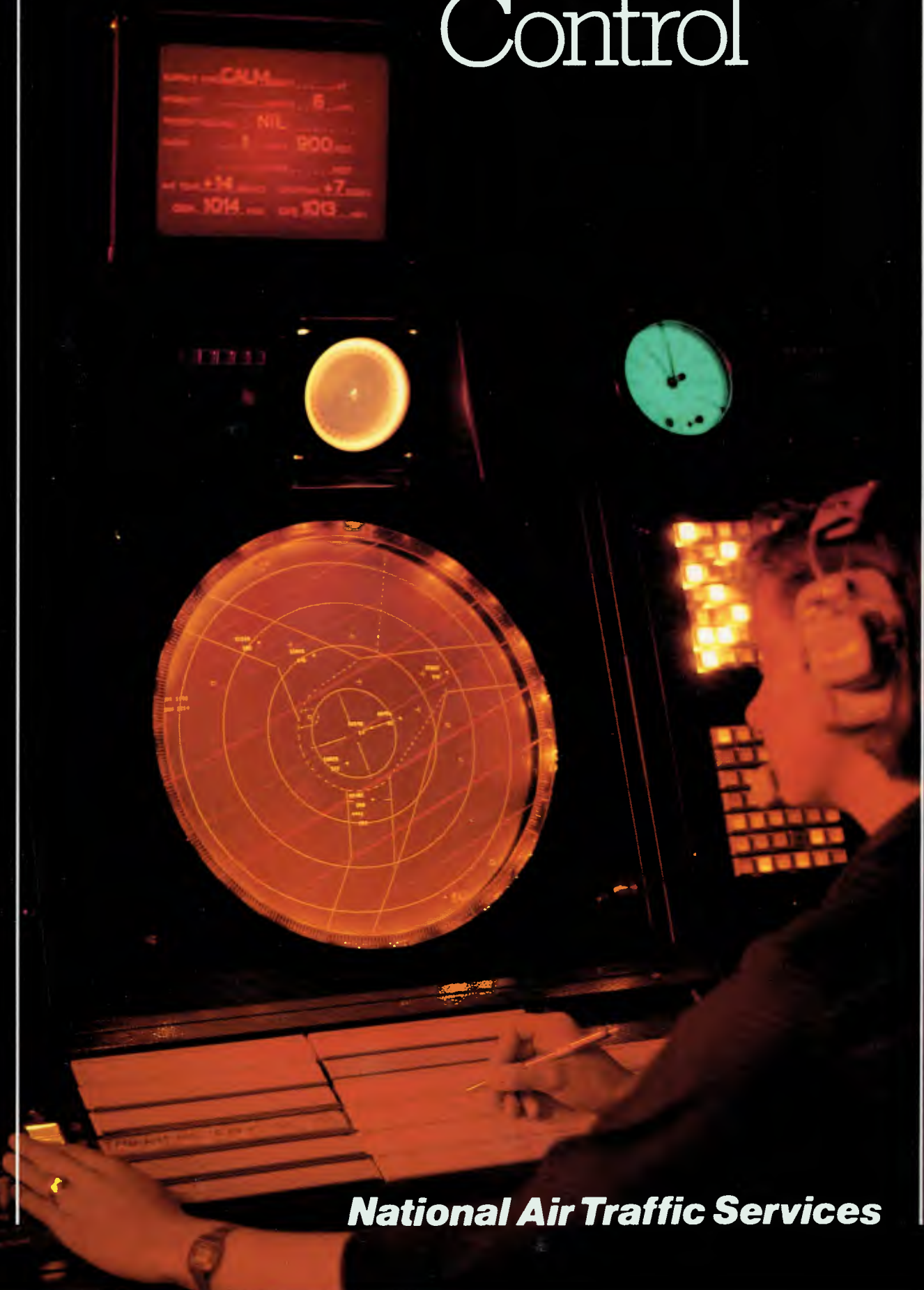


CAA-DOC-313



# College of Air Traffic Control



**National Air Traffic Services**

# College of Air Traffic Control

**Bournemouth (Hurn) Airport,  
Dorset, England**

The United Kingdom was the first State in Europe to provide regular training for Air Traffic Control Officers and Air Traffic Control Assistants. The School of Air Traffic Control was established in 1949 at Bournemouth (Hurn) Airport and in 1968 it became the College of Air Traffic Control. Since then improvements in communications technology have led to major advances in the safety of flight and the efficient, economic operation of aircraft. The Civil Aviation Authority's College of Air Traffic Control offers modern specialist professional training to those about to follow a career in the demanding and exacting job of controlling aircraft.

As well as training controllers and assistants for the UK National Air Traffic Services and other air traffic service organisations in the UK, the College provides courses for international students from more than 140 countries.



*The wall in the College entrance hall bearing the insignia of all countries that have used the College for training*

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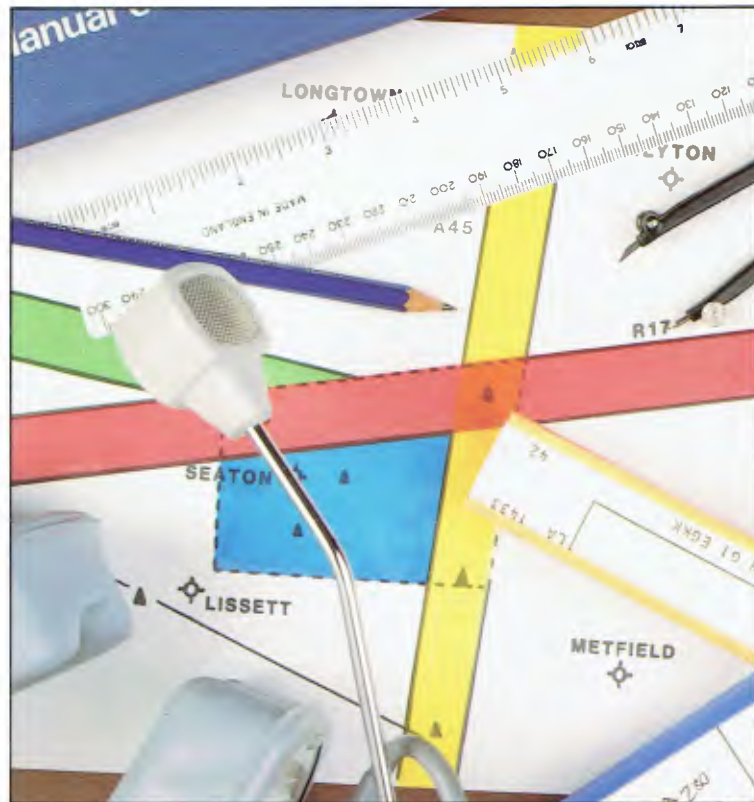
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## The Courses

The courses are based on the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) syllabus for training personnel involved in air traffic control. Practical training is a major feature of the work and full use is made of modern air traffic control simulators and other advanced training facilities.

Three departments are responsible for courses. One deals with work at aerodromes and undertakes programmes in Aerodrome Control, Approach Control (Non-Radar) and Approach Radar Control. The second deals with work at air traffic control centres, including Area Control (Non-Radar), Area Radar Control, and courses in automatic data processing. The third provides tuition in instructional techniques for both formal and on-the-job training.

Students are assessed on the work done throughout the course as well as through formal examinations. A good standard of written, oral and practical presentation is essential to success and the College pays particular attention to helping students to develop the necessary skills. UK students who pass the examinations can obtain either an Air Traffic Controller's licence or a rating. In the case of a student from overseas, a report based on progress in training and final examinations is sent to the student's sponsor.

The ICAO Training Directory lists the courses offered by the United Kingdom to overseas air traffic control authorities. Any of the courses can be adapted to meet the requirements of the students attending the College or of individual States. The Principal and his staff are always available to discuss with the students' sponsors the particular training needs and skills to be learned.



*The exterior of the College*

In addition to these courses, a Terminal Area and Approach Radar Control course is available to give the necessary instruction in theoretical and practical aspects of radar control and to train students to apply the appropriate techniques and procedures to airfields and en-route traffic operating in controlled and uncontrolled airspace.

## **Aerodrome Control**

The simulator used in aerodrome control shows the movement of circuit traffic, arriving and departing aircraft, and the ground movement of aircraft and vehicles, by illuminated lights on a wall-mounted display of a typical airfield. Students have a desk-mounted flight progress board where information on all air and ground movements can be displayed and updated. The addition of simulated radio and telephones enables the students to learn and practise the RTF and telephone phraseology, as well as the procedures associated with traffic control in the Aerodrome Traffic Zone and on the ground, while simultaneously maintaining an accurate record on the flight progress strips.

*The Aerodrome Control simulator*





## Procedural Control (Non-Radar)

Before beginning radar training all students have to learn how to separate air traffic by means of the "procedural", or non-radar, control method. At aerodromes the approach controller is responsible for aircraft in the vicinity of the airfield. At air traffic control centres the area controller controls aircraft flying within his area of responsibility. Students on procedural control courses do not have access to radar data and so separation is based on information supplied by the pilots and all flight data is displayed on flight progress strips.

*The Area Control (non-radar) simulator*



*A Procedural Control student studying flight progress strips*

Practical training uses fictional airspace with airways, advisory routes, control zones and areas. It provides the student with opportunities to apply all the different types of procedural separation and to carry out co-ordination with adjacent centres, zones and airfields, in traffic situations of gradually increasing complexity.

## Radar Control

Simulators used for radar training at the College of Air Traffic Control are of modern design and are 'driven' by the most up-to-date computers available. Peripheral equipment and systems emulate as closely as possible the real operational environment. The addition of RT and telephone enables students to learn and practise the procedures and techniques of radar control, including emergency procedures and the use of secondary surveillance radar.



*The Radar Control simulator*

## Instructional Techniques

This section provides a number of courses designed to meet the needs of future instructors. Courses vary in duration and each syllabus is written to suit the particular requirements of a specified training task.



*Some of the many visual aids used in the Instructional Techniques courses*

A wide range of training aids is used for this type of instruction. On the longer courses trainees are taught to become proficient in preparing and using visual and audio aids.

Closed circuit television is employed extensively on all Instruction Techniques courses. It is invaluable as a teaching medium, enabling students to monitor their own progress.

## Instructors

College instructors are selected for their operational experience and qualifications as practising air traffic controllers. Visiting lecturers cover specialist subjects and matters dealing with general interest in aviation.

## Training Equipment

An extensive range of visual and audio equipment is available to complement tuition and a cinema for showing 16mm films is frequently used. Main frame computers generate tracks for training exercises on radar courses and micro-computers are being gradually introduced as an aid to basic training. Video, closed-circuit television and overhead projectors are also used throughout training.

## Accommodation and Transport

The College is non-residential but accommodation is available in nearby towns. Light meals and snacks can be obtained from the staff restaurant.

As the College is not served by public transport, it is essential that students make suitable travel arrangements.





*A corner of the College library*

## **College Library**

Journals and books covering a wide range of air traffic control and aviation subjects are available in the College library.

*The College restaurant*





## Further Enquiries

Enquiries about the training of overseas personnel, the availability of courses and the costs of the various courses should be referred to:

Civil Aviation Authority  
Operational Services Overseas 3  
Room 319, Aviation House  
129 Kingsway  
London WC2B 6NN

## Other enquiries should be addressed to:

Head of ATC Training  
Room T819, CAA House  
45-59 Kingsway  
London WC2B 6TE

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