

MISSILES NOT ENOUGH

'Canada Needs It' Says Zurakowski

By PHYLLIS GRIFFITHS
Telegram Staff Reporter

The man who test flew the Arrow today said: "It is a wonderful aircraft and Canada needs it."

Jan Zurakowski, recently retired as Avro's chief test pilot and now a technical adviser, said that Canada cannot afford NOT to produce the AVRO Arrow CF-105.

He declared that it met "every requirement of the RCAF and in many things well exceeded the requirements."

Zurakowski expressed the firm opinion that missiles alone were not sufficient defense for Canada.

He said that they could be "jammed."

He said only a manned plane like the Arrow, carrying heavy radar equipment and a radar operator, could find out how the jamming was being done and break it down.

"Missiles can't come back and tell you what's happening," said Zurakowski.

Commenting on criticism of the Arrow's lack of range, Zurakowski said:

"This is not a valid criticism. If a longer range is desired, all that's needed is to add more fuel tanks."

"This can be done on the Arrow."

"The present range is already 50 per cent. in excess of what the air force asked for."

Zurakowski said he considered the Arrow superior to any U.S. interceptor Canada could buy.

He stated that the RCAF had asked for a twin-engine plane carrying radar operator as well as pilot because of Arctic operations.

"I agree with this," he said.

"With a single-engine plane there would be many more accidents and a lessening of effectiveness. I don't think a single-engine plane would be good for Canada."

The 44-year-old Battle of Britain hero, a test pilot since the late years of World War II, said he was "very much upset" at the report of the dropping of the Arrow.

"Not for myself but for Canada" said Zurakowski. "There are other AVRO projects which I can work on."

"But the loss to the country would be terrible."

FOOLISH MOVE

"Russia is developing interceptors and bombers as well as missiles. In the face of that it would be ridiculous

for Canada to scrap manned planes.

"They will be required for several years at least."

"And we could never depend on just one missile anyway. Several types would be necessary."

DAILY TELEGRAM