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news digest



CAUGHT IN THE ACT. The main wheels were rotating in the act of retraction when the camera caught the first Canadian-produced CF-104 Starfighter just after take off from Lockhe d's California Division jet base at Palmdale, in the first aerial photograph. Canada's first CF-104, now undergoing testing at Lockheed's, is the forerunner of hundreds of Super Starfighters to be produced outside the parent plant, in Germany, Holland, Belgium, Italy and Japan as well as in Canada.

BLC Hercules Feats

Demonstrating its capabilities at the Paris Air Show, the prototype boundary-layer-controlled Lockeed C-130 turbo-prop Hercules took off in 600 feet, and landed in 450 feet. Air for the BLC system is provided by two auxiliary engines pylon-mounted outboard of the main engines. However, Lockheed has offered licensing rights to Britain, and if this materialised, a Rolls-Royce Tyne powered version of the aircraft would need no auxiliary power, eliminating the extra pod engines. This should in turn provide an even better STOL performance.

Avro's GEM Proposal

Avro Aircraft Ltd., Malton, Ont., and a division of Borg-Warner Corporation, Kalamazoo, Mich., have signed a joint venture agreement to participate mutually in their ground effect machine programs. Their first joint proposal was one to the U.S. Office of Naval Research for a ground effect amphibian designed to carry troops and cargo. Move is intended to combine the long experience of Borg-Warner in the production of landing craft, and Avro's experience with ground cushion effect.

Garrett in Ottawa

Garrett Manufacturing Limited, Rexdale, Ont., has established a new office at 75 Albert St., Ottawa, Ont. New office will be under the direction of Bruce D. Darling, and supplements offices already established in Toronto and Montreal.

BUA Orders Hillers

British United Airways Ltd., has ordered six new Hiller 12E helicopters with an option for five more to be bought before the end of the year. Total value of the order would be more than \$500,000. BUA has operated Hiller helicopters for the past 12 years.

Defense Contracts

Recent contracts awarded by the Department of Defence Production include one for \$3 million to Canadair Ltd., Montreal, Que., for the repair and overhaul of airframes and airframe components. Orenda Engines Ltd., Toronto, Ont., received one for \$2,585,000 for aero engine spares, 2nd Nordair Ltd., Dorval, Que., one for \$200,350 for the rental of aircraft.

Caribou Weight Increase

Increase of 2,500 lbs. in the gross weight of the de Havilland Caribou has been certified by the Department of Transport, placing it in the CAR 4B transport category. Gross weight of the aircraft is now 28,500 lbs., compared to 24,000 lbs. when it flew first. This most recent weight increase was achieved by an increase in the plane's structural weight of only 70 lbs. The payload is increased by more than 2,200 lbs.

The Caribou impressed visitors to the Paris Air Show with its STOL ability, and the ease with which it can be loaded and unloaded, then went on for demonstrations in the U. K., followed by a tour of the middle and far east.

SOO AIRPORT

Final major obstacles involved in the opening of the Sault Ste. Marie airport were overcome at the meeting. Problems between the two countries regarding trans-border traffic control generally were worked out.

Host for the conference was Air Vice-Marshal A. de Niverville, Assistant Deputy Minister (Air). Heading the U.S. group was James Pyle, deputy administrator of the FAA.