

members. Two Slingsby T.31 two-seat trainers would be bought, and allocated to the Lossiemouth and Arbroath clubs.

It had been decided, said Capt. Russell, to subsidize by one-third the insurance of Association gliders on hire to clubs. In order to improve the standard of instruction, clubs would also receive financial assistance to enable them to send representatives to the B.G.A. Instructors' course in April. The Association would enter a team this year to defend its title at the National Gliding Championships, and it was hoped to borrow more than one sailplane on loan from the Admiralty (last year, it will be remembered, the Naval team, consisting of Lt.-Cdrs. A. and N. Goodhart, reached 2nd place out of 29 entries).

The Association decided at the meeting to invite Vice-Admiral C. E. Lambe, the new Flag Officer Air (Home), to become its president, in succession to Admiral Portal, who recently resigned on leaving Home Air Command.

Naval Pilot Lost

THE Admiralty has announced that Lt. G. H. Cooles, the pilot of a Naval aircraft from H.M.S. *Theseus*, has been reported missing, presumed killed, following a dive-bombing attack on a bridge in Korea.

R.A.F. Club Membership

AT a forthcoming meeting of the Royal Air Force Club it will be proposed that serving officers of dominion, colonial or foreign air forces may, at the discretion of the committee be invited to become temporary members of the Club on payment of the appropriate subscription, but without entrance fee.

R.A.F. Married Quarters

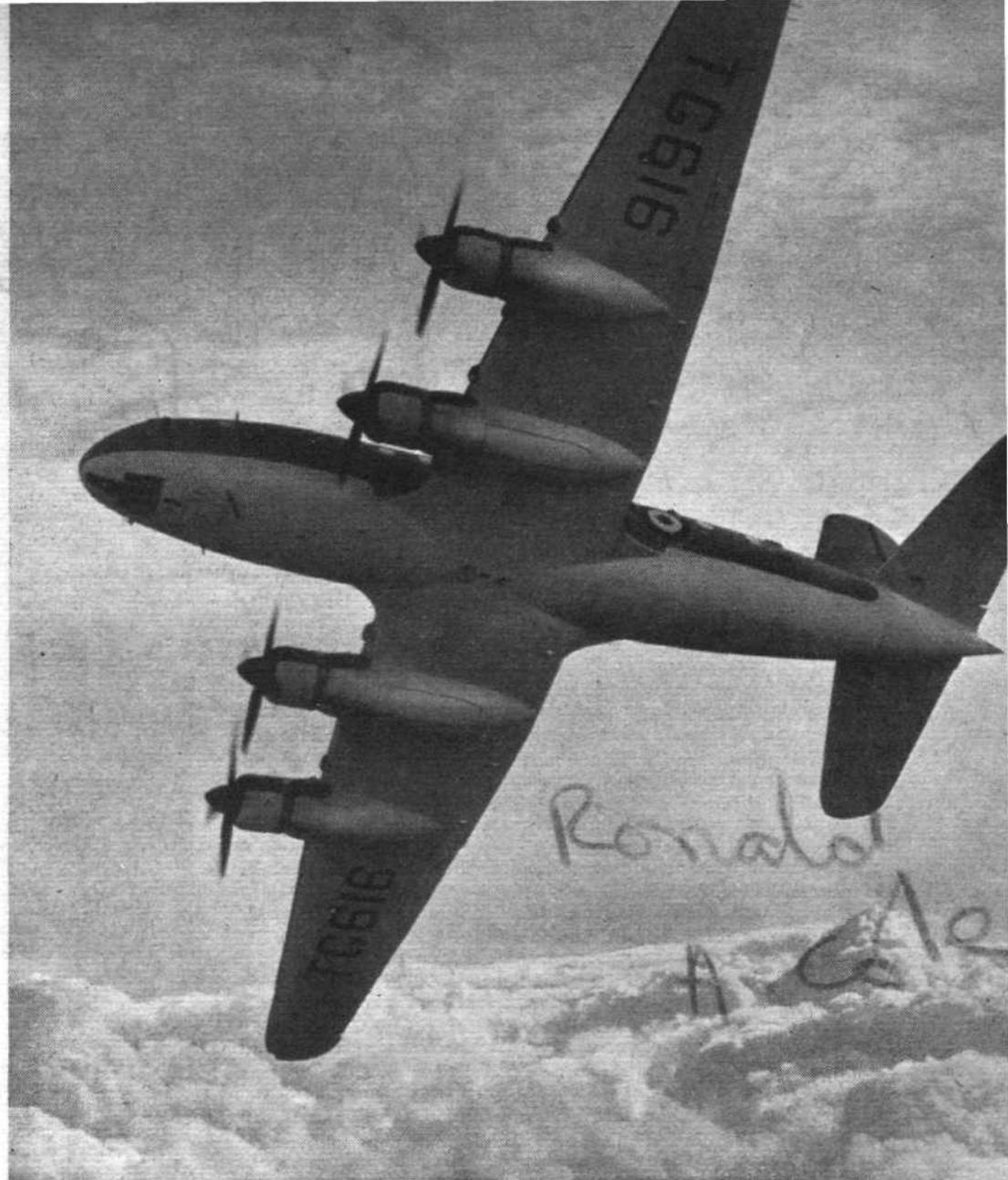
ALLOWANCE for 4,000 additional married quarters for the Royal Air Force Stations in the United Kingdom has been made in the Air Estimates for 1951-52. A similar number are in course of construction and are expected to be completed within the next financial year, which begins in April. Overseas, an additional 440 married quarters will be put in hand. Others are in progress and it is expected that 600 will be completed within the next year. During the present financial year, approximately 1,750 new permanent married quarters will have been completed at home stations and about 300 at overseas stations.

Meteorological Brigands

IN addition to their dive-bombing and rocket attacks on the Malayan bandits, Bristol Brigands are also being used by Far East Air Force for meteorological duties. Each day a Brigand of No. 1301 Met. Flight, based at Negombo, Ceylon, takes off for a weather flight over the Indian Ocean to investigate the local monsoonal air-currents and inter-tropical frontal zone. The first part of the daily sortie is made at a standard height of 1,700ft, with occasional descents to sea level. Then the aircraft climbs spirally to 25,000ft and levels off to observe temperature, humidity and cloud development. Turbulent clouds are often encountered and aircraft have on several occasions returned with aerials destroyed or de-icing equipment torn off. No. 1301 Flight, which has a total complement of 30 aircrew and ground staff, is commanded by F/L. D. G. Walker.

For Service in Malaya

THE following appointments and awards for officers and men of the R.A.F., for service in Malaya between June 1st and



MARITIME HASTINGS: A Handley Page Hastings of the type in service with the Coastal Command meteorological squadron at Aldergrove, Northern Ireland. Aircraft from this unit make a 1,600-mile flight over the Atlantic every day to acquire information on cloud formations, temperature, pressure and humidity.

November 30th, 1950, have been approved by the King.

C.B.E.

G/C. J. L. F. Fuller-Good.

O.B.E.

W/C. P. Fleming; S/L. A. Stevenson.

D.F.C.

S/L. A. K. Furse; Flight Lieutenants W. B. Bezy and K. W. Dalton-Golding.

D.F.M.

F/S. B. Collen; Sgt. J. C. Mottram.

B.E.M.

F/S. S. M. Eames, W.R.A.F.; Flight Sergeants W. G. Pearce and D. A. Stewart; Sergeants A. Evans and Mohamed bin Kasban; L.A/C. R. H. Weller.

To Command R.A.T. Group

THE Air Ministry announces the appointment, next May, of A. Cdre. H. H. Brookes, D.F.C., at present Director of Flying Training at the Air Ministry, as A.O.C. the Rhodesian Air Training Group. A.Cdre. Brookes, who is 46, was commissioned from Cranwell in 1924. At the outbreak of war in 1939, he commanded a wing in the Middle East and was later on operational duties at Air Headquarters, Aden, until the end of 1940. Returning to the United Kingdom, he spent some months in the operations room of the fighter unit formed for the defence of merchant shipping, and towards the end of 1941 went overseas again as staff officer in charge of administration at Air Head-

quarters, West Africa. He was given command of No. 298 Wing in West Africa in 1942.

Back in England in 1943, he commanded R.A.F. Station, Brighton, Yorkshire, for a year before becoming senior officer in charge of administration at Headquarters, No. 7 (Bomber) Group, in 1944. From early 1945 until June, 1947, he commanded R.A.F. Station Habbaniya, Iraq, and was afterwards S.A.S.O. at Air Headquarters, Iraq, for six months, before returning home to command R.A.F. Station Swinderby, Lincs., where he remained until June, 1949.

Benevolent Fund School

THE Duchess of Kent, president of the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, recently visited the residential school established by the Fund for boys whose fathers were killed serving in the R.A.F. The school, at Vanbrugh Castle, Blackheath, London, houses boys between seven and school-leaving age, and those who decide to make the R.A.F. their career are prepared for the apprentice examinations. Boys under 11 are educated at Vanbrugh Castle and most of those over 11 attend local secondary schools.

On her visit to the school, the Duchess of Kent was received by Lord Riverdale, chairman of the council of the Fund, and A.V.-M. Sir John Cordingley, the controller.