

Title to be determined
– A Pictorial History of Aerial Fire-Fighting in Canada

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Update #1

August, 2001

Initial steps have been taken towards producing a book focusing on aerial fire-fighting in Canada. Stephen and I decided to try to combine both our planned book projects into a single, concentrated effort. Andy was asked to participate because of his extensive photo collection and knowledge of Canadian aviation history.

November 23, 2001

Stephen and I arrived in Comox BC, on a weekend tour of Forest Industries Flying Tankers. Before departing for Port Alberni, we quickly visited the Comox Air Museum and determined that the Museum's archives warrant a future visit.

Hoping to take advantage of the broken cloud, and blue skies, we quickly headed for Sproat Lake. We were very lucky, in that we were treated to a sunny break, as we photographed both the Hawaii and Philippine Mars. It seems that the region had received some 10 inches of rain during the week prior to our visit.

Once we'd finished at Forest Industries, we visited Coulson Aircrane at the Port Alberni airport. We were treated to a computer slide-show by Rob Gornall, and a tour courtesy of John Coughlin. Both seemed interested in our project, and we look forward to setting up a future meeting with Coulson Aircrane.

November 24, 2001

Again, Stephen and I returned to Forest Industries for a meeting with General Manager, Terry Dixon. Terry was interested in our project, and we'll be returning early in the new-year to accomplish several tasks. During our meeting, we were shown some of the company's photo-archive, and a video produced by a German television company. We'll be coming back to copy useful information from FIFT's records. We'll also be attempting to arrange an air-to-air photo shoot during spring training.

We'd like to thank everyone at Forest Industries and Coulson Aircrane, as well as John Melson for arranging the FIFT meeting.

December, 2001

Several packages from Mr. Leo Lejeune of Quebec have arrived in the mail. Included in the package were photos of Quebec Air Services' CL-415s, a sales brochure for the Ayres-Thrush and a magazine article on the CL-415.