

Weldon Wilson

1934?

Worked For:

Orenda, Avro Canada

Position:

Orenda Engine technician; building tail cones for the Avro Arrow engines; experimental Flight Section

Weldon Wilson, e-mail, 04.05.2011 22:47

Since this is my first time on this site which I found today I would like to add a little info as to my own experiences at AVRO I worked the first year 1956 on CF -100's as I was just discharged from the RCAF and was an Orenda Engine tech for 5 years working and servicing CF-100s In 1957 I was transferred to the Arrow Project and started working in the section that built the tail Cones for the Engines I was there for a short time only drilling holes in Titanium steel (Toughest thing to do at the time with the type of drill bits that were available) I was then transferred to the experimental Flight section where I worked till AVRO closed its doors. It was a heart breaking experience as I really think everyone in that place had some kind of proud feeling about what they were doing I am 77 today and have never worked in that atmosphere since. I always felt that all around me everyone was willing to go an extra mile to see this plane fly and when we all seen it the first time I don't think it was just me that had cold chills run up my spine its was one of the best feelings I ever had about something I helped accomplish. I have read a lot here that some think it was not the government at the time who destroyed this project I beg to differ there why did our dollar go to 90 cents immediately compared to the US dollar that's just one item and there are many others Diefenbaker in my mind was a communist I lost my home due to this old son of a bitches actions. As far as the destruction of all the aircraft I have no idea who was responsible for those actions and I think to this day only those who made the decision if they are still living know for sure who it was. Too many point fingers at to many when they only assume who's responsible. The Arrow for sure had some short comings like range and armament but that like everything new would have been worked out to have been improved to a manageable area. and we must not forget they had been offered over 20 aircraft sales to other countries before it was even completed CANADA could have one big boost to its ever failing economy. I am 77 and retired but I still have a lingering feeling what it could have become with some improvements and time there isn't much out there today with the speed and power we had almost 60 yrs ago think about it we were like Studebaker long before our time

<https://www.aviastar.org/comments/comments.php?order=1&aircraft=0005>

Researched by: Barry Copp (2024)