How to Read Blueprint Numbers

(The following is quoted from: Canadian Forces, "Part List Expeditor", 05 Jan 70, pg 4)

General

Basic part or drawing numbers consist of six original digits; essentially two digits to designate basic model, one digit to designate major group or section and three additional serial digits.

For example, 644-189300 is decoded as:

- 6 Type 4 - Class 4 - Engine Type
- 18 Basic Model (Model 18)
- 9 Group or Section 300 - Drawing Serial

Type Numbers

The principal and original use of the type number was to indicate the type of aircraft of a special equipment drawing. Some drawings employ the type numbers of 6, 7, and 8 as class numbers.

- Landplane (Note: The "O" is understood but never shown on drawings.)
- 1 Seaplane
- 2 Skiplane
- 3 Not used
- 4 Not used
- 5 Not used
- 6 Used to expand the class numbers
- 7 Used to expand the class numbers
- 8 Used to expand the class numbers
- 9 Special equipment

Class

The class numbers are used to indicate the weight classification on commercial models and functional classification of military models.

- Commercial aircraft of 7200 pounds, gross weight class
- 1 Commercial aircraft of 7500 pounds, gross weight class, equipped with approximately 300 hp engines
- 2 Commercial aircraft of 7500 pounds, gross weight class, equipped with approximately 400 hp engines
- 3 Commercial aircraft of 7800 pounds, gross weight class
- 4 Military aircraft for foreign countries
- 5 Photographic aircraft
- 6 USAF transports
- 7 Navy transports
- 70 Navy transports
- 77 Navy transports
- 8 USAF advanced trainers
- 80 USAF advanced trainers
- 81 USAF trainer
- 82 Revised USAF transports
- 83 Navy transports
- 84 Navy advanced trainers
- 85 Revised USAF transports
- 9 Revised USAF transports

Engine Type

- 1 Wright 7 cylinder
- 2 Jacobs L-6
- 3 Wright 9 cylinder
- 4 Pratt and Whitney Wasp, Jr.
- 5 Jacobs L-5
- 6 Jacobs L-4
- 7 Continental

Group Numbers

Group numbers are allocated as follows:

0 Miscellaneous – three view drawings, electrical equipment, flare brackets, lugs, rods, placards, etc 1 Wing Panels – Wing assembly, wing spars, wing ribs, ailerons, flap, etc 2 Wing Braces – Wing struts, longerons, fittings, aileron and flap brackets, 3 Cabin Furnishings – Cabin floor and door, rug, woodwork, instrument panel 4 Fuselage Structure – Fuselage spars, longerons, bulkheads, fittings 5 Fairing and Cowling – Nacelle, forward fuselage structures, tail structure, etc 6 Tail Surfaces and Braces – Tail skins, struts, longerons, fittings 7 Control Installations – Flight 8 Alighting Gear – Wheel and brake, struts, shock absorber, etc 9 Power Plant – Engine, propeller, carburetor, primer, etc