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LUCK, Sheldon & BEAUDOIN, Ted

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## LUCK - BEAUDOIN PAPERS

I regard these papers as a very important acquisition for a number of reasons. In the first place there is very little archival material relating to civilian aviation from a point of view other than corporate records. To date Canadian aviation history writing and preservation has been given a disproportionately high military emphasis. The second reason for my high opinion of the collection is its quality. Mr. Beaudoin is very knowledgeable in the field of aviation and in the many interviews taped and transcribed he has been able to elicit information which a less skillful or less knowledgeable interviewer would not have been able to extract. Where points have needed clarification or amplification they have been returned to in the same or subsequent interviews.

The nature of Sheldon Luck's career is also an important consideration. The tremendous variety in his flying career typifies the experiences of early Canadian aviation pioneers who led lives as economically precarious as the often disappearing airlines they flew for. The material in the collection covers the entire length of a career which followed a pattern no longer typical in Canadian aviation and too little documented.

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