

# SUPERMARINE STRANRAER

## RCAF 949



*This replica was built at the Canadian Museum of Flight by:*

**Alfred Frost**

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The Supermarine Stranraer, a development from the 1925 Supermarine Southampton Flying Boat, was originally designed in 1935 in England by R.J. Mitchell, designer of the famous Spitfire fighter. In 1936 the Canadian Department of National Defence selected the Stranraer for coastal defence, including reconnaissance, antisubmarine patrols and defence of shipping on the west coast. The RCAF took delivery of forty Stranraer aircraft all of which served on the west coast.

Canadian Vickers Ltd manufactured Stranraer No 949 at Montreal, Que. assigning it number CV 228. The RCAF took it on strength October 22, 1941. Squadron Leader Fred Carpenter, newly assigned as Commanding Officer of No 9 (BR) Squadron Bella Bella, flew 949 across the prairie provinces making stops at Waterton Lakes, Alberta, Nelson, Penticton, and Patricia Bay (Victoria) BC, arriving at Bella Bella on December 8, 1941 - the day after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

The following day no.'s 949 and 936, the only Stranraers assigned to the station at the time, commenced operational patrols after a report of a Japanese submarine being sighted north of Vancouver Island was received.

The "Stranies" gave good service to the RCAF for the next six years, particularly in carrying out anti-submarine patrols for the newly established west coast Flying Boat Stations. In 1944 most of the Stranraers were withdrawn from service and replaced with Consolidated Canso and Catalina flying boats.

Stranraer 949 was the last "Stranie" in service with the RCAF and it was sold to Queen Charlotte Airlines on August 26, 1949 and registered as CF-BYM later serving with Pacific Western Airlines (PWA) until October 1, 1957 when it crashed near Quesnel at Sovereign Lake, B.C.

#### **Performance Data:**

Two 810 horsepower Bristol Pegasus X or XX11 engines powered the Stranraer.

Maximum Speed	152 mph
Cruising Speed	135 mph
Ceiling	16,100 feet
Empty Weight	14,948 pounds
Loaded Weight	18,300 pounds
Range	1,750 miles