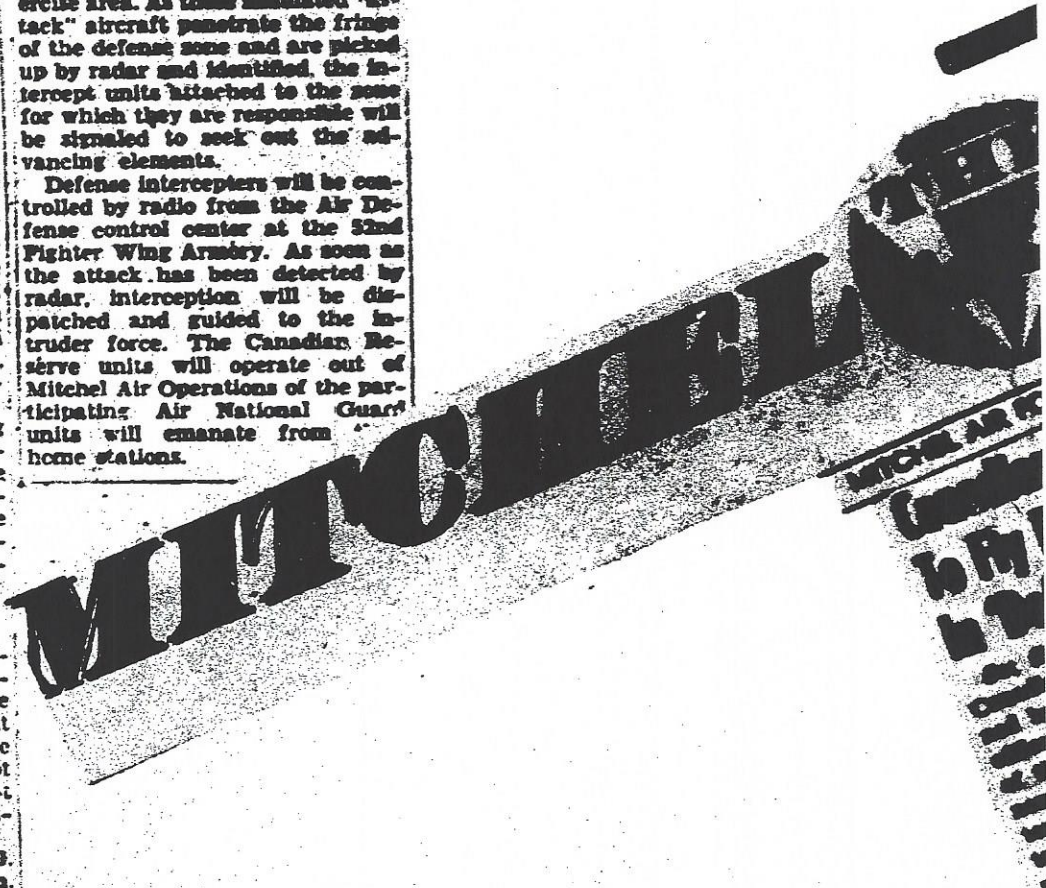
The 52nd Fighter wing, NYANG, under the command of Brig. Gen. Clyde H. Mitchell, will have operational control of participating forces.

B-26 Invader light bombers designated as the attacking force; swift British Vampires flown by RCAF Reservists, and ANG P-47s will be highlighted during "Metropolis."

Defense operations will be directed from the 52nd Fighter wing headquarters, State Armory, White Plains; the radar equipment and facilities being furnished jointly by the RCAF Reserve and the 152nd Aircraft Control and Warning group.

"ATTACKING" bombers will fly a prescribed course across the exercise area. As these simulated "attack" aircraft penetrate the fringe of the defense zone and are picked up by radar and identified, the intercept units attached to the zone for which they are responsible will be signaled to seek out the advancing elements.

Defense interceptors will be controlled by radio from the Air Defense control center at the 52nd Fighter Wing Armory. As soon as the attack has been detected by radar, interception will be dispatched and guided to the intruder force. The Canadian Reserve units will operate out of Mitchel Air Operations of the participating Air National Guard units will emanate from home stations.



MITCHELL AIR FORCE BASE
CAMPBELL
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Oct. 17, 1949

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CHELSEA BEACON

MITCHEL AIR FORCE BASE, N. Y. Canadian Jet Units To Fly From Mitchel In 'Redness' of NYC

The regular units of the Royal Canadian Air Force Reserve, manned by 125 enlisted men and 20 officers, will team up with units of the U. S. Air National Guard next Saturday in a simulated interception of an enemy serial attack upon New York City. The men and planes from north of the border will be guests of Mitchel AFB units in this country.

The merging of aerial units from the two countries will be the first air-raid and fighter-interception training exercise of its kind in history. Designated Operation Metropolis, it was organized as the result of letters from Chief of the U. S. Air Force, General Hoyt S. Vandenberg and Canada's Air Marshal, Wilfred A. Curtis.

Purpose of Operation Metropolis is to demonstrate the ability of reserve units of Canada and the United States jointly to defend North America against heavy bomber attacks.

Along with other preparations for welcoming the RCAF flyers used special dances for both officers and airmen. Lieut. Col. Sam E. McCroskey, in charge of the fighter club, has announced that next Saturday's dance will be particularly in honor of the Canadian pilot, and Miss Eleanor Carroll, service club director, has scheduled a special Harvest Moon Ball for the enlisted men.

For the ball at the Airmen's Club the dance hall will be appropriately decorated and dancing partners will be on hand from nearby Adelphi College, The Girls Service and other organizations. The dance will be semiformal.

Long Island Sunday

JAMAICA, N. Y., SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1949

JETS ATTA

Sixteen A-1H jet fighters defended Long Island from a mock atomic attack yesterday. "shoot-down" bombers twin-engine fighters gave up base.

Not one of the Air Force jets or New Jersey planes was "enemy" force of "operation."

The practice considered more operation by Canadian for defenses, but both countries the attacking within striking range's biggest.

The twin-engine jets from Mitchel from Floyd County Air Force base's headquarters reported the "decimated" New York.

intercepted the Hudson Long Island were going for a previous techniques crane. They probably able to see as the skies ceiling was usually reach fighters.



NO JETS IN SIGHT: Four Canadian aces craned their necks yesterday from a window at Mitchel Air Force Base, on lookout for the 16 Canadian and American jets defending Long Island from a mock atom bomb attack. Overcast skies masked visibility, but the jets "decimated" the 12 B-26 bombers before they could reach Long Island. Left to right are Squadron Leader C. B. Seager of Montreal and Flight Officers Terry Campbell of Winnipeg, Ken Haviland of London, England, and William Gee of Montreal.