

THE R.A.A.F. IS OPEN TO ALL

The small number of young Aboriginal men who have asked about joining the R.A.A.F. is surprising because there are so many ways of enlistment open to suitable applicants.

The fact that a number of aboriginal girls has served with the Women's Royal Australian Air Force since World War II seems to show that these girls have set the lead for their brothers in finding out about the attractions of Service life.

Perhaps this article will help to tell those brothers about the opportunities open to them in the R.A.A.F.

Any British subject living permanently in Australia can apply for enlistment in the R.A.A.F.

Aircraftswoman Mabel Yow Yeh has her hat adjusted by a fellow member of the Women's Royal Australian Air Force. Mabel, whose grandfather originally came from the New Hebrides, was a cook on a station property near Alpha, Central Queensland, before she joined the W.R.A.A.F.

Like all other applicants, Aborigines must be perfectly fit medically and they must be educated to the level set for the "mustering" or part of the R.A.A.F. in which they want to enlist.

They take their chance of being chosen along with all other applicants.

The R.A.A.F. chooses the most suitable applicants from among all those seeking to join in any of the many musterings.

Aborigines can, with other selected applicants, join the R.A.A.F. as apprentices, adult trainees, adult entrants, general hands, or air crew trainees.

In the wide range of musterings covered by the R.A.A.F.'s apprenticeship scheme are radio technicians, electrical fitters, mechanical transport fitters, armament fitters and other technical tradesmen.

Training starts about the middle of January each year.

Applicants for R.A.A.F. apprenticeships must be over 15 and under 17 years on January 1 of the year in which they are accepted for training.

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