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Harold E. Morehouse Flying Pioneers Biographies Collection - Ericson, Frithiof G.

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States an order was placed with Canadian Aeroplanes, Ltd. for several of these large flying boats to be used by the Navy. Called the F5L's they were powered by two Liberty-12 engines and were finished and delivered in seven months. During the war Ericson also designed and developed the first successful snow skis, which were extensively used during winter operations. The firm also made some Avro planes and had started the manufacture of DH-4's at the time of the Armistice.

After the war the company was dissolved and the R.A.F. disposed of the entire inventory. The firm ended with an excellent wartime record which reflected great credit for accomplishment and Ericson's engineering managing ability. At that time he formed Ericson Aircraft, Ltd. at Toronto and purchased the entire inventory of planes, engines and parts, which he immediately advertised at war surplus prices, conducting this business through the 1920's.

In 1929 Ericson Organized Airport Lighting, Ltd. to develop and market airport lighting equipment, ~~which~~ this business ~~he~~ and operated until 1933. Following this he joined the Horace E. Dodge Boat and Plane Corporation as regional manager, later becoming assistant to Mr. Dodge, where he remained for some time.

In the late 1930's Ericson was distributor for ship-to-shore radio, Seaphone, at Miami, Florida. There, on March 4, 1941, Ericson and three companions were killed when their automobile skidded and hit a tree while returning from the Rod and Reel Club. He was a member of the Early Birds, QB's, S.A.E., Aero Clubs of America and Canada and many social organizations.

Flying Pioneer, ~~Early Bird~~ Frithiof G. Ericson became a very skilled aviator, aeronautical engineer and manufacturing director during the early period of American and Canadian aviation history. While foreign born, he contributed much to the sound development of early American aircraft.

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