

SHUTTING DOWN THE NATIONAL DREAM

*A.V. Roe
and the
Tragedy
of the
Avro Arrow*

Greig Stewart



Includes
16 pages
of photos from
THE ARROW
mini-series

The Book that Inspired the Mini-Series

THE ARROW

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National Bestseller . . .

Winner of the National Business Book Award . . .

And now . . .

A Major Mini-Series THE ARROW

Starring: Dan Aykroyd, Sara Botsford, Ron White, Aidan Devine, Christopher Plummer, Michael Moriarty, Michael Ironside. *Screenplay by:* Keith Ross Leckie.

Directed by: Don McBrearty. *Produced by:* The Film Works Ltd., Tapestry Films Ltd., John Aaron Productions Inc.

In fourteen short, precocious years, from 1946 to 1959, A.V. Roe Canada and its two subsidiaries, Avro Aircraft and Orenda Engines, almost single-handedly set the aviation world on its ear. Their designers and engineers were described by NATO's General Norstad as "just about the best team anywhere."

By 1958, Avro had designed, and was about to produce, the most sophisticated piece of aviation design and technology the world had ever seen: the Arrow, decades in advance of world competition. Truly, they had redefined the national dream.

But on February 20, 1959, Prime Minister John Diefenbaker cancelled the Arrow and, to ensure the annihilation, ordered the scrapping of the six existing planes. (Mysteriously, one of the aircraft may have escaped the cutters' torches, giving rise to the notion of a "Phantom Arrow.")

In *Shutting Down the National Dream* author Greig Stewart tells the story behind the story of A.V. Roe and the fabled Arrow. A story of the personalities -- from Crawford Gordon, the charismatic, highrolling president of Avro Aircraft to the brilliant, but volatile chief designer Jim Chamberlin. A story of the right stuff at the wrong time. A tragedy of government errors. A love story of a nation, a plane, and a dream.

"Governments and torches can destroy an aircraft, but they cannot destroy hope, and aspiration, and the majesty of the questing spirit. In the hearts of the people, the dream lives on."

*Jan Zurakowski,
legendary Avro Arrow test pilot*



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