

ARROW II PROJECT

By Neel Roberts



Photo Credit: Neel Roberts – Original Arrow Replica hanging from the ceiling of A.V. Roe Canada Aviation Museum production area.

February 20th, 2019 is the 60th anniversary of the cancellation of the Avro Arrow. Built during the “golden age of aerospace” of Canadian aviation in the village of Malton, Ontario, it was abruptly canceled Black Friday 1959 while the aircrafts, tools etc. were all cut up and scrapped.

The iconic plant opened in 1938 under “National Steel Car” on what was the Robert H. Peacock farm. That same land today is next to Canada’s largest airport better known as Lester B. Pearson (Toronto) International Airport has a fascinating history. National Steel Car changed to Victory Aircraft for world war 2 making the famous Lancaster Bomber but what followed with the new owners founded by the British Aviation brothers Alliott Verdon Roe and Humphrey Verdon Roe Avro Aircraft forever made Canadian history.

The Avro Canada CF-105 Arrow introduced in 1953 during Canada’s post world war 2 era was destined to be the Cadillac of interceptor fighter aircrafts and still considered a top gun to today’s standards. Surprisingly, they’re building a similar version right here in Springbank called the "Arrow II" which will fly in a few years. Started in 1997 just West of Calgary, the A.V. Roe Canada Aviation Museum has spent over \$1 million dollars, 20,000 manhours and much more to get the project in this year’s air show. Totally built by volunteers, its small operation is most impressive including production personal, management and office staff with engineers. The Arrow II will fly at almost

Mach I at 28,000 feet with a G load of +10/-8. After the Arrow shutdown 60 years ago, many engineers, etc. disappeared into the night some ending up at NASA and other aviation companies, so the ideas live on. James (Jim) C. Floyd Chief designer for the original project back in the day is still alive in Hamilton, Ontario. While most of the original workers have passed on, he’s the oldest living employee to date at 104 years. You can check out some on-line scrapbooks at:

https://www.worldhistory.biz/download567ArrowScrapbook_worldhistory.biz.pdf

<https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/5gKi1ZCGfwg4lQ?fbclid=IwAR3DXeTkwxYPanOy8uV2NPmWGRnci9oMkvyS-KWqnKqrlG7sKquXLMnwzWU>

Trump’s recent 2018 announcement of the “Space Force” is indicative high-end aerospace technology is coming to the world. I’ve been following the Secret Space Program (which is slowly going public) for some time and suggest checking out <https://www.darkjournalist.com> for the “real” X-Files and more.

Meanwhile, I highly recommend visiting the museum (no charge) located at the Springbank airport the second Sunday afternoon each month; lots of memorabilia including original blueprints, t-shirts (2 for \$15 if you can believe that!) posters, flight simulator and even Avro Arrow beer! You may also visit the Avro Museum website at www.avromuseum.com

ARROW II PROJECT – Building a 60% scale, piloted replica of the CF-105 Avro Arrow.



Photo Credit: Neel Roberts
Various shots of the Arrow II being assembled.



-Original blueprints are part of the many preserved items currently being archived.



Arrow beer still in production today.



Flight simulator.

