



# CP Air

# News

VOLUME 1 No. 3

MAY 1970

## Colorful Ops Centre Opening Marks New Era for CP Air

One of the most dramatic and significant events in the 28-year history of CP Air was staged April 17 in the vast hangar of the new Operations Centre at Vancouver.

Witnessed by hundreds of employees who gathered on the balconies and stairways and lined the perimeter of the seating area, the opening ceremonies featured the unveiling of "aircraft of the year 2000", brief addresses by **Ian D. Sinclair**, CP Air chairman, and **Hon. D. C. Jamieson**, minister of transport.

The \$24 million complex was declared officially open when Mr. Jamieson, wearing a captain's cap presented by stewardess **Lisa Granqvist**, advanced four throttles to take-off power, to the roar of an accelerating jet engine. At the front of the platform released 500 orange, red and white balloons which floated in clusters to the hangar rafters.

As the balloons rose, the enormous power-operated hangar door, largest in Canada, opened to reveal the CP Air air cadet squadron pipe band and color guard in front of the airline's newest aircraft, the Boeing 727 which is to go into service on the transcon April 26. To the skirl of the pipes, the 727 entered the hangar bay to further symbolize the base's official opening.

The historic occasion was attended by some 300 VIP guests, 37 visiting press, radio and TV reporters from on-line communities in Canada, and 30 local reporters and photographers.

A tribute to the interest stimulated by the events was the fact that the national news syndicate, Canadian Press, flashed a comprehensive news report and five wirephotos to the newsrooms of all major daily newspapers in Canada. In addition, on request from Associated Press, CP fed news and photo coverage of the opening to the national news network in the U.S.

The glamor and excitement of the opening were heightened by the presence on the platform of the top design engineers from four major air-land of Canada, Lockheed, Douglas and Boeing. In introducing them, Mr. Gilmer, the platform chairman, said:

"These are the men who live in the future. To them, wide-bodied jets and supersonic transports represent past triumphs. Their eyes are on the drawing boards where succeeding generations of airliners are already taking form."

Each of the four eminent designers spoke briefly about the prospects of air travel three decades in the future, then unveiled a portrait of his com-

pany's conception of the "aircraft of the year 2000". The four futuristic portrayals were displayed on easels eight feet high mounted on the wings of the main platform.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies, guests were invited to take a motorized tour of the plant's main floor on board tractor-drawn trolley trains rented for the occasion. A stewardess using a carefully-prepared script gave the occupants of each tour train a commentary, supplemented by information provided at each stop by staff specialists.

At the day's conclusion, Mr. Gilmer paid tribute to the many employees responsible for the highly successful program. Members of the Operations Centre Official Opening Committee were: **Reid Moir**, plant kits; **Roy Pellant** and **Peter Herbold**, stewardess participation; **Bill Busby**, hangar and workshop participation; **Bill Reagan**, properties and facilities; **Reg. Sargeant**, **H. VanderLinden**, **C. Kilchenmann**, catering; **Vaughn Perry** and **Jack MacInnes**, administration; **Joe Malo**, plant tour; **Doug. Holmes** and **Wilf Barby**, communications and sound effects; **Don Hawe**, air cadet color guard and junior boys' pipe band; **Jim Mckeachie**, press program; **Ron Keith**, committee chairman.



*PUSHING THROTTLES* forward to the roar of an accelerating jet engine, the Hon. Donald C. Jamieson, minister of transport, officially opens the airline's \$24 million showpiece described in the press as a "super-garage".



HUNDREDS OF EMPLOYEES crowded stairways, balconies and aircraft to witness Ops Centre opening festivities on Friday, April 17.

## New Loading Bridges Better Psgr. Service

Fewer CP Air passengers will wet their feet at Canadian airports this year, with the addition of two new loading bridges.

The airline's first bridge at Edmonton Airport went into service last month at gate 5/6 while Montreal's third, at gate 35, is nearing completion.

Cost of these bridges is about \$75,000 each.

**Bill Whiskin**, manager, facilities planning, hopes the Department of Transport will make one available to the airline at Toronto Airport sometime this year.