

AVRO Canada Mk 1 CF-100, first prototype 18101 (FBD) at Boston's Logan Airport to participate in an airshow 589 RL 242 008

Piloted by Bill Waterton with Mike Cooper-Slipper as navigator.

Note the Bell X-1 under FBD's belly. Aircraft serial number 8577 is a C82-D "Packet".

Waterton, a Canadian, was an ex-RAF Squadron Leader who became known for his exploits in downing V-1 buzz bombs by tipping them up with his wing-tip. He was on loan to Avro Canada from Gloster's where he was Chief Test Pilot.

Cooper-Slipper was also ex-RAF. He was in the Battle of Britain. Later, he flew one of the last three Spitfires out of Singapore as it was being overrun by the Japanese. He headed for Burma, but ran out of fuel, bailed out over the jungle, and a month later reached civilization - but with a case of malaria. With Avro, he was one of the Jetliner pilots, and he did all the engine development and flight certification testing for the Avro Orenda and Iroquois engines, including flying the Lancaster-Orenda flying test bed, an F-86 with an Orenda engine, and a B47 with the huge Iroquois attached to the aft end of the fuselage. He now resides in Victoria, British Columbia. I flew with him on various occasions. I last met him in August 99 at the 50th anniversary of the first flight of the Avro Canada Jetliner (C102).

Photo by Paul Paulsen (August 1950). Paulsen was later a photographer with the Massachusetts Air National Guard and often saw the CF-100 Mk 4s at the RCAF base near Phalsbourg, at the town of Gros Tenquin, where they flew in support of NATO. On one occasion he had a ride in the back seat.

Notes by Fred Matthews, Avro Experimental Flight Test Engineer who later flew in 18101 with RCAF Test Pilot Flt. Lt. Bruce Warren who was on loan to Avro. Bruce was killed in the crash of the 2nd prototype, 18102.