

Recognizing the 75th Anniversary of the Official Airmail Flights by Commercial Airways to the Western Arctic

November 1929 - January 1930

This book contains information on those flights
+ a pair of specially cancelled souvenir cards

The Stamp used on the cards is the Canadian \$0.49 Value issued December 19, 2003 for the year 2004 - it shows the Canadian Flag over Edmonton to commemorate the 100th anniversary of its incorporation as a city - the view of the city is from the South side of the Saskatchewan River, looking Northwest.

The Northern Alberta & Mackenzie portion of the flight (Fort McMurray to Fort Simpson) cards are postmarked December 10th at Fort McMurray, Alberta.

The final leg down the Mackenzie River (Fort Simpson to Aklavik) cards are postmarked December 21st at Fort Simpson.

The cards are back-stamped the day the original flights reached each destination and signed by the postmaster in each community and are also cancelled with the special Alberta Centennial Postmark from Edmonton, Alberta, dated January 3, 2005, 75 years after the aircraft returned to Edmonton.

The cards are numbered and signed by Denny R. May, son of pilot W.R. "Wop" May.



Western Chapter

Airmail Flights to the Arctic

Included in this package



Western Chapter

- ☒ The Story of the early Airmail Flights to the Mackenzie River District
- ☒ Story of the First Official Airmail Flights to the Arctic
- ☒ Copies of the original Announcement (re-typed) by Canada Post + the Post Office Posters & the Canadian Airways Poster advertising the flights
- ☒ Listing of the 125 Flights that took place between Edmonton/Fort McMurray over the period November 3, 1929 through January 3, 1930
- ☒ Photo pages of aircraft & pilots taken during the original flights in 1929
- ☒ 2 Commemorative cards signed by postmasters as follows:
 - Darlene Nicholson at Fort Chipewyan, Alberta
 - Tony Dube at Fort Fitzgerald, Alberta / Fort Smith, NWT
 - Irene Rymer at Fort Resolution, NWT
 - Deb Stanley at Hay River, NWT
 - Linda Matto at Fort Providence, NWT
 - Judy McDowell at Fort Simpson, NWT
 - Colin Ford at Wrigley, NWT
 - Cathie Menacho at Fort Norman (Tulita), NWT
 - Betty Oliktoak at Fort Good Hope, NWT
 - Joyce Andre at Arctic Red River (Tsiigehtchic), NWT
 - Belinda Robert at Fort McPherson, NWT
 - Cindy Knoller at Aklavik, NWT

Thanks to the following for assisting with research, documentation and preparation of this package: Teresa Williams of Canada Post Corp., Cecil Stoner, Gordon Mallett, Kevin O'Reilly and Denny May of the Western Chapter of the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society.

Airmail Flights to the N.W.T.

In 1929 "Punch" Dickins of *Western Canada Airways* made the first authorized airmail flights to communities in the N.W.T., as follows:

"Punch" was flying his Fokker "Super Universal" on these flights.



C.H. "Punch" Dickins



Fokker "Super Universal" down at Fort Providence



Punch Dickins, T.J. Reilly &
Lou Parmenter

Mail (mostly parcels) was cancelled at Fort McMurray on January 23rd and delivered to Fort Providence on January 25th and Fort Simpson on January 26th. The landing gear on his plane collapsed & bent the prop at Fort Resolution - when they tried to straighten the prop 10" broke off so they cut the same off the other end and the flight resumed on February 5th. A second flight returned from Fort Simpson and covers were postmarked January 26th - March 6th and back-stamped February 13, March 8th & 9th, 1929.

On March 5-9 a special mail flight authorized by the Post Office from Fort McMurray to Fort Good Hope and points between. There were no special markings on the covers from these flights.

Western Canada Airways (Winnipeg) were competing for the Mail contract with *Commercial Airways* (Edmonton), and the contract was awarded to *Commercial Airways*.

The Story of the First Official Airmail Flights to the Arctic - 1929

The tender for airmail service closed June 7th, 1929 but was not signed until November 25th. Once the contract for Airmail Service to the Mackenzie River District was awarded to Commercial Airways Ltd., of Edmonton Alberta plans were soon in place.

All the mail for these flights was carried by train from Edmonton to Waterways on November 26th and the First Flight Covers were pre-canceled at Edmonton dated November 26th.

Over the next few weeks a variety of flights were taken from Fort McMurray starting December 10th, in some cases mail was carried by Dog Team to some communities off the regular airmail route (for example Rae and Herschel Island) but the awarding of this contract meant there was no more dog team or water transport contracts for mail service.

From December 10th through December 20th mail was carried to communities in Northern Alberta (Fort Chipewyan and Fort Fitzgerald) and the South Mackenzie District (Fort Smith, Fort Resolution, Hay River, Fort Providence and Fort Simpson). On December 21st two planes left Fort Simpson but had to return due to bad weather and left again on December 22nd for the run down the Mackenzie River to Wrigley, Fort Norman, Fort Good Hope, Arctic Red River, Fort McPherson and to Aklavik on December 27th.

On December 30th the return flights started and the final leg to Edmonton was flown On January 3rd by Wop May & Cy Becker and accompanied by Guy Rocke the Postmaster from Fort McMurray, Tim Sims of Canadian Wright Ltd., mechanic Casey van der Linden, Ted Watt of the Edmonton Journal & Postal Superintendent Walter Hale.

In addition to the pilots listed below Mechanics included Stan Green, Don Robertson, Tim Sims (Canadian Wright Ltd.), and passengers included Ted Watt (Reporter with the Edmonton Journal) and R. Walter Hale (Postal Superintendent). Other passengers were carried on some legs of the flights.

A listing of all these flights may be found in this booklet. In total 125 flights were made by 6 pilots using 4 aircraft - total flying time was approximately 181 hours. W.R. "Wop" May flew 58, Idris Glyn-Roberts flew 50, C. "Boom" Lumsden flew 30, "Cy" Becker flew 25, Moss Burbidge flew 10 and Archie McMullen 8. In some cases we have had to estimate flying times as headwinds & weather caused many delays and in a few cases a tailwind made for extremely quick trips.

The philatelic mail accounted for 1,270 lbs (or about 120,000 covers) and was sent from Edmonton to Fort McMurray on November 26th in 26 special bags having been cacheted and stamped. The commercial mail carried on these flights totaled 7,677 lbs. Including parcel post. The total cost for these flights to December 31, 1929 was \$7,500.00 for two months service plus an additional amount of \$2,703.08 at a rate of 0.5417 cents/mile for extra trips for philatelic mail (one trip from Fort McMurray to Fort Simpson and return, and another trip from Fort McMurray to Aklavik & return.)

Canada Post sent out an announcement, then produced a poster, and Commercial Airways also produced a poster - copies of these three items are included on the following pages.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Ottawa, Canada, August 1929.

By authority of the Postmaster General, regular air mail service between the following points will be inaugurated early in November, 1929:

FORT McMURRAY, ALBERTA, and AKLAVIK, N.W.T., via Fort Chipewyan, Fort Fitzgerald, Fort Smith, Fort Resolution, Hay River, Fort Providence, Fort Simpson, Wrigley, Fort Norman, Fort Good Hope, Arctic Red River and Fort McPherson.

In order to commemorate the inauguration of this Canadian air mail service, the following special cachets will be used on letters carried on the initial flight:-

Fort McMurray - Fort Chipewyan	Fort Chipewyan - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Fort Fitzgerald	Fort Fitzgerald - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Fort Smith	Fort Smith - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Fort Resolution	Fort Resolution - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Hay River	Hay River - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Fort Providence	Fort Providence - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Fort Simpson	Fort Simpson - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Wrigley	Wrigley - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Fort Norman	Fort Norman - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Fort Good Hope	Fort Good Hope - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Arctic Red River	Arctic Red River - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Fort McPherson	Fort McPherson - Fort McMurray
Fort McMurray - Aklavik	Aklavik - Fort McMurray

However, these special cachets will be used only on such covers as are sent to the District Superintendent of Postal Service at Edmonton, Alberta, bearing Canadian postage at the air mail rate, which is 5¢ for the first ounce and 10¢ for each succeeding ounce or fraction thereof.

All covers so prepaid and forwarded under cover to the District Superintendent of Postal Service at Edmonton, Alberta, to reach him not later than 31st OCTOBER, 1929, bearing an indication as follows:

VIA AIR MAIL

Fort McMurray - Fort Chipewyan
or

Fort Chipewyan - Fort McMurray, etc.

will receive the commemorative cachet and will go forward on the initial flight.

If you are interested in air mail covers and are anxious to secure the special cachets, it would be advisable to prepare your covers at the earliest possible moment and forward them under cover to the District Superintendent of Postal Service at Edmonton, with the request that they be held until this air mail flight takes place. All covers handled in this manner must bear the necessary Canadian Postage at the air mail rate or should be accompanied by a Money Order covering the correct amount of postage. Covers should be addressed to the actual place of destination; - for instance, a resident of Reading, Pa., desiring to send a letter to himself by the first flight between Fort McMurray and Fort Norman, should address such letter to himself at Reading and not to the Post Office at Fort Norman, being careful to mark it "via Air Mail, Fort McMurray - Fort Norman". The letter should then be forwarded under cover to the District superintendent of Postal Service at Edmonton for transmission by the flight in question. PLEASE NOTE ESPECIALLY THAT ONLY THE CACHETS ACTUALLY ENUMERATED ABOVE WILL BE USED AND THAT CACHETS WILL NOT BE PLACED ON MAIL PASSING BETWEEN INTERMEDIATE POINTS ON THE ROUTE.

Registered mail properly prepaid will be accepted for conveyance. Special delivery letters will also be carried if properly prepaid both as regards air mail postage and the special delivery rate of twenty cents per letter in addition to air mail postage.

All covers conveyed on these flights addressed to points not on this air mail route and which have been specially forwarded to the District Superintendent of Postal Service, Edmonton, for inclusion in a flight, will be placed in the mails at the Southern terminus of the flight and will go forward to the addressee in the regular way.

WINTER AIR MAIL SERVICE 1929-30

MACKENZIE RIVER

The Post Office Department has arranged for Air Mail Services during the winter 1929-1930 to points in the Mackenzie River district as follows:—

Mails leave Edmonton (dates approximate)	PLACE	Mails due at Edmonton (dates approximate)
November 26 December 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 January 7, 14, 21, 28 February 4, 11, 18, 25 March 4, 11, 18, 25 April 1, 8	Fort Chipewyan Fort Fitzgerald Fort Smith Fort Resolution	December 6, 13, 20, 27 January 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 February 7, 14, 21, 28 March 7, 14, 21, 28 April 4, 11, 18
November 26 December 24 January 21 February 11 March 4, 25	Hay River Fort Providence Fort Simpson	December 13 January 3 February 7, 21 March 14 April 11
November 26 January 21 March 25	Wrigley Fort Norman Fort Good Hope Arctic Red River Fort McPherson Aklavik Herschel Island	December 13 February 7 April 11

This Air Mail Service which supersedes all previous mail services to this area, effects more frequent and speedy communication than has been possible in the past, increasing the frequency to more than double and reducing the time to less than half.

Rates of postage for this air mail service will be as follows:—

First and third class matter—Ordinary first class rates.

Second Class matter—Ordinary second class rates.

Parcel Post—The following special air parcel post rates:

Post Office	Air Parcel Post Rates
Fort Chipewyan Fort Fitzgerald Fort Smith Fort Resolution Hay River Fort Providence	50c. a lb. or fraction of a lb.
Fort Simpson Wrigley Fort Norman Fort Good Hope	75c. a lb. or fraction of a lb.
Arctic Red River Fort McPherson Aklavik Herschel Island	\$1.00 a lb. or fraction of a lb.

Registration, insurance, etc., are additional to the above.

Bona-fide letter mail will be given preference.

The load limit of 800 lbs. a trip will be made up in order of precedence, as follows:—

- (1) Genuine correspondence, registered.
- (2) " " ordinary.
- (3) Newspapers (and periodicals).
- (4) Third class matter (printed circulars, catalogues, etc.).
- (5) Parcels prepaid at special rates (see above).

Inasmuch as there is a definite limit of weight fixed, the above order of precedence will be strictly adhered to.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, CANADA
Ottawa, 24th September, 1929

Edmonton, Alta.
PHONE
1551

Commercial Airways Limited

HEAD OFFICE: EDMONTON

BASES SHOWN ON MAP LEGEND

Edmonton, Alta.
PHONE
1551

MACKENZIE RIVER DISTRICT

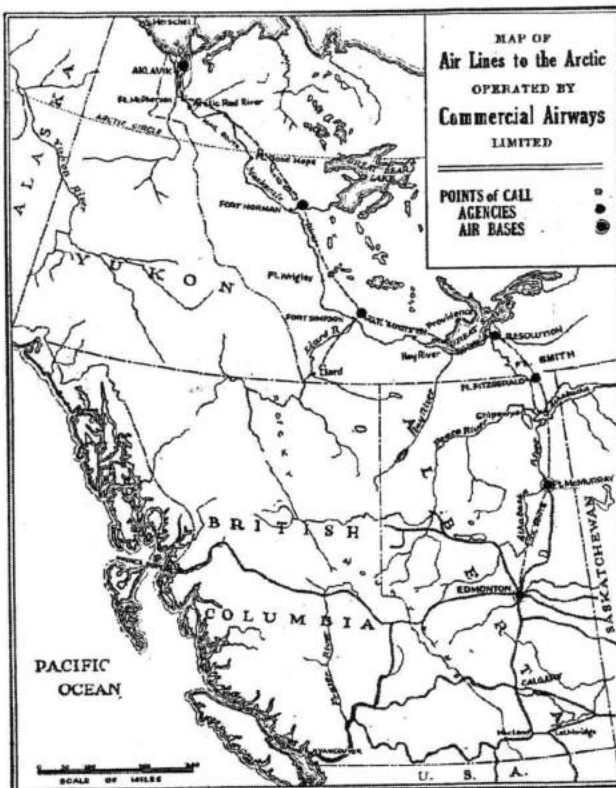
RATES		
From Fort McMurray	Passenger	Express Per Lb.
To—		
Fort Chipewyan	\$ 35.00	\$.20
Fort Fitzgerald	65.00	.35
Fort Smith	65.00	.35
Fort Resolution	100.00	.70
Hay River	135.00	.75
Fort Providence	160.00	.85
Fort Simpson	205.00	1.00
Fort Wrigley	240.00	1.3
Fort Norman	280.00	1.65
Good Hope	325.00	2.15
Arctic Red River	375.00	2.50
Fort McPherson	390.00	2.60
Aklavik	410.00	2.70

The above are the rates for ordinary schedule flights on the route mentioned.

Special flights may be arranged for.

Each passenger is entitled to carry 25 lbs. of baggage free, all in excess of that weight charged accordingly.

All traffic rates listed above are subject to change without notice.



WINTER SCHEDULE 1929 - 1930

NORTH-BOUND

Leave Fort McMurray

For Fort Resolution:

Nov. 27; Dec. 4, 11, 18, 25;

Jan. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29;

Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26;

Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26; Apr. 2, 9.

For Fort Simpson:

Nov. 27; Dec. 25; Jan. 22;

Feb. 12; Mar. 5, 26.

For Aklavik:

Nov. 27; Jan. 22; Mar. 26.

SOUTH-BOUND

Leave Aklavik:

Dec. 3; Feb. 28; Apr. 1.

Leave Fort Simpson:

Dec. 5, 28; Jan. 28; Feb. 15;

Mar. 8; Apr. 3.

Leave Fort Resolution:

Nov. 29; Dec. 6, 13, 20, 28;

Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24;

Feb. 1, 7, 15, 21, 28;

Mar. 8, 14, 21, 28; Apr. 4, 11.

On the above flights, the aircraft will stop at intermediate posts.

The schedule is tentative, and rigid adherence to it will depend upon weather.

SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS:

Mark North-bound Parcels care of "COMMERCIAL AIRWAYS LIMITED, FORT McMURRAY, Alberta," via Northern Alberta Railways' Express—"Air charges COLLECT" or "PREPAID."

Shippers are required to prepay Railway Express Charges to Fort McMurray on North Bound Traffic.

EXAMPLE:

From	JOHN DOE, 411 - 81st AVE., EDMONTON, ALTA.
To	JAS. SMITH, FT. RESOLUTION, N.W.T., c/o COMMERCIAL AIRWAYS LTD., FT. McMURRAY, ALTA.
Via N. A. R. Express. "AIR CHARGES COLLECT" (or otherwise)	

Pack parcels securely. Parcels must be kept within the following limit (outside measurements)
12-in. x 20-in. x 60-in.

Add 2-in. to width for each decrease of 12-in. in length.

C. BECKER, General Manager.

1929 Airmail to the Mackenzie River District - carried by Commercial Airways Ltd.
Pilots - Cy Becker, Moss Burbidge, Idris Glyn-Roberts, C Lumsden, Archie McMullen, Wop May
Aircraft - Bellanca CH-300 Pacemaker CF- AJQ, CF-AJR, CF-AKI, Lockheed Vega CF-AAL

Date	From	To	CF-AAL	CF-AJQ	CF-AJR	CF-AKI	No	Hrs	Total
Nov 03	Edmonton	Fort McMurray		Becker			1	1	1
Dec 08	Edmonton	Fort McMurray	Burbidge		Roberts	Becker/McMullen	3	1	3
Dec 10	Fort McMurray	Fort Chipewyan		Becker		May/McMullen	2	1.25	2.5
	Fort Chipewyan	Fort McMurray		Becker		May/McMullen	2	1.33	2.66
Dec 11	Fort McMurray	Fort Chipewyan		Becker/Lumsden	Roberts	May	3	1.5	4.5
Dec 12	Fort Chipewyan	Fort Smith		Becker/Lumsden	Roberts	May	3	1	3
	Fort Smith	Fort Fitzgerald		Becker/Lumsden	Roberts	May	3	0.33	0.99
Dec 13	Fort Fitzgerald	Fort McMurray		Becker/Lumsden	Roberts	May	3	2	6
	Fort McMurray	Edmonton	Burbidge/McMullen				1	2.5	2.5
Dec 14	Fort McMurray	Fort Chipewyan		Becker		May	2	1.33	2.66
	Fort Chipewyan	Fort McMurray		Becker			1	0.66	0.66
	Fort Chipewyan	Fort Smith				May	1	1	1
	Fort Smith	Fort Fitzgerald				May	1	0.33	0.33
	Fort McMurray	Fort Fitzgerald			Roberts		1	2	2
Dec 15	Fort Fitzgerald	Fort Resolution		Becker/Lumsden	Roberts	May	3	1.5	4.5
	Fort Resolution	Fort Smith				May	1	0.5	0.5
	Fort Smith	Fort Fitzgerald				May	1	0.33	0.33
	Fort Fitzgerald	Fort Chipewyan				May	1	1	1
	Fort Chipewyan	Fort McMurray				May	1	1.5	1.5
	Fort Resolution	Fort Fitzgerald		Lumsden			1	1	1
	Fort Fitzgerald	Fort McMurray		Lumsden			1	2.25	2.25
	Fort Resolution	Fort McMurray			Roberts		1	1	1
	Edmonton	Fort McMurray	Burbidge				1	1	1
Dec 16	Fort McMurray	Fort Smith				May	1	2.5	2.5
	Fort Smith	Fort Resolution				May	1	0.5	0.5
	Fort McMurray	Fort Resolution		Lumsden			1	3.45	3.45
Dec 17	Fort Resolution	Hay River		Becker		May	2	1	2
	Hay River	Fort Resolution		Becker		May	2	1.5	3
	Hay River	Fort Providence				May	1	0.45	0.45
	Fort Providence	Hay River				May	1	0.45	0.45
	Fort McMurray	Fort Resolution	Burbidge		Roberts		2	3.33	6.66
Dec 18	Fort Resolution	Fort Simpson				May	1	3.5	3.5
	Fort Resolution	Fort McMurray	Burbidge	Becker	Roberts		3	3.5	10.5
Dec 19	Fort Simpson	Fort Providence				May	1	1.5	1.5
	Fort Providence	Hay River				May	1	0.45	0.45
	Hay River	Fort Resolution				May	1	1.5	1.5
	Fort McMurray	Fort Resolution		Lumsden			1	3.25	3.25
	Fort McMurray	Fort Chipewyan			Roberts		1	1.33	1.33
	Fort Chipewyan	Fort Fitzgerald			Roberts		1	1	1
	Fort Fitzgerald	Fort Smith			Roberts		1	0.33	0.33
	Fort Smith	Fort Resolution			Roberts		1	0.5	0.5
	Fort McMurray	Edmonton	Becker				1	1	1
Dec 20	Fort Resolution	Fort Simpson		Lumsden	Roberts	May	3	2	6
Dec 21	Fort Simpson	Fort Simpson		Lumsden		May	2	0.25	0.5
Dec 22	Fort Simpson	Fort Wrigley				May	1	2	2
	Fort Wrigley	Fort Norman				May	1	2	2
	Fort Simpson	Fort Resolution		Lumsden	Roberts		2	3	6
Dec 23	Fort Norman	Fort Wrigley				May	1	2	2
	Fort Wrigley	Fort Simpson				May	1	1.5	1.5
	Fort Resolution	Fort Fitzgerald		Lumsden			1	0.45	0.45
	Fort Fitzgerald	Fort Chipewyan		Lumsden			1	1	1
	Fort Chipewyan	Fort McMurray		Lumsden			1	1.5	1.5
	Fort Resolution	Fort Simpson			Roberts		1	3.2	3.2
Dec 24	Fort Simpson	Fort Norman			Roberts	May	2	3	6
Dec 25	Fort Norman	Fort Good Hope			Roberts	May	2	1.5	3
	Fort McMurray	Fort McMurray		Lumsden			1	0.25	0.25
Dec 26	Fort Good Hope	Arctic Red River			Roberts	May	2	2	4
	Fort McMurray	Fort Chipewyan		Lumsden			1	0.5	0.5
Dec 27	Arctic Red River	Fort McPherson				May	1	0.5	0.5
	Fort McPherson	Aklavik				May	1	0.75	0.75
	Arctic Red River	Aklavik			Roberts		1	0.45	0.45
	Fort Chipewyan	Fort Smith		Lumsden			1	1.33	1.33
	Fort Smith	Fort Resolution		Lumsden			1	1	1

1929 Airmail to the Mackenzie River District - carried by Commercial Airways Ltd.									
Pilots - Cy Becker, Moss Burbidge, Idris Glyn-Roberts, C Lumsden, Archie McMullen, Wop May									
Aircraft - Bellanca CH-300 Pacemaker CF- AJQ, CF-AJR, CF-AKI, Lockheed Vega CF-AAL									
Date	From	To	CF-AAL	CF-AJQ	CF-AJR	CF-AKI	No	Hrs	Total
Dec 28	Fort Resolution	Fort Smith		Lumsden			1	2	2
	Fort Smith	Fort Resolution		Lumsden			1	2	2
Dec 29	Fort Resolution	Fort McMurray		Lumsden			1	1.75	1.75
Dec 30	Aklavik	Fort McPherson			Roberts	May	2	0.5	1
	Fort McPherson	Arctic Red River			Roberts	May	2	0.5	1
	Fort McMurray	Fort Chipewyan		Becker			1	1.33	1.33
	Fort Chipewyan	Fort Fitzgerald		Becker			1	0.45	0.45
	Fort Fitzgerald	Fort Smith		Becker			1	0.25	0.25
	Fort Smith	Fort Resolution		Becker			1	1.15	1.15
Dec 31	Arctic Red River	Fort Norman				May	1	2.5	2.5
	Fort Norman	Fort Wrigley				May	1	2	2
	Arctic Red River	Fort Good Hope			Roberts		1	2	2
	Fort Resolution	Hay River		Becker			1	0.45	0.45
	Hay River	Fort Providence		Becker			1	0.66	0.66
	Edmonton	Fort McMurray	McMullen				1	1	1
Jan 01	Fort Good Hope	Fort Norman			Roberts		1	2	2
	Fort Norman	Wrigley			Roberts		1	2	2
	Wrigley	Fort Simpson			Roberts	May	2	1	2
	Fort Providence	Fort Simpson		Becker/McMullen			1	1.5	1.5
Jan 02	Fort Simpson	Fort Resolution		Becker/McMullen		May	2	3	6
	Fort Resolution	Fort McMurray		Becker/McMullen		May	2	3.25	6.5
	Fort Simpson	Fort Providence			Roberts		1	1.5	1.5
	Fort Providence	Hay River			Roberts		1	1	1
	Hay River	Fort Resolution			Roberts		1	1.5	1.5
Jan 03	Fort McMurray	Edmonton				May	1	1.25	1.25
	Fort Resolution	Fort Smith			Roberts		1	0.5	0.5
	Fort Smith	Fort Fitzgerald			Roberts		1	0.33	0.33
	Fort Fitzgerald	Fort Chipewyan			Roberts		1	0.45	0.45
	Fort Chipewyan	Fort McMurray			Roberts		1	1	1
	Fort McMurray	Edmonton	Becker/McMullen				1	0.5	0.5

125

181.25

125 Flights

Approximately 181 Hours Flying time - not all records of actual flight times are available & head winds added time.

Wop May flew about 58 hours

Idris Glyn-Roberts flew about 50 hours

C Lumsden flew about 30 hours

Cy Becker flew about 25 hours

Moss Burbidge flew about 10 hours

Archie McMullen flew about 8 hours



Pilots & Crew on the 1929 flights



Cy Becker
CF-AJQ, CF-AKI & CF-AJR



Moss Burbidge
CF-AAL



C. "Boom" Lumsden
CF-AJQ



Archie McMullen
CF-AKI, CF-AAL & CF-AJQ



Idris Glyn-Roberts
CF-AJR



"Wop" May
CF-AKI



Casey van der Linden
Mechanic



Don Robertson
Mechanic



Tim Sims
Canadian Wright Ltd.



Stan Green
Mechanic

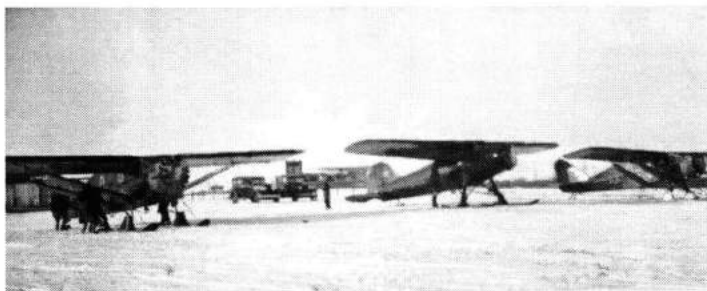


Walter Hale
Postal Superintendent



Ted Watt
The Edmonton Journal

Photos taken during the 1929 Flights



Bellanca CF-AJR & Vega CF-AAL & Bellanca CF-AKI
Preparing to leave Edmonton - Dec 08, 1929



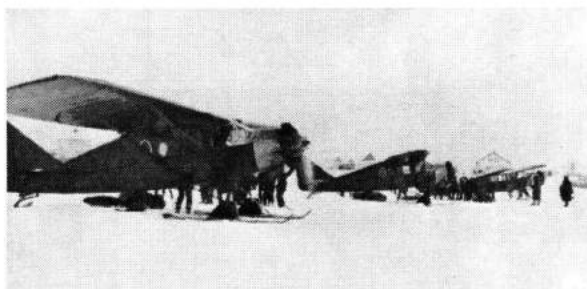
Loading mailbags at Fort McMurray
Don Robertson & Wop May



Wop May leaves Fort McMurray Dec 10, 1929
in Bellanca "Pacemaker" CF-AKI



Fort Smith - Dec 12, 1929



Fort Resolution - Dec 15, 1929



Fort Simpson - Dec 18, 1929



Aklavik - Dec 27, 1929
Idris Glyn-Roberts, Bishop
Geddes, Walter Hale,
Wop May



Back in Edmonton - January 03, 1930 - L-R near aircraft: Ted Watt, Guy Rocke
(PM Fort McMurray), Tim Sims (Canadian Wright Ltd.), Cy Becker, Walter
Hale (P.O.), F. Leger (P.O.), Wop May, I.W. C Solway (Commercial Airways)

**First Official Airmail
to the Arctic - 1929**



Northern Alberta - Mackenzie

Edmonton - Fort McMurray - Fort Chipewyan - Fort Fitzgerald
Fort Smith - Fort Resolution - Hay River - Fort Providence - Fort Simpson
November 27th to December 18th - 1929

Penny Murray 164/200



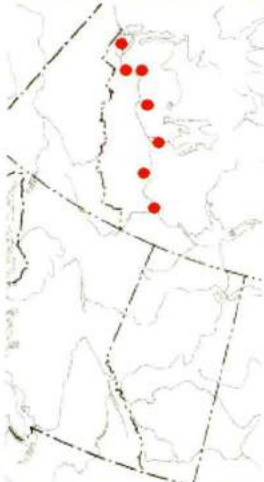
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**FORT McMURRAY, AB.
T9H 2T0**



**First Official Airmail
to the Arctic - 1929**



Northwest Territories

Fort Simpson, Wrigley, Fort Norman, Fort Good Hope,
Arctic Red River, Fort McPherson, Aklavik
December 21st to December 27th - 1929

Penny Murray 164/200

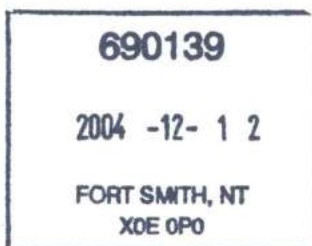


Fort Chipewyan



Shirley
Postmaster

Fort Smith/Fort Fitzgerald



Julie
Postmaster

Fort Resolution



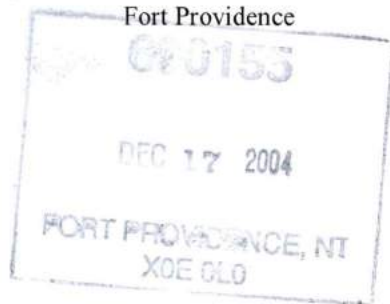
John
Postmaster

Hay River



D
Postmaster

Fort Providence



Lm
Postmaster

Fort Simpson



Judy McDowell
Postmaster

Fort Simpson/Wrigley



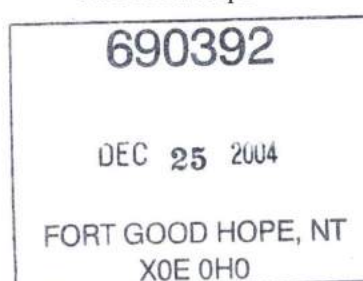
Colin Ford
Postmaster

Fort Norman (Tulita)



Cathie Menache
Postmaster

Fort Good Hope



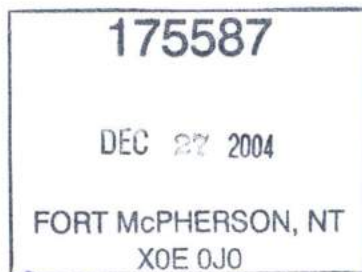
Betty Leitch
Postmaster

Arctic Red River (Tsihgethich)



Joyce Linde
Postmaster

Fort McPherson



Belen Robert
Postmaster

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116076

DEC 27 2004

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Cindy Kullen
Postmaster