

The whole of the responsibility for works services for the R.N.Z.A.F. was assumed by Public Works Department during September and October, 1945.

Work in connection with the compilation of war gratuities and recruiting for the Interim Air Force necessitated a temporary increase in the staffs of the Directorates of Accounts and Manning. At the same time, general reductions were made throughout the remaining directorates to the minimum staffs necessary to implement reorganization and demobilization activities already referred to, and to administer those post-war commitments approved by the Government.

The following new units were formed on the dates shown: Air Navigation School, Wigram, for training of navigators (Service and Civil), 9th November, 1945; School of Meteorology, Woodbourne, for training of personnel for Meteorological Service, 22nd March, 1946; and Canterbury Project Flight, Wigram, for meteorological research in conjunction with Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, 28th March, 1946; and, finally, recruit depots at Hobsonville and Wigram were opened for the reception of new enlistments.

PERSONNEL

The following personnel statistics show the growth of the Air Force during the war years and indicate the effect of major policy changes:—

PERSONNEL

(a) Total Personnel Strengths

Date.	In New Zealand and Pacific.				Attached to R.C.A.F. and R.A.F.	Total.
	Officers.	Airmen.	Under Training.	W.A.A.F.		
September, 1939	58	493	215	Nil	..	766
March, 1940	342	2,553	981	Nil	112	3,988
March, 1941	606	5,074	2,832	6	2,079	10,597
March, 1942	940	6,761	3,153	1,701	4,688	17,243
March, 1943	1,840	18,794	4,443	3,123	5,366	33,566
March, 1944	2,535	22,174	6,124	3,554	7,027	41,414
March, 1945	3,151	22,041	3,582	2,607	4,746	36,127
March, 1946	1,039	4,747	158	629	581	7,154

The peak strength of 42,488 was reached in May, 1944.

(b) Distribution of Personnel

Date.				New Zealand.	Pacific.	Attached to R.C.A.F. and R.A.F.	Total.
March, 1940	..	..	..	3,875	1	112	3,988
March, 1941	..	..	..	8,431	87	2,079	10,597
March, 1942	..	..	..	11,980	575	4,688	17,243
March, 1943	..	..	..	25,590	2,610	5,366	33,566
March, 1944	..	..	..	28,466	5,921	7,027	41,414
March, 1945	..	..	..	22,813	8,568	4,746	36,127
March, 1946	..	..	..	5,852	721	581	7,154

These figures do not include casualties as at those dates.