

Could Make Airlines At Avro, Union Claims

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Oshawa, Feb. 24 — Union leaders said here today TCA aircraft could be made by workers at Avro who were laid off last week after the scrapping of the Arrow.

The executive of the 10,000-member Local 222, United Auto Workers, feel the Conservatives should have made some arrangements for the re-establishing of commercial work before withdrawing defense contracts.

"TCA, a company completely controlled by the Government, is importing all its planes from Britain and the United States, planes that could be made by the skilled workers at Avro who built the first jetliner in 1951, and were then blackjacked by C. D. Howe, former mastermind of Liberal policy, from commercial work into defense con-

tracts," the executive said in a prepared statement.

The executive feels Canadian auto workers will be faced with a similar situation when the importation of small cars from the United States starts in September.

"This importation could affect over half the Canadian employees in the industry due to the lower cost and more economical operation of the smaller car," the statement read. "The executive can see from present Conservative policy that they can expect little help in their fight to protect the Canadian auto industry."

(A spokesman for General Motors at Oshawa said: "Any talk about small cars being built in North America by General Motors at the present time is purely speculative as no announcement has been made by the company.")

A three-man committee, comprising Clifford Pilkey, Local 222 president; Russell McNeil, secretary-treasurer, and William Rutherford, vice-president, has been established to plan immediate action on the Avro closing, the proposed importation of small cars from the United States next September, and the serious unemployment situation now affecting the Canadian economy.