

All correspondence should be addressed to

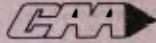
Civil Aviation Authority
ATC (SL) 4
Room T1216
CAA House
45/59 Kingsway
London WC2B 6TE
Telephone: 01-379 7311 extension 2386

enclosing a stamped addressed envelope

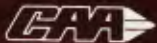
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A career in Air Traffic Control

Civil Aviation Authority



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In the control tower at Manchester airport

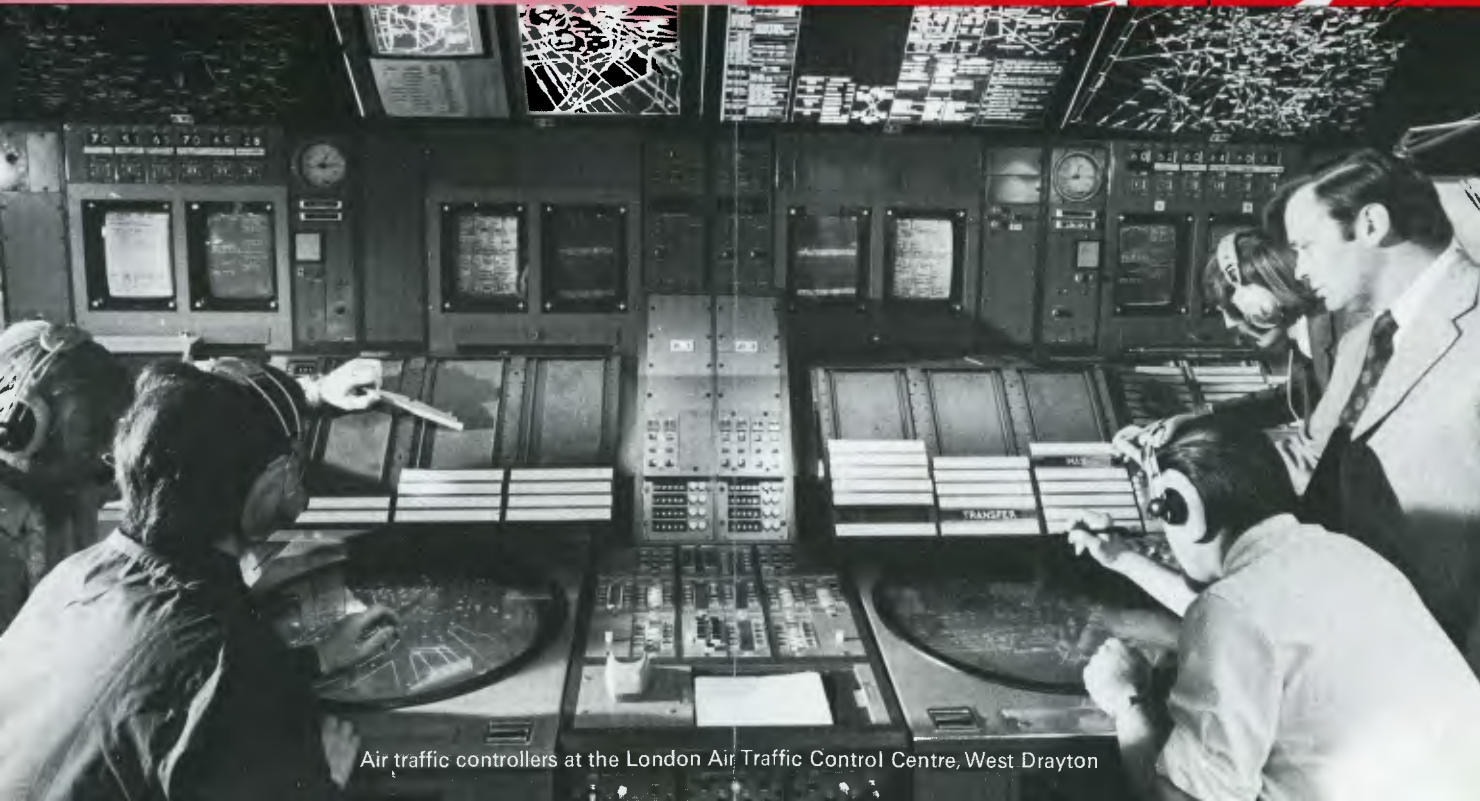
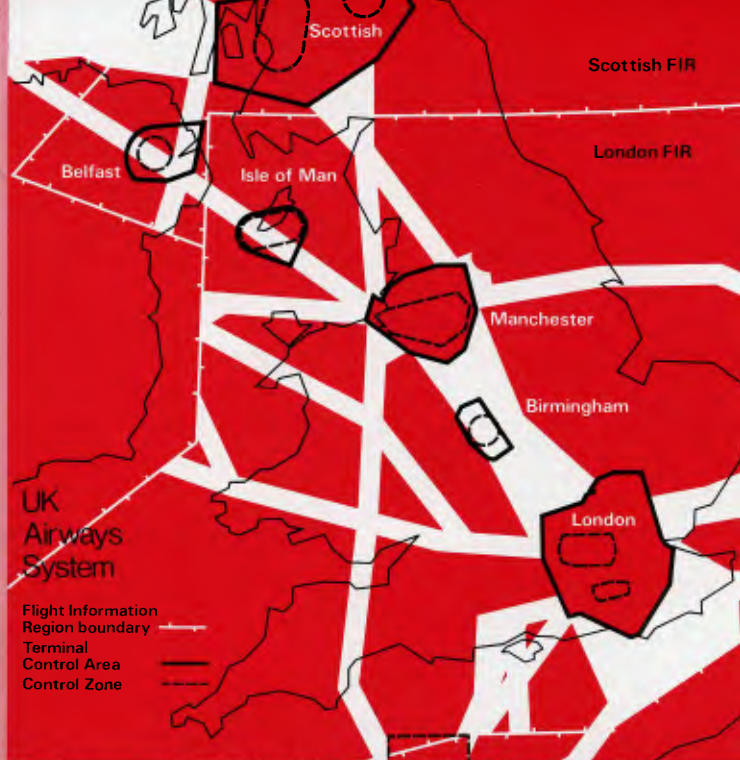
The College of Air Traffic Control

The modern college buildings are situated at Hurn, about five miles from Bournemouth and on the edge of the New Forest. It has all the most up-to-date equipment. Students live in accommodation of their choice in the area. In Bournemouth there are many facilities for recreation – theatres, concerts, cinemas, swimming pools. The area is also well-known for its sailing and its fine beaches.

Promotion prospects

Promotion within the ATCO grades up to ATCO II depends on length of service and professional qualifications : beyond that, it is by selection.

There are opportunities for promotion within the ATCA structure. Suitably qualified and experienced ATCAs are eligible for consideration for appointment as ATCOs.



Air traffic controllers at the London Air Traffic Control Centre, West Drayton

What is Air Traffic Control ?

The National Air Traffic Services are a joint civil/military service under the Civil Aviation Authority and the Ministry of Defence. They are responsible for the safe, orderly and expeditious flow of more than a million flights over the United Kingdom and North Atlantic each year. To do this they use highly complex technical equipment and the skill of Air Traffic Control Officers and Assistants.

Make a career in Air Traffic Control ?

The services are provided for aircraft within the United Kingdom and are continuously advancing to meet the ever-increasing demands of the jet age. If you are suitably qualified you can apply to be considered for training as an Air Traffic Control Officer (ATCO) or Assistant (ATCA) in NATS.

As an **Air Traffic Control Officer** you will be responsible for the day-to-day control of aircraft flying within the airspace of the United Kingdom. Upon promotion, you may also be expected to play a part in the administration of NATS.

For entry into the ATCO grades, unless you have previous Air Traffic Control Officer or aircrew experience, you need the General Certificate of Education (GCE) or equivalent passes* in five distinct subjects, including English language and mathematics. Two of the passes* must be at A level, of which one must be in mathematics, geography or a science subject. Age limits are 18 to 25.

If you have considerable recent experience as an Air Traffic Control Officer or as a member of aircrew, the requirements are General Certificate of Education O level or equivalent, in at least five distinct subjects, including English language and mathematics. Age limits are 21 to 34.

Courses over a 3-year period are centred upon the College of Air Traffic Control at Hurn. Training is comprehensive and includes flying instruction to Private Pilot's Licence standard.

As an **Air Traffic Control Assistant** you will be responsible for helping the ATCO in many different ways to carry out his tasks. This work is varied and interesting.

To enter as an ATCA you must have either O level passes* in four subjects, including English language and either mathematics or a science subject or an equivalent academic qualification, minimum age limit is 17 years.

On acceptance as an ATCA you will undergo a four-week course at the College of Air Traffic Control, followed by a written examination.

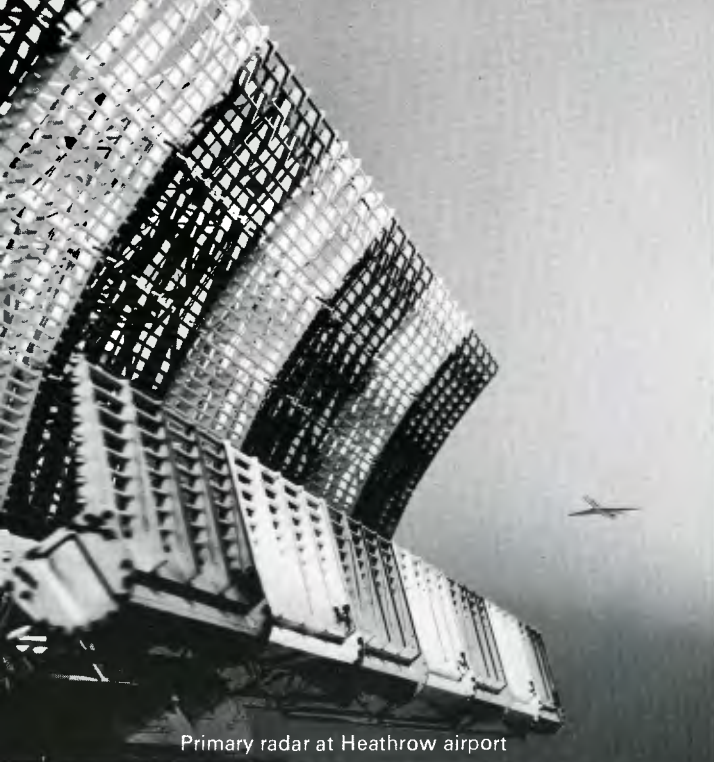
*GCE O level passes must be Grade C or above. A level passes must be Grade E or above. CSE Grade 1 is acceptable in lieu of O level.

All candidates, male and female, are given equal consideration according to their qualifications for appointment. Competition is very keen.

Both grades are mobile and, although successful candidates' preferences for posting are taken into consideration, it is not always possible to place them in the area they request.

Vacancies for ATCO Cadets are advertised in *Flight International* magazine and other publications. Careers offices are kept informed. Competitions are normally held about every nine months.

Vacancies for ATCAs are also advertised in the aviation press but you may write for an application form at any time, giving details of your age and educational qualifications.



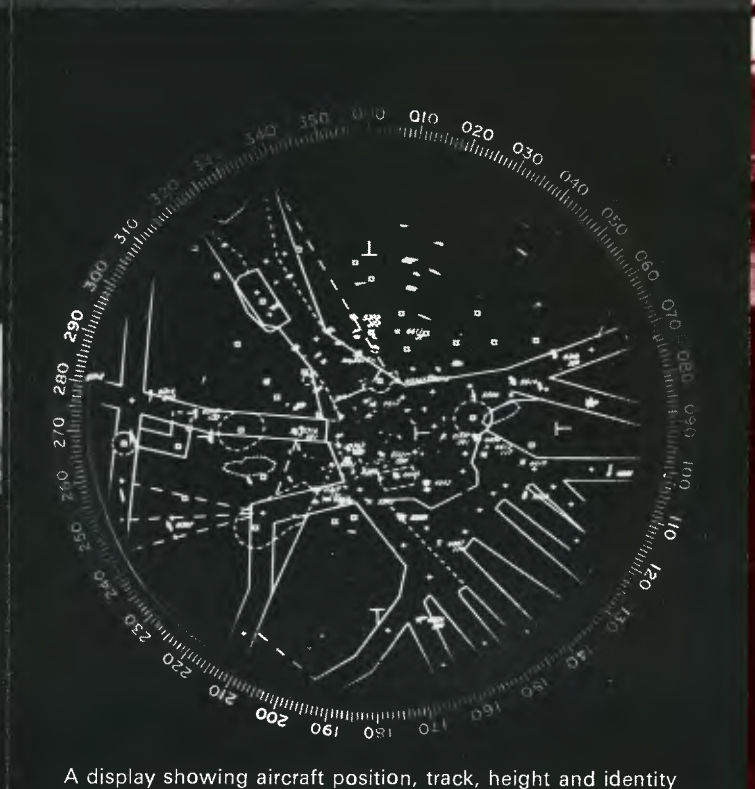
Primary radar at Heathrow airport



A Trident using ILS to land in bad weather



Radar instruction at the College of Air Traffic Control, Hurn



A display showing aircraft position, track, height and identity