

The Odd Shapes of Things That Fly

Today's Military Aircraft Trim as a Lass in a Bikini

By ALTON SLAGLE
OF ASSOCIATED PRESS

The shape of the future is seen in today's fighting aircraft. Sleek, shiny, their very structure hinting at the strength and speed within their bodies, these planes are a far cry from the big, gawky machines which lumbered in the air during World War II and dropped bombs that by today's nuclear standards would hardly rate as healthy firecrackers.

Trim and slim as a young lass in a bikini, today's aircraft are whittled into fantastic shapes and are packed with complex electronic gear.

F. G. Swanborough has taken note of this fact in a book published and distributed by the Taplinger Publishing Co. of New York.

Called "Combat Aircraft of the World," the reference work contains 350 photographs and performance details on more than 60 of the most significant warplanes in service or under development for the air forces of the United States, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, France, Canada, Italy, India and Sweden.

Some of the planes have the same old look. But if you haven't been watching what hot pilots are flying these days, be prepared for a shock. Modern combat aircraft, needle pointed and delta winged, make the best of World War II look like Henry Ford's first tin lizzie.

Here are 11 such planes:

B-58 HUSTLER, U.S.

One of the most dramatic silhouettes in the sky is this Convair product, which has been under design since 1949. When it became operational, the Hustler was the first supersonic strategic bomber in service in the world.

Its delta wings carry external, podded engines and a center pod is designed for a nuclear bomb. Four smaller nuclear weapons can be carried under the fuselage.

Specifications: wing span 57 ft., length 97 ft., height 31 ft., wing area 1,542 sq. ft., gross weight over 160,000 lbs., maximum speed about Mach 2 (1,325 mph), ceiling over 50,000 ft.

BOUNDER, USSR

Designed by one of Russia's top aircraft men, Vladimir M. Myasishchev, this is probably the world's largest delta. It reportedly suffered development problems which may have delayed or canceled production plans, although one was seen in the 1961 air display over Moscow.

It is reportedly supersonic, and although dimensions are a guess, the wing span appears to be about 100 ft., and the length nearly double that.

JAVELIN, GREAT BRITAIN

The first British fighter developed specifically for all-weather defense operations, this is the result of years of experiments. The latest version was first flown in 1958. Its two-man crew rides in tandem.

Specifications: span 32 ft., length 58 ft., height 16 ft., wing area 928 sq. ft., gross weight over 40,000 lbs., speed about Mach 0.95, ceiling over 60,000 feet.

DRAKEN, SWEDEN

One of the most advanced and best performing fighters produced in Europe, this results from a research program begun in 1952. The design uses a "double delta" wing layout. The newest version of the plane has these specifications: span 31 ft., length 52 ft., height 13 ft., wing area 538 sq. ft., gross weight 18,800 lbs., speed above Mach 2, initial climb rate 50,000 ft. a minute.

FREEDOM FIGHTER, U.S.

Northrop's Freedom Fighter, first produced in 1950, is a very small (26 ft. span, 44 ft. length, 12,350 lb. maximum gross weight) supersonic (up to Mach 2) fighter. To reduce drag, the fuselage has a concave under-surface forming a shape known as the "lady slipper." All armament is carried externally.

FLIPPER, USSR

Little is known about this twin-engine, long-range, all-weather interceptor. With side-by-side engines, its speed may approach Mach 3, and the power plant arrangement suggests a liquid rocket installation between the turbojets.

BUCCANEER, GREAT BRITAIN

Capable of carrier operation, this plane can carry anti-submarine and anti-shiping homing torpedoes and other weapons, has a top low-altitude speed above Mach 0.9. Powered by two engines, it has these specifications: span 43 ft., length 62 ft., height 16 ft., gross weight about 40,000 lbs. An advanced model is being developed.

FISHPOT, USSR

A narrow delta with about 50 degrees' sweepback on the wing leading edges, the Fishpot was reported to be in production in 1959. It has a single, large turbojet engine and super-sonic performance.

ETENDARD, FRANCE

The French Navy has adopted this plane as its standard strike fighter, and the craft should be operational later this year. Specifications: span 32 ft., length 47 ft., height 14 ft., wing area 312 sq. ft., maximum gross weight 23,000 lbs., maximum speed Mach 1.08.

A3J-1 VIGILANTE, U.S.

This North American-built carrier-based attack plane has a long, slender fuselage seating the pilot and bombardier-navigator in separate tandem cockpits. Two side-by-side jet engines are behind them. In 1960 a Vigilante set a world altitude mark of 81,430.8 ft., carrying a payload of more than a ton. Specifications: span 50 ft., length 70 ft., height 20 ft., gross weight 60,000 lbs., maximum speed about Mach 2.

VULCAN, GREAT BRITAIN

Resembling a giant white bat, this bomber is designated to carry the Douglas Skybolt air-launched ballistic missile to be in service by 1964. The Vulcan spearheads Britain's deterrent force, and first deliveries to the Royal Air Force began in mid-1960. Specifications: span 111 ft., length 97 ft., height 28 ft., gross weight about 200,000 lbs., maximum speed about Mach 0.95, operating ceiling about 60,000 ft.



Red Guerrilla Tactics Shock U.S. Advisers

BEN TRE, Viet Nam (AP)—American advisers continue to be amazed, and sometimes horrified, by the techniques that Communist guerrillas employ to evade attacking government forces in the swampy Mekong Delta.

The communists have mastered the art of melting into the countryside, disappearing from sight even in flat, flooded paddies that stretch for miles in some parts of the delta.

American advisers here in Ben Tre, a delta city south of Saigon, talk of one recent operation in which a guerrilla force of about 200 seen in the region could not be located by a huge government dragnet.

Saw Shadows

The government force, which included armored personnel carriers that lurched through swamps at 20 miles an hour, was resting for a long lunch when an adventurous Vietnamese soldier climbed a coconut tree and saw numerous shadows in a nearby paddy.

The personnel carriers were sent out to investigate. As the bow waves they created splashed across the paddyfield, guerrillas could be seen lying on their backs in the mud, breathing through bamboo straws.

Before many of the guerrillas could even sit up, government troops had opened up with automatic weapons, killing dozens where they lay. The armored carriers, racing back and forth crushed others.

Hidden for Hours

American advisers, who rushed to the area when the shooting started, found that the prisoners dragged from the water had leeches on their bodies the size of large cockroaches. All of the dead were covered with leeches swollen with blood.

"They would not have dared to brush the leeches off while government troops were looking for them," one adviser said. "They must have been lying in the mud for hours, judging by the size of the leeches."

The guerrillas also build shelters along river banks into which they crawl when the fighting gets too rough. They are dangerous hiding places but almost impossible to locate.

Coquille Boy, 11, Treated for Rabies

COQUILLE (AP)—Frank Metcalf, 11, Coquille, is being treated for rabies in an attempt to save his life. The boy was bitten by a bat Monday night on the outskirts of Coquille.

Sanitarian John Huffman of Coos County said Portland experts have confirmed the bat was rabid.

Huffman warned other residents of the area to report any bites and to get inoculations at once if bitten.

900 Expected for Prep Press Conference at UO

More than 900 Oregon high school newspaper and yearbook staff members and advisors are expected on the University of Oregon campus Friday and Saturday for the joint meeting of the Oregon Scholastic Press and the Oregon Assn. of Journalism Advisers.

The University school of journalism is host for the two meetings.

Eugene W. Dils, director of university placement at the university will address the advisors at a breakfast meeting Saturday morning on "The Responsibility of the High School Paper to Vocational Adjustment."

No Come-On

MIAMI, Fla. (AP)—Louis Silver has filed suit to enjoin the city from painting "condemned, unfit for human habitation" on two of his rooming houses.

He said the signs "drive away patrons."



A weekly column

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Readers with questions they would like answered, are welcome to write Miss LaVonne in care of any of 4 Tiffany Drug stores or leave your question in the box provided at any Tiffany store. All questions, whether published in the column or not will be answered by Miss LaVonne. Letters should be limited to one question. Letters should be fully signed to be answered, but only initials will be published.

Primary emphasis will be on questions dealing with the problems of girls and women of all ages in social graces, wardrobe planning, accessorizing, correct colors, make-up, skin and hair care, weight problems, posture and carriage, and general good grooming.

Miss LaVonne's many years in the field of Lecturing, Teaching, Modeling, Television, and child guidance, a much sought after speaker by both women's and men's organizations throughout the Northwest and in constant demand for career counseling in High Schools and Colleges, qualifies her to give advice of this nature.

Miss LaVonne's roster of successful graduates of her Finishing and Modeling Schools are the best testimony of her skill and knowledge in her field.

Miss LaVonne stated that she does not intend to get into the field of marriage counseling or marital situations, but will concentrate on the everyday problems that women are faced with. These will be dealt with in a fresh, forthright manner.

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Month's Library Circulation Below 1961 Figure

Circulation at Eugene's public library dropped by almost 2,000 items last month, compared to September, 1961.

Total circulation for the month just ended was 27,446 items. Librarian Clara Nasholm said, compared to 29,172 for the same month a year ago.

Miss Nasholm said with the opening of school "student pressure for service resumed" during September. She said students requested back issues of magazines totaling several hundred each week.

This emphasis on non-circulating library materials decreased the demand for "take home" books, she said.

Library cards were issued or renewed for 894 persons during September—a gain over the 828 library cards issued for September, 1961.

Dairy Cattle Crowd Livestock Exposition

PORTLAND (AP)—The Pacific International Livestock Exposition, opening in North Portland Oct. 13, will have more dairy cattle on display than ever before, with 738 already entered.

General Manager Dick Richards said 557 head of beef cattle also had been entered in open divisions. The sheep total is 1,165.

The annual sale of champions will be Oct. 17.

Riding Contest Set for Novices

The Emerald Empire Riders novice horse show will get underway at 1:30 p.m. today at the Lane County Fairgrounds.

Six events are scheduled for riders 18 and under who have not won a ribbon at shows approved by the Western Horsemen of Oregon or Oregon Horsemen.

A 50-cent charge will be assessed for each event entered. Entries close at 1 p.m.



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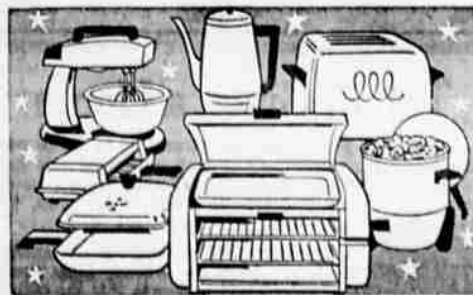
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