

more modern equipment for this purpose is of vital importance to the R.N.Z.A.F. In pursuance of this, an interchange of technical signals officers with the R.A.F. or the R.A.A.F. would be of considerable value. The first installation in New Zealand of the Air Force world-wide radio tape relay circuit has been completed between R.N.Z.A.F. Headquarters and Ohakea.

The increase in the use, both internationally and within New Zealand, of very high frequencies for communications to and from aircraft has raised the problem of an adequate system at R.N.Z.A.F. airfields.

There is satisfactory liaison between the three Services on communication radar matters, with the Post and Telegraph Department on general communications, and with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research on matters of an electronic research nature.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Work carried out by photographic sections of the R.N.Z.A.F. included aerial photography for the Army and Navy, an aerial survey for the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research of hopfields at Motueka, publicity photography for recruiting purposes, photographs for the illustration of technical reports, &c., as well as training in aerial photography carried out by Pilot and Navigator trainees at Flying Training School, Wigram.

12. WORKS SERVICES

Great difficulty has been experienced during the past year in making any satisfactory progress with the construction of buildings and married quarters urgently required by the Air Force. The major works involved included the provision of extra accommodation at Hobsonville and Whenuapai, the replacement of temporary wartime hitted accommodation at Lauthala Bay (Fiji), Te Rapa, and Weedons, the transfer of the aircraft depot from Ohakea to Woodbourne, and the provision of additional storage facilities at Te Rapa and Weedons. Although financial approval had been obtained to the expenditure of £235,000 for buildings and £80,000 for married quarters, it was not found possible to commence any of these works until the end of the year, with the result that only one-third of the amount approved for the building programme was expended.

With regard to the provision of married quarters, the building of some fifty houses has just commenced. These delays have been due mainly to the administrative difficulties involved in securing approvals, to the pressure of work in the Ministry of Works, and to the difficulties experienced in letting contracts.

The standard of maintenance of the major air-stations by the Ministry of Works has been good, and the well-kept appearance of these stations has an important bearing on morale and efficiency.

13. ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Consequent upon the examination and review of orders and regulations referred to in last year's report, R.N.Z.A.F. regulations have been rewritten and will be submitted for approval shortly. The compilation of Air Board Orders which will supplement the new regulations is in progress.

In conjunction with the Navy and Army, details of an Armed Forces Bill have been submitted to the Law Draftsman. This Bill will provide for needs common to the three Services and will revise a number of other enactments which are either out of date, or which, while at present applying to certain of the Services only, could with advantage be used by them all.

The Air Force Act, 1937, the Air Force Amendment Act, 1947, and the Air Force Act (Imperial) have been revised and drafted into a Bill entitled the R.N.Z.A.F. Bill, 1950, which it is hoped to bring down in the forthcoming session of Parliament. Under this Bill the Air Force Act (Imperial) will no longer apply to the R.N.Z.A.F.