



WELCOME

TO

RCAF STATION KNOB LAKE

We hope that you will find the information
contained in this booklet useful and that your visit
will be both pleasant and productive.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "H. H. Campbell".

(H. H. Campbell)
Squadron Leader,
Commanding Officer,
RCAF Station Knob Lake.



H. J. EBBES-CANAVAN
PROJ. ADMINSTRATOR



S/L H. H. CAMPBELL
COMMANDING OFFICER



D. SMITH
ASST. PROJ. ADMINISTRATOR



D. DEMERAH
HELICOPTER BASE MANAGER
SPARTAN AIR SERVICES



FS R. P. LOHMEYER
CHIEF OPS. OFFICER



B. BREE
CATERING MANAGER
CRAWLEY & MCCRACKEN CO.



R. O. MASON
TELECOMS. CHIEF ENGINEER



SGT. A. E. PAGE
OPERATIONS OFFICER



W. D. BEAVER
CAMP MANAGEMENT



R.B. LEWIS
CONSTR. & ENG'G.



R.S. MILLICAN
ASST. SUPPLY OFFICER



T. POTTER
ACCOUNTANT



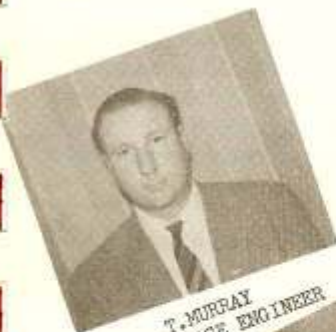
W.T. KIRGAN
SUPPLY OFFICER



L.E. AGATE
MECHANICAL SUPER



T.J. ARBUCKLE
ASST. SUPPLY OFFICER



T. MURRAY
SPARTAN BASE ENGINEER



R. LOVETT
SYSTEMS ENGINEER



D.S. HOWELL
SECURITY OFFICER



D. LEVY
SYSTEMS ENGINEER



DR. L. RCK
MEDICAL OFFICER

RCAF STATION KNOB LAKE

Location and History

RCAF Station Knob Lake, located on the outskirts of the Town of Schefferville, Quebec, in the heart of the Labrador-Ungava Peninsula, is 720 air miles north-east of Montreal and 365 rail miles north of Seven Islands. Distances to other centres are measured in nostalgia.

Originally, the Station consisted of a small group of general purpose huts on the north-west shore of Knob Lake. Occupancy by small detachments of RCAF personnel was limited principally to the summer months. Later, with the advent of iron ore mining operations and the requirement for a large base from which to construct, supply and administer to some 475 miles of the Mid-Canada Line, a permanent station was built on the opposite side of the lake. The Station commenced full-time operation on 20th June, 1957.

Schefferville

Older maps, and not very old at that, show Burnt Creek to be the only settlement in this area. But Burnt Creek happened to be sitting on top of a 10-million ton body of rich iron ore so Burnt Creek is no more.

The present townsite, named for Monseigneur Lionel Scheffer, Bishop of Labrador, was selected and constructed by the Iron Ore Company of Canada. Administration of the town is through a Town Manager who is responsible to an appointed Municipal Council. Most of the town's services are supplied by the Iron Ore Company and administered by the Municipal Council.

The population of Schefferville is approximately 3,500. The town contains modern stores and restaurants, a hospital, bank, post-office, garages, primary and secondary schools, churches and other amenities of modern living.

Role and Organization

The role of RCAF Station Knob Lake is to provide early warning of aircraft penetrations along a section of the Mid-Canada Line.

The Commanding Officer (RCAF) is in overall command of the Station and is responsible to the Air Officer Commanding, Air Defence Command, for the operational effectiveness of the Knob Lake Section of the Mid-Canada Line. The supporting maintenance and supply services are provided by a civilian contractor, the Canadian Marconi Company, with authority for civilian administration under RCAF direction, vested in the Project Administrator.

Catering services are supplied by the Crawley and McCracken Company Limited, as sub-contractors to Canadian Marconi Company.

Airlift for logistic support along the Knob Lake Section of the Mid-Canada Line is provided by the Helicopter Division of Spartan Air Services Limited.

Postal Services

The Station Post Office is located in the Recreation Centre. The mailing address is:

RCAF Station Knob Lake,
P.O. Box 1007,
Schefferville, P.Q.

Security

Visitors to the Station are required to register in the Guard Room at the main entrance to the Station. Security badges must be displayed at all times when visiting Restricted Areas.

Accommodation

Accommodation may be obtained through the Camp Manager's Office (Local 241), or through the Duty Officer after regular working hours.

Limited additional accommodation is available at the Montagnais Hotel in Schefferville.

Meal Hours

* Breakfast 0630 - 0800 hours (daily except Sunday)

Dinner 1130 - 1300 hours.

Supper 1700 - 1830 hours.

* NOTE: Sunday Breakfast 0730 - 1300 hours.

Transportation

Because of the limited availability of transportation, visitors are requested to use the bus whenever possible. Bus schedules are posted on notice boards throughout the Station.

Taxis may be hired by phoning Schefferville 2455.

External commercial transportation is available through the Quebec North Shore and Labrador Railway and Quebecair Inc.

All enquiries regarding transportation, including air passage reservations, should be directed to the Administration Office (Local 208).

Recreation

The Station's "Skywatchers Theatre", shows three films weekly. In addition, films are shown in the Officers' and Combined Messes on Sunday evenings.

The Recreation Centre provides the following facilities:

Sports - Badminton, volleyball, basketball, ping-pong, weight-lifting, boxing, wrestling, horseshoe pitching, archery, skeet shooting and fishing.

Hobbies - Photography, wood-working, copper tooling, leathercraft, weaving, etc.

The Station Library and Commissary are situated in the main Recreation Centre.

The Town of Schefferville offers a theatre, bowling alleys, skating and curling rinks, and a soft-ball diamond.

Church Services

Church Services are conducted each Sunday in the Town of Schefferville:

Roman Catholic Mass - 0800, 0900, 1000 and 2100 hours

St. Paul's United - 1015 and 2000 hours

St. Peter's Anglican - 0900, 1100 and 1900 hours

Facts and Figures About the Knob Lake Area

Knob Lake remains on Atlantic Standard Time throughout the year (Atlantic Standard plus four hours = GMT).

The local climate is typically sub-arctic, only two months of the year having a mean average temperature above 50°F. The mean annual temperature is 24°F, with a chilling January average of -10°F.

Summer is a season of low cloud, cold drizzle, flies and excellent trout fishing; winter, a season of low humidity, long periods of sunshine, good local skiing conditions on 24th February and no fishing.

The permafrost boundary lies some 50 miles to the North of Knob Lake with isolated patches in the immediate vicinity. Florida is 2,128.3 miles South. In certain areas along the permafrost boundary lie summer feeding grounds of caribou and nesting grounds of Canada geese.

The watershed of two important drainage systems occurs in the Knob Lake area. These are the Howells-Hamilton, draining to the Atlantic Ocean and the Goodwind-Maniapiskau which flows to Ungava Bay. The Provincial boundaries of Quebec and Newfoundland-Labrador follow the watershed.

The trees in the area are predominantly white and black spruce with a scattering of birch. Lumbering is not a practical proposition; regeneration of the forests is too slow.

This area is part of the hunting grounds of the Naskaupi and Montagnais Indians, two distinct tribes, both belonging to the Algonquin linguistic group. The Indian Village is populated by some 190 Naskaupi who speak English as a second language and 160 Montagnais with French their adopted tongue.

Outcrops of the two major stratigraphic formations in the area, crystalline rock and interbedded sedimentary and volcanic rock display a very strong NNW-SSE trend.

Iron Ore bodies in this area were first reported in the 1890's by the explorer A. P. Low, who predicted that their exploitation would probably be possible within 50 years - a remarkable prognosis. Dr. W. F. James and J. E. Gill mapped the deposits in 1929 and much of the subsequent prospecting was supervised by Dr. J. A. Retty.

The ore is in general a mixture of hematite and goethite and of a very high grade. Ore with a content of 72% iron has been discovered, while all high grade ore in the area - some 400 million tons have been proven - bears more than 50% iron. The reserves of low grade ore are too large to be estimated.

The Iron Ore Company of Canada operates seven mines, currently producing at the rate of 12 million tons of ore annually. Five of these mines are in Quebec, two are in Labrador.

The ore is shipped 356 miles southward to Seven Islands via the Quebec, North Shore and Labrador Railway. Construction of this railway was commenced in 1950; the completion date was early in 1954. Most of the construction materials were airlifted, requiring the use of 14 airstrips which were hacked out of the Quebec-Labrador wilderness for that purpose. The rail journey between Schefferville and Seven Islands now takes approximately 12 hours. At peak ore-shipment season, trains depart Schefferville every two hours. Twice weekly, passenger trains, with diners, travel the route through spectacular country to Seven Islands.

The airstrip is approximately 4,600 feet long, with a directional bearing of 010° Magnetic and altitude of 1,677 feet above sea level. Dolly Ridge is 1,989 feet above sea level. The highest point in the surrounding country is Sunny Mountain (2,821 feet) which lies 20 miles NW of Knob Lake.

Close to the Airstrip, the Offices of the Department of Transport, Quebecair Inc., and the Schefferville Flying Club are established. McGill University maintains a Sub-Arctic Research Laboratory. In addition to conducting a programme of geographic, geologic and ionospheric research, the Laboratory is responsible for local weather reporting and forecasting.

<u>Key Station Personnel</u>		<u>Phone No.</u>
Commanding Officer	- S/L H. H. Campbell, DFC, CD	200
Project Administrator	- Mr. H. J. Ebbs-Canavan	204
Assistant Project Administrator	- Mr. D. Smith	205
Chief Engineer Telecoms	- Mr. R. O. Mason	206
Systems Engineers Telecoms	- Mr. B. A. Lovett	206
	Mr. D. Levy	217
Supply Officer	- Mr. W. T. Kingan	213
Camp Manager	- Mr. W. D. Beaver	241
Construction Engineer	- Mr. R. B. Lewis	207
Medical Officer	- Dr. L. Roy	228
Mechanical Superintendent	- Mr. L. E. Agate	215
Security, Fire & Recreation Officer	- Mr. D. S. Howell	209
Chief Operations Officer	- FS R. P. Lohmaier	220
Operations Officer	- Sgt. A. H. Page	220
<u>Spartan Air Services</u>		
Base Manager	- Mr. J. A. D. Demerah	216
Base Engineer	- Mr. T. Murray	216
<u>Crawley & McCracken</u>		
Manager	- Mr. B. Bree	219
<u>Department of Transport</u>		9-2459
<u>McGill Research Laboratory</u> (weather reports and forecast)		9-2489

212 AIRSTRIP



Altitude 1525' - Position 5520W 6315N - Variation 37°W

Length of Runway 4980' x 200' - Call "BORDER RADIO"

Radio 3023.5 KCS 122.2 MCS - Beacon 318 KCS.

212 Airstrip, at approximately the mid-point of the eastern half of the portion of the Mid-Canada Line for which Knob Lake is responsible, is ideally suited for logistic support of the Line by fixed-wing aircraft. The strip, approximately 5000 feet in length, can accommodate aircraft to the all-up weight of a loaded C-119. Turn-around services are limited, but moderately comfortable quarters and food are available.

Air Defence Command permission is required before visiting this strip, other than in emergency.

