

Avro Canada

LANCASTER

The Avro Lancaster was derived from the unsuccessful twin-engine Avro Manchester bomber that first flew in 1939. The decision was made in late 1940 to replace the two Rolls Royce Vulture engines of the Manchester with four of the more reliable Rolls Royce Merlin (in Canada, Packard Merlin) engines, which had a proven record in the Hurricane and Spitfire fighter designs. The revised design was an immediate success and the Lancaster went on

to carry the heaviest individual bomb loads of the Second World War. The Lancaster was manufactured in Canada by Victory Aircraft Ltd. in Malton, Ontario and 430 Mk 10 versions were built. In post-war use, the Canadian built Lancasters went on to serve in highly useful roles. Quickly converted into photographic reconnaissance variants for charting and mapping and into maritime patrol versions, the Lancaster soldiered on well into the Cold War era.



An Avro Lancaster MkX variant as employed in the post-war period by 407 Squadron for ASW/long range patrol duties in Comox, BC. (CF Photo)

DETAILS

Designation: N/A **Model No:** 683 **Marks:** B.I, B.II, B.III, B.X, XPP; Mk 10 AP, AR, BR, DC; Mk 10 MP, MR, N; Mk 10 P, PR, S, SR

Role: Bomber/Photographic Reconnaissance/Maritime Patrol

TOS: 1944 **SOS:** 1965 **No:** 229 **Service:** RCAF

SPECIFICATIONS Mk X

Manufacturer: Victory Aircraft Ltd which became Avro Canada

Crew/Passengers: one pilot and up to 6 crew

Powerplant: four 1,620 hp Packard Merlin 224 piston engines

Performance: Max Speed: 272 mph (438 km/h) Cruising Speed: 200 mph (322 km/h)

Service Ceiling: 24,700 ft (7,528 m) Range: 2,530 mi (4,072 km)

Weights: Empty: 35,240 lb (15,999 kg) Gross: 60,000 lb (27,400 kg)

Dimensions: Span: 102 ft 0 in (31.09 m) Length: 69 ft 6 in (21.18 m)

Height: 20 ft 0 in (6.10 m) Wing Area: 1,297 sq ft (120.49 sq m)

Armament: Provision for three gun turrets each with two or four .303 calibre machine guns; up to 14,000 lb (6,350 kg) bomb load

Original Cost: Unknown