



Further particulars, and application forms for enlistment, are available at the RAAF Recruiting Offices at the addresses below, at any RAAF Unit, or Headquarters Support Command, RAAF, Victoria Barracks, St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, S.C.1, or from any District Recruiting Committee. Completed application forms should be forwarded to Headquarters Support Command, RAAF, Victoria Barracks, Melbourne, S.C.1.

New South Wales

RAAF Recruiting Officer, Combined Services Recruiting Centre, New Beach Road, Edgecliff, Sydney. Phone 32 1261. 77 York Street, Sydney. Phone 29 6077.

Victoria

RAAF Recruiting Officer, Combined Services Recruiting Centre, "Queens Gate", 83A Queens Road, St. Kilda (near Junction), Melbourne. Phone 51 5371.

Queensland

RAAF Recruiting Officer, Combined Services Recruiting Centre, 130 Mary Street, Brisbane. Phone 31 1031.
RAAF Recruiting Officer, 13 Sturt Street, Townsville. Phone Townsville 3196.

South Australia

RAAF Recruiting Officer, Combined Services Recruiting Centre, Standard Building, 97 Currie Street, Adelaide. Phone 51 4281.

Western Australia

RAAF Recruiting Officer, A.N.A. House, 44 St. George's Terrace, Perth. Phone 23 1356.

Tasmania

RAAF Recruiting Officer, 8 Fitzroy Place, Hobart. Phone 2 7686.

THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE

APPRENTICE TRAINING SCHEME

SELECTION and TRAINING of APPRENTICES

The object of the Royal Australian Air Force aircraft apprentice training scheme is to train young men to fill the most highly skilled radio and engineering trades in the Service. With this aim in view the scheme provides thorough educational and technical instruction, supported by a sound knowledge of the traditions and customs of the Royal Australian Air Force. During their apprenticeship and subsequent Air Force service, individual members assimilate Service discipline and become imbued with a spirit of comradeship and loyalty. These qualities assist in developing efficient airmen and responsible citizens. The apprentice may enter the radio or the mechanical and electrical engineering fields according to preference, ability and the requirements of the Air Force.

APPRENTICE TRAINING SCHEME

Qualifications For Entry

Age of Candidates—An applicant must have reached his fifteenth, but not his seventeenth, birthday by 1st January of the year of entry into the RAAF.

Nationality—An applicant must be a British subject. Young men of other than British nationality may apply but naturalisation is a pre-requisite for enlistment.

Place of Residence—Applicants must be resident in Australia.

Medical Fitness—Applicants must be medically fit in accordance with RAAF standards. Those whose colour vision is assessed as "defective—unsafe" will not be accepted.

Selection Procedure

Applicants who satisfy the qualifications for entry will be called up by the nearest Recruiting Centre (Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Townsville, Adelaide, Perth or Hobart) for aptitude testing, medical examination and interview (if of acceptable medical standard and aptitude) by an Interview Board. Each applicant will be advised by letter of the result of his application.

Free return travel is provided between the applicant's home and the recruiting centre and allowances are paid to offset accommodation and meal expenses.

Successful applicants will be informed regarding travel and other arrangements. Travel from the recruit centre to the appropriate apprentice school will be in parties accompanied by Royal Australian Air Force Non-Commissioned Officers. Both radio and engineering apprentices begin training in January of each year.

It is important that the applicant completes all relevant sections of the application form and that he presents to the Interview Board evidence of his date of birth. An "Extract of Birth Entry" is sufficient. He should also present any school or university certificates held and his school record book or reports to cover at least his last two years at school. The applicant should also ask his Headmaster to complete the certificate on the application form.

Educational Standard—To be studying for the Intermediate Certificate (New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia), the Junior (Western Australia and Queensland) or higher examination including English, a Science subject, which includes a reasonable amount of Physics, and two subjects in Mathematics. Applicants educated in Tasmania must be studying similar subjects at a standard not more than one year below the Schools' Board Certificate. At the time of making application, students should have good prospects of passing their school course. In addition they will be expected to achieve a satisfactory standard in a battery of selection tests administered by the RAAF.

General Conditions of Apprenticeship

Terms of Engagement—An aircraft apprentice on joining is attested for a period of three to four years' training, followed by twelve years' service thereafter. An apprentice, however, will normally be granted discharge within three months of attestation on making application supported by the written consent of his parent or guardian. After this probationary period, discharge at own request will be granted only if the Air Board considers that the grounds advanced justify such action.

Removals from Training Course—It is a RAAF requirement that apprentices gain passes in each subject of the apprenticeship course. Additional training and supplementary examinations may be given to an apprentice who fails to reach pass standards. He may be required to repeat a whole year of training; be offered discharge from apprentice training, and re-enlistment as an adult if he is over 17 years of age; or he may be discharged from the RAAF, according to the circumstances of the case.

Rates of Pay and Allowances—For rates of pay and allowances see RAAF Pamphlet No. 70B.

Issue of Clothing—An apprentice receives an initial free issue of RAAF uniform, clothing and necessaries, including informal dress of blazer and grey slacks. Uniform and clothing which are worn out or outgrown during the training course are replaced free of charge.

Medical and Dental Care—Free medical and dental treatment, with hospitalization on full pay, is available as necessary. Vaccinations and inoculations are carried out by RAAF medical authorities in the interests of the health of the apprentice.

Religious Instruction—Chaplains of most denominations are available to conduct programmed periods of religious and moral instruction and to offer counsel on personal problems.

Leave—Apprentices are granted approximately six weeks' home leave each year. Radio apprentices are granted the full leave entitlement at Christmas. Engineering apprentices normally have two weeks at mid-year and four weeks at Christmas. They

are granted free travel and move in escorted parties to the capital cities nearest to their homes.

Board and Lodging—Apprentices are accommodated in RAAF barracks and provided with all meals. In addition to the standard ration scale which provides adult members of the RAAF with adequate and well-balanced meals, there is a "vitamin additive" ration for apprentices. This provides for extra milk, fresh fruit, flour products (bread, cake or biscuits), peanut butter and meat extract.

Sport and Recreation—Apprentices are encouraged to take part in many types of competitive sports, particularly under conditions which foster team spirit. Periods of physical education and sport are programmed weekly and transport and equipment are provided for both mid-week and weekend sports competitions. Active interests in hobbies is encouraged by the provision of hobby workshops. Comfortable club rooms are provided for exclusive use by apprentices and they have access to the cinema, library, canteen and other amenities. They are not permitted to consume alcohol at any stage of their course.

The Engineering Apprentice Training Course — (Cont'd.)

Course of Study

Broad details of the three-year course are set out hereunder:

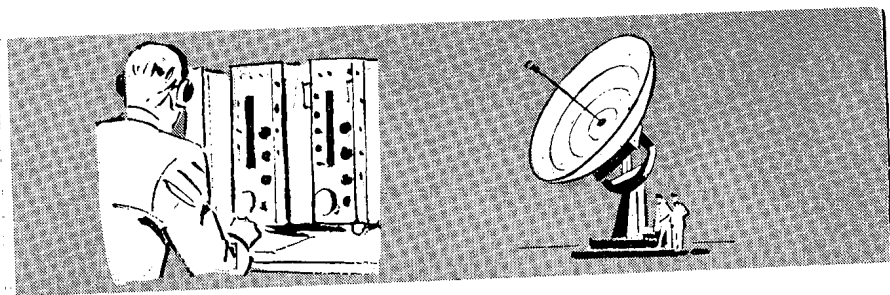
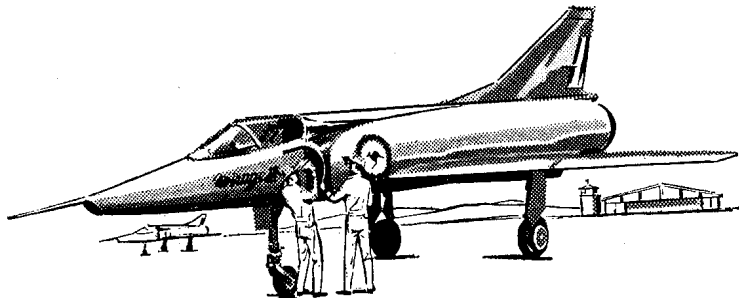
First Year—All engineering apprentices do the same type of training in the first year of the course. The first few weeks are devoted to kitting and introductory general service training. Thereafter, the course is a balanced one of trade, education and general Service training. The trade training consists mainly of bench fitting with a large element of turning. Introductory training is given in the welding, blacksmith, carpentry and sheet metal shops. All practical training is supported by thorough instruction in the associated theoretical aspects. The education training includes English, Mathematics, Science and Trade Drawing. During the first year each

apprentice indicates his order of preference from among the six engineering trades. Subject to Service requirements, his special aptitudes and demonstrated ability, an apprentice can normally expect to be trained in the trade of his first or second preference.

Second and Third Years—The second and third years of the course consist of training in the specialist trade, but there is further fitting, turning and an element of Mathematics, English, Science, Trade Drawing and Social Studies. On graduation at the end of the third year of training the apprentice receives his graduation certificate.

Field Employment; Trade Recognition

Upon graduation the apprentice is reclassified as an aircraftsman and completes the fourth and fifth years of his apprenticeship on adult rates of pay and under adult conditions of Service. Training, however, does not end with graduation. The apprentice-trained airman spends his fourth year in an Aircraft Depot, at Laverton (Victoria), Richmond (N.S.W.) or Amberley (Queensland), working under the close supervision of experienced tradesmen in a wide range of repair and reconditioning tasks. In his fifth year he is posted for productive employment and qualifies, after completing his five-year apprenticeship, for the award of the RAAF Apprentice Proficiency Certificate. This qualification is recognised by the Apprenticeship Commission and the Trade Unions.



SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

For those airmen, including former apprentices, who have the ambition and ability there are excellent opportunities for advanced professional and educational training during their service career.

Outstanding tradesmen, who have achieved the required entry standard, may be sponsored for engineering diploma courses at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology or degree courses at the University of New South Wales.

The service pays all fees and expenses associated with the training and the salary to which the member is entitled, according to his rank and mustering. On graduation, members sponsored by the service on degree or diploma courses are normally appointed to a commission.

In addition those members who wish to do so may undertake a wide variety of courses in their own time. They will receive reimbursement of from seventy five to one hundred per cent of fees paid, depending on their years of service, on successfully completing the course. The object of this scheme is to encourage members to improve their professional and educational level for both their own and the Air Force's benefit.

CAREER PROSPECTS

The apprentice-trained airman, because of his sound basic training, is well-qualified for subsequent advancement in rank to the non-commissioned officer ranks of Corporal, Sergeant and Flight Sergeant and to the highest airman rank of Warrant Officer. Appointment as officers with permanent commissions may be effected at any time subject to the needs of the Service, the acquisition of technical qualifications and the recommendation of the airman's commanding officer.

Service as a radio technician or engineering fitter in the Royal Australian Air Force provides a satisfying and interesting career under excellent conditions.

