

Lockheed/Canadair

Silver Star

CT 133 (CL-30)



**Greenwood Military Aviation Museum
14 Wing Greenwood, Nova Scotia**

The Canadair CT-133 (affectionately known as the “*T-Bird*”) was the result of a 1951 contract to license-build American T-33 *Shooting Star* trainers for the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). A project designation of CL-30 was given by Canadair, and the name was changed to *Silver Star* in honour of Canada's (and the British Empire's) first flight of a heavier-than-air craft, the AEA *Silver Dart*.



The appearance of the CT-133 is very distinctive due to the large fuel tanks usually carried on each wingtip. The CT-133 entered service in the RCAF

during the 1950s as its primary training aircraft for fighter/interceptors. A reliable aircraft with forgiving flight properties, its service life in the RCAF (and later the Canadian Forces) was extremely long, ending in 2005. Although the aircraft stopped being used as a trainer in 1976, there were still over 50 aircraft in Canadian Forces inventory in 1995. The youngest of these airframes was then 37 years old and had exceeded its expected life by a factor of 2.5. During this period, the CT-133 was employed in communication, target towing and enemy simulation.





434 Combat Support Squadron moved to Greenwood in 1995 and disbanded there in 2000. Pilots flew with electronic warfare technicians (who sat in the rear seat) in the CT-133, providing electronic warfare scenarios (jamming radar and communications frequencies); acting as potential enemy missiles; doing mock attacks on armies in the field and naval ships at sea; and towing targets for ground and shipborne gunners' training.



434 Squadron logo and period paint scheme, with anniversary logo in 2000.

Aircraft Specifications

Roles: T-33A Silver Star Mk 1: Two-seat jet training aircraft for the RCAF. Built by Lockheed in the United States; 30 on loan to the RCAF.

CT-133ANX Silver Star Mk 2: The first Canadian prototype. One built.

Silver Star Mk 3: Two-seat jet training aircraft for the RCAF

Silver Star Mk 3PT: Unarmed version used for advanced pilot training

Silver Star Mk 3AT: Armed version used for bombing and gunnery training

Silver Star Mk 3PR: Photo-reconnaissance version

CE-133: Upgraded electronic warfare training aircraft

CX-133: Ejection seat testbed **ET-133:** Aerial threat simulator aircraft

TE-133: Anti-ship threat simulator aircraft

Number built: for the RCAF 656

Manufacturer: Lockheed Corp, Marietta, Georgia/Canadair, Montreal, QB.

Crew: one - two: Pilot, student Pilot, Electronic Warfare Officer

Powerplant: USAF – Allison J33; RCAF - Rolls-Royce Nene 10, 23 kN (5,100 lbs static thrust)

Maximum speed: 935 km/h (505 knots, 581 mph)

Cruising speed: 0.8 Mach 533 knots/593 mph/988 kms/hr

Service ceiling: 14,000 m (47,000 ft) **Range:** 1,957 kms (1,216 miles)

Empty weight: 3,828 kg (8,440 lb) **Gross weight:** 7,620 kg (16,800 lb)

Wingspan: 12.93 m (42 ft 5 in) **Height:** 3.55 m (11 ft 8 in)

Length: 11.48 m (37 ft 8 in) **Fuel:** 3,078 litres (677 gals)

The Greenwood Military Aviation Museum is located just outside the main gate at 14 Wing Greenwood in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley. Its mandate is to capture, preserve and interpret the history and heritage of Station/Base/14 Wing Greenwood and its units (formed overseas in 1941), and from its birth as an RAF Station in 1942 as an Operational Training Base within the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan during WW II, until present day operations.

Six distinct ever-changing areas can be seen inside the 10,000 square foot complex and 6000 square foot extension (featuring WW II aircraft). The outdoor Air Park displays nine different aircraft types flown at Greenwood, from a wartime *Lancaster* to today's *Aurora*. Three other aircraft and various projects are in various restoration phases, with the majority of work being completed by Museum volunteers.

Admission to all venues is FREE, although donations are gratefully accepted, and tax receipts will be presented on request (certain limits apply). Shop the Museum gift shop, do research in the library and enjoy the opportunity to take a step back in time.

Greenwood Military Aviation Museum

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