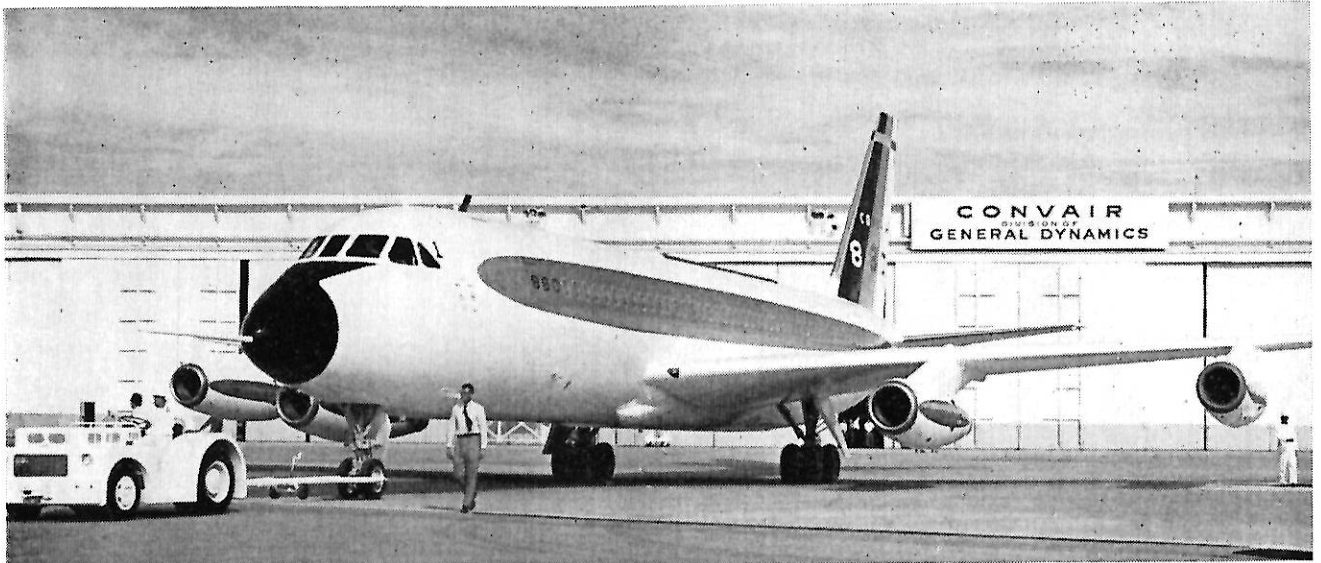


aviation news digest



CONVAIR 880 ROLL OUT. Two weeks ahead of schedule, Convair's 880, billed newest and fastest of world's jet transports, rolls out at San Diego. The maiden flight is scheduled shortly. Cruise is specified 615 mph., capacity: 88 first class seats.

Defense Contracts

Unclassified contracts awarded by the Department of Defence Production during December included two totaling \$1,427,000 placed with Bristol Aero Engines Ltd., Montreal, Que., for the overhaul of aero engines. Avro Aircraft Ltd., Toronto, Ont., received a contract for airframe components amounting to \$500,000, and Sperry Gyroscope Co. of Canada Ltd., Montreal, Que., one for maintenance and spares for radar equipment valued at \$395,000. Okanagan Helicopters Ltd., Vancouver, B.C., received a contract for the charter of helicopters worth \$123,000; Canadian Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Co. Ltd., Montreal, Que., for the overhaul of aero engines, \$110,000; and Enamel & Heating Products Ltd., Amherst, N.S., for repair and overhaul of airframe components, \$100,000.

Flight Jubilee Meeting

The Canadian Aeronautical Institute is holding a special anniversary of flight meeting at Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal, on Feb. 23. Papers will be presented by representatives of the Canadian aircraft industry, and guest of honor at the evening dinner will be Rt. Hon. Vincent Massey, Governor-General of Canada. The Hon. J. A. D. McCurdy, Canada's pioneer flyer, will also be a special guest for the occasion.

RCFCA Anniversary

The 30th anniversary meeting of the Royal Canadian Flying Clubs Association will be held at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal, on February 14-17. The 20th anniversary of the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan will also be celebrated, and it is expected that the gathering will be representative of most of the wartime flying schools across Canada. The occasion will also cover Canada's 50th anniversary of powered flight.

Who To Believe?

According to a prominent U.S. aviation magazine: "Long-range, all-weather interceptors may get more U.S. attention. The reasons: Economics and the fact that Canada wants to use aircraft to destroy the enemy as far away from home as possible. They are definitely not interested in short-range air defense missiles operating from the nearby perimeter of cities and population centres."

Improved Tracker

Work has begun on a modified version of the CS2F Tracker, with improved anti-submarine capabilities. The first of the new type should go into service in 1959. The Tracker, a Grumman design, is being built in Canada, with de Havilland Aircraft of Canada as co-ordinating contractor. RCN helicopters are now being fitted with homing anti-submarine torpedoes to give them a kill capability.

English Electric Change

The English Electric Co., makers of the PIB interceptor, have announced the formation of a new wholly owned subsidiary: English Electric Aviation Ltd., to take over existing activities in research, design and development of manned aircraft and guided weapons. New company comprises the aircraft division centred at Warton aerodrome, and the guided weapons division at Stevenage, Herts., and Luton, Beds.

Conway Thrust Boost

The Rolls-Royce Conway bypass engine, slated to power TCA's Douglas DC-8s, has been given a minimum rating of 17,000 lb of thrust, highest yet certified for a commercial aero engine, according to Rolls-Royce of Canada Ltd. Certification of airworthiness at the new figure has been granted by the Air Registration Board of Great Britain.

Joint U. K. Project

Plans for a new tactical support reconnaissance aircraft, the TSR2, have been laid in the U. K., the project to be undertaken jointly by Vickers Armstrongs (Aircraft) Ltd., and English Electric Aviation Ltd. A joint project team from the two companies is being established at the Vickers Armstrongs works at Weybridge. The development of the engine for the new type is being planned by Bristol-Siddeley Engines Ltd., the new company formed out of Bristol Aero Engines Ltd. and Armstrong Siddeley Ltd., subsidiaries of Bristol Aeroplane Co. and the Hawker Siddeley Group, respectively.

The plane is intended for use in limited operations and for close support of the army. It must be capable of performing the roles of all the various marks of Canberra, but be far more versatile and more in the nature of a general purpose tactical aircraft.

Bristol Developments

In future all three subsidiary companies of Bristol in Canada are to be operated as divisions of a company to be known as Bristol Aero-Industries Ltd. The headquarters will be at the International Aviation Building in Montreal, where R. J. Reynolds (president), and W. S. Haggitt (senior vice-president) will be stationed. A/V/M A. L. James, W. M. Auld, and J. H. Holt will be in charge of the Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver divisions respectively. Interests in Latin America will be controlled from Mexico City by B. A. Chalmers.

New Jarry Title

Jarry Hydraulics, formerly a division of Jarry Automobile Ltd., has been incorporated as Jarry Hydraulics Ltd. Fernand Jarry is president of the new company, with Adalbert Jarry, co-owner of both companies, a senior vice-president in charge of finance.