SEA DART: So styled is Convair's unique XF2Y-1 hydro-ski fighter. Its lines suggest a speed well into the supersonic region, and it has p power—two Pratt and Whitney J-S7s of some 12,000 lb thrust apiece. This 60 deg delta-wing'prototype is now undergoing initial taxying

Netherlands Air Displa y

TO celebrate the 40th birthday of Dutch
military aviation, the Netherlands Air
Force and Royal Netherlands Aero Club
are to hold a NATO air display at Soester-
berg on July 18th. As the Dutch find it impracticable to hold more than one inter-national air show in the same year, the annual ILSY display is to be postponed until 1954.

R.N.Z.A.F. Recruiting in U.K.

READERS may be surprised to learn that nearly a quarter of the airmen and half of the airwomen serving on the ground staff of the Royal New Zealand Air Force are former members of the U.K. Armed Services. Since recruiting began in the U.K. in 1947, more than 840 men and 224 women have signed on with the R.N.Z.A.F.

Th e Pari s Show

A GROUND-PLAN issued by the organizers of the 20th Paris Aeronautical Exhibition, to be held at Le Bourget Air-port, shows that the arrangements bear a certain resemblance to those of the S.B.A.C. Farnborough Show. There will, for instance, be indoor and outdoor static shows, an aircraft park, and a public enclosure which will be sited near the north-south runway. The exhibition is from June 26th to July 5th, with flying displays on July 4th and 5th. Application for exhibition space should be made to the Union Syndicate des Industries Aero-nautiques,.4, Rue Galilee, Paris i6e.

HERE

AND

THERE

Mme. Auriol' s Record

ON December 21st, in a Mistral (French-built Vampire development, with Hispano Nene) Mme. Jacqueline Auriol broke her own unofficial 100 km world speed record of 508.392 m.p.h. by flying at 855.920 km/hr (531.846 m.p.h.). The new record, which is subject to confirmation, was made over a course from Istres, outside Mar-seilles, to Avignon and back. Mme. Auriol, is the 34-year-old daughter-in-law of the French president.

Blackburn Director Retires

ON December 31st Mr. R. R. Rhodes, F.R.Ae.S., retired from the board of Blackburn and General Aircraft, Ltd., after thirty-six years with the company. Born in 1885, Reginald Rhodes joined Blackburns in February 1916 as an inspector in their original Olympia factory in Leeds. After a short time he was transferred to the newly opened Brough Works, where he was

appointed manager. (At that period the company's G.P. and S.P. seaplanes wer under development and later the well-known Kangaroo twin-engined commercial biplanes were produced.) Subsequently h became manager of the London office and was elected to the board in 1921. Ever since then he has worked in London and has become well-liked by the representa-tives of the Ministry and the Services with whom he has come in contact.

Novembe r Export s
THERE was a decrease of approximately £510,000 in the total value (£3,304,693) of aircraft and aircraft parts (with the ex-ception of magnetos, tyres and tubes) exported from this country during November, compared with that for the corresponding month last year. However, the value of such exports for the eleven-month period ended November 30th was £38,946,091 — some £915,000 more than in the comparable period last year.

The Globemaster Crash
FOLLOWING the take-off accident to a C-124 Globemaster at Moses Lake on December 21st, in which 86 Servicemen lost their lives, several Congressmen have pressed for the grounding of the type. They express themselves seriously con-cerned at the mounting toll of accidents to large Service aircraft; nine, during an unstated but comparatively recent period, have accounted for 300 lives. A prompt preliminary report on the C-124 crash showed the cause to have been locked controls; a master lock had been released sufficiently to free the throttles, but not the flying controls.

Memoria l Fun d Benefits Student s

A 520,000 bursary fund to assist aero-nautical engineering students has been made available to the University of Toronto. It has been established by the Babb Company (Canada), Ltd., of Montreal, in memory of one of their pilots, J. L. Harrison, who lost his life in 1948 while on flying duty. The company received 825,000 in insurance and decided to devote the proceeds to a life annuity for the pilot's widow e i mother. On her death any funds remaining were to go to the University

Douglas A3D (above) and Grumman S2F-1.

Midnight-Blu e Newcomer s

TWO very different U.S. Navy twin engined aircraft are now carrying out initial flight testing. The Douglas A3D is a very fast carrier-based bomber powered by a pair of Pratt and Whitney J-57 split-compressor turbojets. Equipped for flight refuelling it can, it is claimed, carry "a bigger load farther than any other air-craft of its size." The other is Grumman's S2F-1, a carrier-based anti-submarine air-craft; powered by two Wright Cyclone R-1820s, it fills both search and strike roles.