



among whom he must move and work. The police owe a duty to the airmen, but, conversely, the airmen owe a great deal of responsibility to the police. Law observance is far better than law enforcement. Law observance is the exercise of a desire and willingness from within to comply with established rules; law enforcement is the exercise of a power from without — and generally against the will of the individual.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU

The Special Investigation Bureau is established on a regional basis with units in Edmonton, Toronto, Montreal, and Metz (France), and with detachments of these units in Vancouver, Whitehorse, Calgary, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, London, Trenton, North Bay, Ottawa, and Halifax. Each unit is commanded by an Air Force Police officer; each detachment is in charge of a senior N.C.O. Their duties consist of the background enquiries necessary for security clearances and the investigation of crime. Some of their work takes them far off the beaten track into northern Manitoba and Saskatchewan and the interior of British Columbia, where overnight accommodation is a sleeping-bag thrown on the ground beside the car and breakfast is served to the aroma of wood-smoke.

The Special Investigation Bureau is manned in such a way that well trained men are available for every phase of investigative work. They are always at the call of any commanding officer to conduct or as-

sist in investigations which he considers beyond the capabilities of his own police resources. Since this organization is established on a regional basis in Canada and Europe, its men are quickly available to most units, and can, in most instances, be on hand to take over an investigation in a few hours from the time they are called.

RELATIONS WITH OTHER POLICE FORCES

Air Force police deal constantly with the public, and the rest of the Air Force is often judged by the appearance and bearing that these men present. They are in constant touch with other military and civil police agencies. In Europe excellent relations exist between the Air Force Police and the French *gendarmérie*, the German security police, and the British county police. Patrols in Metz are conducted by the Air Force Police and the U.S.A.F. Police jointly; in Rabat, by the Air Force Police and the Moroccan Police.

The civil police, by making their facilities available, greatly assist the Air Force police in the performance of their duties. The work of the latter would be difficult indeed without the constant co-operation and assistance afforded by the civil police and by other military police agencies. The training given by these agencies, the assistance of their experts, together with the assistance provided by the facilities of their laboratories, are a constant support. On the other hand, the Air

Force police stand ready at all times to assist these agencies by passing on information, gathered in the course of their duties, respecting personnel who are, or may be, involved in criminal activities; and, when requested, they will assist in locating potential witnesses or suspects from among Service personnel.

CONCLUSION

The maintenance of law and order, the prevention of crime, and the apprehension of criminals are the functions of civil police forces. To carry out this task they have special powers given to them by law. Like their civil police counterparts, the Air Force police represent, within the Air Force, all the majesty of the law, and are vested by law with special powers to carry out their duty of the maintenance of law and order. Yet, unlike the majority of civil police, they have, in addition to and transcending this duty, the duty of protecting the Air Force from espionage, sabotage, and subversion.

That they are capable of adequately fulfilling all their functions, there is no doubt. But, as has already been said and cannot be too often repeated, they cannot do it alone. They are merely a part of the great team which works to keep the R.C.A.F.'s aircraft effectively in the air, and the essence of all teamwork is co-operation between all the components engaged in it.

Views expressed in "The Roundel" upon controversial subjects are the views of the writers expressing them. They do not necessarily reflect the official opinions of the Royal Canadian Air Force.