

It Handles Well

Mightiest Jet, Canada's CF-100 Flown

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Hailed as the most powerful fighter in the world, the Avro Canada twin-jet CF-100 made its first flight from Malton Airport yesterday, marking a new stage in military aviation.

While Defense Minister Claxton and RCAF officials watched, the sleek, black fighter roared into the air with a Canadian, W. A. (Bill) Waterton, AFC and Bar, at the controls. The fighter stayed aloft 20 minutes, and when it landed Waterton said it had handled extremely well.

"What we saw today results from plans formed in 1945 and begun in 1946," Mr. Claxton said after the successful test. "The prototype of an aircraft of an entirely new design has thus been produced in less than

four years, a major accomplishment of which every one should be proud."

The CF-100 was designed to meet specifications laid down by the RCAF, which considered a long-range, all-weather jet fighter necessary for Canadian air defense requirements. The aircraft carries a pilot and radio navigator. It is the first fighter of its kind in the world and is an all-Canadian undertaking. It was designed in Canada and built for the RCAF by Avro Canada.

The CF-100 was built to meet a definite purpose in joint defense plans without duplicating aircraft manufacturing programs elsewhere. The plane will complement the F-86 single-seater interceptor, which will serve as the standard day fighter.

The aircraft is 52½ feet long and

its height from the top of the cabin to the ground is 10 feet seven inches. The fighter is fitted with Rolls-Royce Avon engines, but Canadian-designed and built Avro Orenda turbojets will be fitted later.

"The showing today gives grounds for confidence that Canada is in the lead as far as all-weather, long-range fighters are concerned," Defense Minister Claxton commented.

"I am told that the power developed in today's test may have been greater than in any two-engined aircraft yet flown. We hope that this fine performance will be equalled and even exceeded when our own Avro Canada engines are fitted. It must be remembered that this is a prototype and there will be a lot more to do before we have planes coming off a production line."