

## AVRO ARROW

### **Mad threat of war hangs over, impending obliteration**

The cold war had both sides in fear of impending nuclear war, MAD is a cold-war acronym for mutually assured destruction

### **Secrets rise in long buildings, fashioned by the nation**

Hangars, secret planes made by the Canadian government

### **The air is cold, obscured by smoke, they assemble with discretion**

Cold war, obscured by secrecy from the government, they secretly began to assemble the Avro Arrow

### **Determined to stave off the iron yoke of oppression**

The project was in answer to the Soviet's long-range bombers with nuclear bomb capability, iron references iron curtain, "stave" is an archery term

**The gathering is organized with aim to arm the guard** The best minds were gathered to create a way to arm the west against the Soviets, "aim" and "arm guard" are archery terms

### **A shocking new discovery, defense extraordinarily hard**

Wave drag, a force that retards the forward movement of an airplane in supersonic flight as a consequence of the formation of shock waves, was discovered to be a problem

### **But the tent flap is raised and ideas begin to fly**

A delta wing, shaped like a tent door, hence the name "Delta", partially solved the drag problem, ideas literally took shape and began to fly

### **A beautiful maiden is guided out into the firing line**

The maiden plane, the first produced, rolled out of the hangar

### **A traveller appears, ducks in front, covers up the shine**

The same day the Sputnik traveller was launched in Russia, stealing all the press, "duck and cover" was a cold war term

### **Power from a supernatural force called up and standing by**

The Iroquois engine was developed by Orenda [name meaning a supernatural force believed by the Iroquois Indians to be present, in varying degrees, in all objects or persons] which was powerful enough to break the sonic barrier

### **Then united resistance causes all plans to stall**

The US put pressure on Diefenbaker to scrap the project, resistance and stall are airplane terms

### **The right stuff, the wrong time, ill-fated chief kills all**

The right stuff refers to the movie which was about space travel, ironically largely created later by the same men who engineered the Avro Arrow, the "chief" refers to Diefenbaker, nickname "Deif the Chief", who was the 13th Prime Minister [unlucky number], and who killed the whole project

### **The brightest leached away to us, gods begin to play**

Shutting it down caused a "brain drain" to the US [us], many ended up working on Mercury, Apollo, and Gemini

### **But one phantom remains, haunting believers to this day**

One plane is said by fans of the aircraft to have been saved in secret

**DISPIRITED**, because of the general feeling of failure around the project, and because it was turned into a phantom story