

# COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

TELEPHONES: { M 4601  
                  { M 4631

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "AIRPRODUCTION"

POSTAL ADDRESS: BOX 2093 S, G.P.O., MELBOURNE

PLEASE ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE SECRETARY

IN YOUR REPLY

PLEASE QUOTE REF. NO.

DEPARTMENT OF AIRCRAFT PRODUCTION

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

"Temple Court,"

422 Collins Street,

Melbourne, C.I.

February 3, 1943

Secretary,  
Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Pty. Ltd.,  
Box 779 H - P.O.  
Melbourne - C.I.

Dear Sir,

Referring to previous correspondence concerning the programming of aircraft production requirements to end of 1944, the difficulties which you are experiencing in anticipating the requirements of your Company due to the uncertainty in regard to your future production programme, have been explained to me.

I would now advise that following consideration by War Cabinet of submissions which were made by the Director-General on Saturday last, the position has been clarified and you may now plan on the following basis, i.e.:-

- (a) Boomerangs - Complete 200 plus spares. There is no approval for any number above 200, but for programming purposes material requirements may be included covering continuing production to end of 1943, when it might be assumed that the CA-15 fighter will have completed tests and be ready for production.
- (b) CA-15 Fighter Prototype - War Cabinet has approved the manufacture of this prototype fighter fitted with Pratt and Whitney R.2800 series engine, at an estimated cost of £50,000, and has also approved of an expenditure of £50,000 on the procurement of essential raw materials and equipment for the project, provided that such materials and equipment be suitable for use in connection with other aircraft construction if such became necessary.
- (c) C.A.C. Bomber - Production is to continue to a total of 20 aircraft only. Prior to the completion of this quantity a decision will be taken as to whether the original order for 105 is to stand.
- (d) Transport Aircraft - Approval has been given for the negotiation by the Commonwealth of a licence for the manufacture for military purposes of Douglas C.47 transport aircraft. For programming purposes provision may be included for the production of one hundred aircraft of this type, plus spares equivalent to 20 aircraft.

It is to be understood that the advice contained herein is merely intended to assist you in the programming of material requirements, and that this communication is not, therefore, to be accepted as an order for aircraft or for the variation of any existing order. Further definite advice in regard to each aspect of your production programme will be forwarded at an early date.

Yours faithfully,

*J. F. Letcher*

for Secretary