

aviation intelligence

CF-105 progress

▶ According to a speculative Ottawa report, research and development costs for the prototype of the Avro CF-105 are now estimated at \$200,000,000. Defense Production Minister Howe's original estimate for the supersonic interceptor was \$100,000,000. Officials are reported as saying that the twin-jet delta-wing plane, its control system, undercarriage and fire-control system are all extremely complex. Heavy research and development expenditures are involved. The wing will itself be an integral fuel tank. The U. S., U. K. and West Germany are all reported to be interested in this new long-range mach 2 fighter for the RCAF. Flight trials are expected in mid 1958. The CF-105 may cost more than \$2,000,000 even at the height of the production learning curve. The subsonic CF-100, which the CF-105 will replace, cost \$122,000,000 to develop and now costs about \$700,000 off the production line.

DHC-4 program

Indications are de Havilland of Canada will turn out 10 production aircraft plus a prototype as an initial batch of the new DHC-4 Caribou. Power plants for the first models will likely be Canadian Pratt & Whitney R-2000s, with a shift to a turbo-prop coming as a later development. The U. S. Army has already placed a firm order for five of the piston Caribou.

German Sabres

Canadair is scheduling to complete production on West Germany's order for 225 Sabre VIs by about mid-1958. The company's Sabre line will be gradually accelerated to reach a peak of 30 a month by late this year and early in 1958 and then will drop off sharply—unless further orders develop in the interim.

DH share offer

▶ Shareholders of de Havilland Aircraft of Canada Ltd., Toronto, have received an offer of \$200 per share for the outstanding 8% of Class A common stock from the British parent company which holds 92% of the stock. The offer involves some 3,800 shares, most of which are held by company executives. The shares have been listed at \$198 with very little trading taking place over the past few years.

Teflon plumbing

Representatives of Aeroquip (Canada) Ltd. and the parent Aeroquip Corp. are seeking Royal Canadian Air Force authority for use of the company developed Teflon Hose lines in RCAF equipment. The authority would permit suppliers to use Teflon now while a military specification is under preparation.

Fairey helicopter

Fairey Aviation Co. of Canada expects to be displaying its English parent company's "Ultra-light" helicopter in Canada this month. Company officials indicated to Canadian Aviation early last year that they planned to seek a market for Fairey helicopters in Canada. C. E. Hibbert, Fairey of Canada's general manager, says the firm is prepared to produce both the Ultra-light and the large Rotodyne at its Eastern Passage plant near Halifax.

Weather radar for TCA

▶ Trans-Canada Air Lines is giving consideration to the installation of RCA C-band weather radar in its Super-Constellations and Vickers Vikings. As yet no decision has been made on its present and future Viscount fleet.

CL-28 schedule

Flight testing on Canadair's CP-107 "Argus" (formerly the CL-28) should be under way late this month or early in April. The second aircraft to come off will also be fully instrumented for test flying and will go to the RCAF's Central Experimental and Proving Establishment. CE&PE will also get the third and fourth aircraft for cold weather testing and other trials. Maritime Air Command, the tactical user of the "Argus" will get its first aircraft by the fall. Canadair expects to bring production of the Maritime Reconnaissance version of the aircraft to one a month in filling the 25 plane order. Production of the transport version, of which the RCAF has ordered 12, will be phased in on the last of the MR line with modifications incorporated to permit a continuous flow.

ARL's U. S. market

PSC Applied Research Ltd.'s ice detector and de-icing control system is to be used on Lockheed Electras. The contract is the first result of a concentrated effort to market the Toronto firm's de-icing system components to American civil and military users. ARL has a sales promotion arrangement with the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., of Akron, O., which is offering the Canadian developed detector and control system as a package deal with Goodyear equipment.

Flying tea tray

▶ Trans-Canada Air lines has finally switched from pillow-juggling meals for passengers to service trays which fold into back of seat on Viscounts. Super Constellations have always had slide into arm rest removable trays on trans-Atlantic flights.