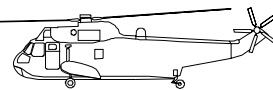


## Bits Decal BD18: Canadian Lancaster Mk. X 1/72

043, Victory Aircraft in Malton, Ontario started building the Lancaster Mk X, a late version of the Lancaster B.III. Nearly all of the 430 machines (in two batches and FM100-230) were sent to the UK where they served in Canadian squadrons in 6th Bomber Command. After the war, 160 of the remaining machines were flown home to Canada after a few years in storage, many were rebuilt as Lancaster 10s in several versions for reconnaissance, navigation trainers and photo-mapping duties with the RCAF. The remaining machines were retired in the early sixties.

As a result, Lancaster Mk Xs were difficult to distinguish from other marks. Most were delivered with bulged bomb bays (but not with the lower FN64 turret) and fitted with the FN50 mid-upper turret, some were later fitted with the Martin 250 low drag turret (Lancaster KB783 was the trials a/c for this installation). The 30" guns did not have the large fairing seen on the earlier turret, and because of weight differences, it was installed further forward, its aft end about even with the bomb bay. Post-war Lanc 10s dispensed with upper turrets altogether, and later even nose and tail turrets were removed and faired over. Some of the remaining Lancasters in the world are on display in Canada, and one of the only two airworthy machines (FM213) regularly flies with the Canadian Heritage out of Hamilton, Ontario; just a short hop away from its birthplace so many years before.

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