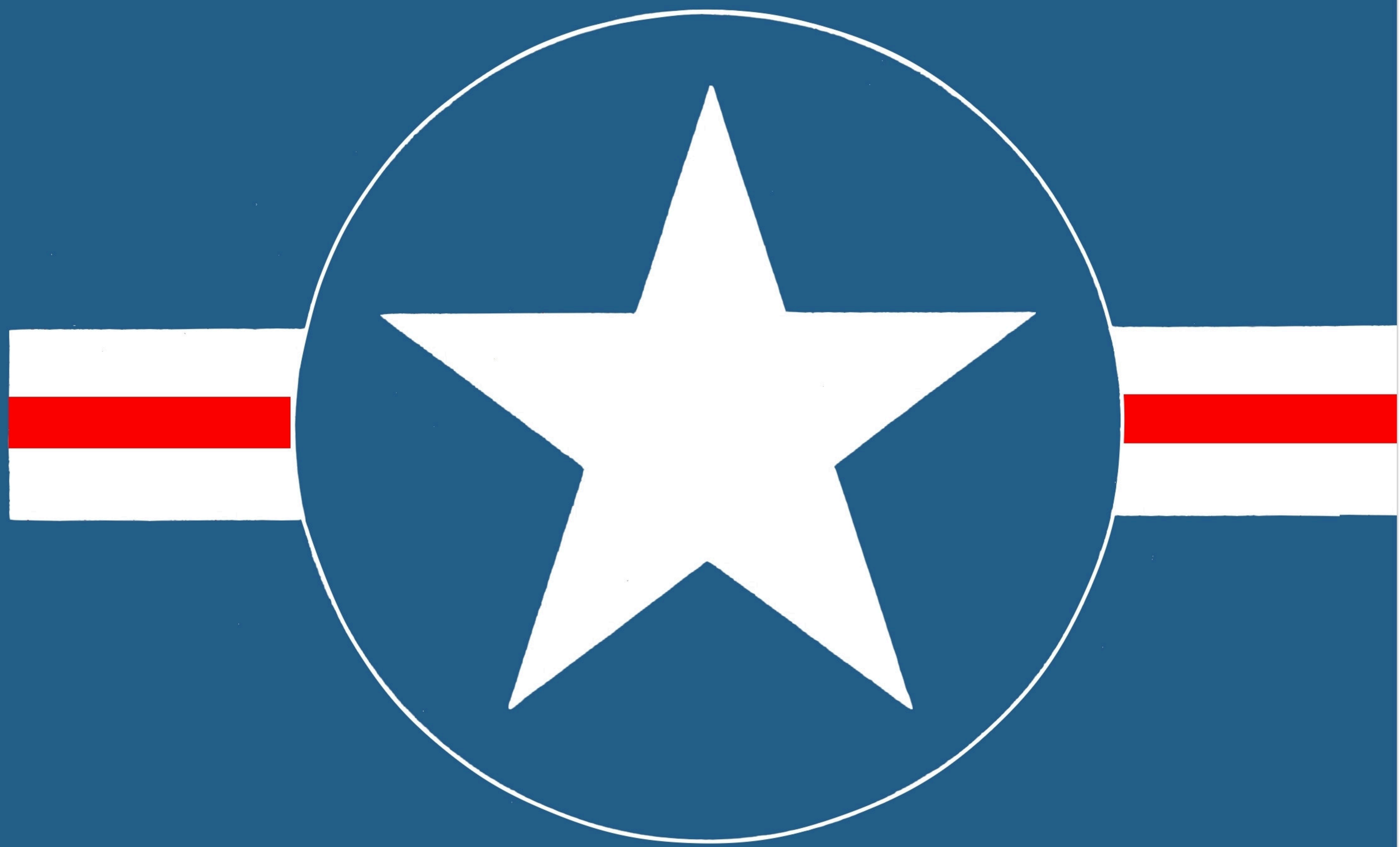


# Manual of Military Aircraft . . . .

**... FOR PLANE SPOTTERS**



*Published in the Interest of National Defense*

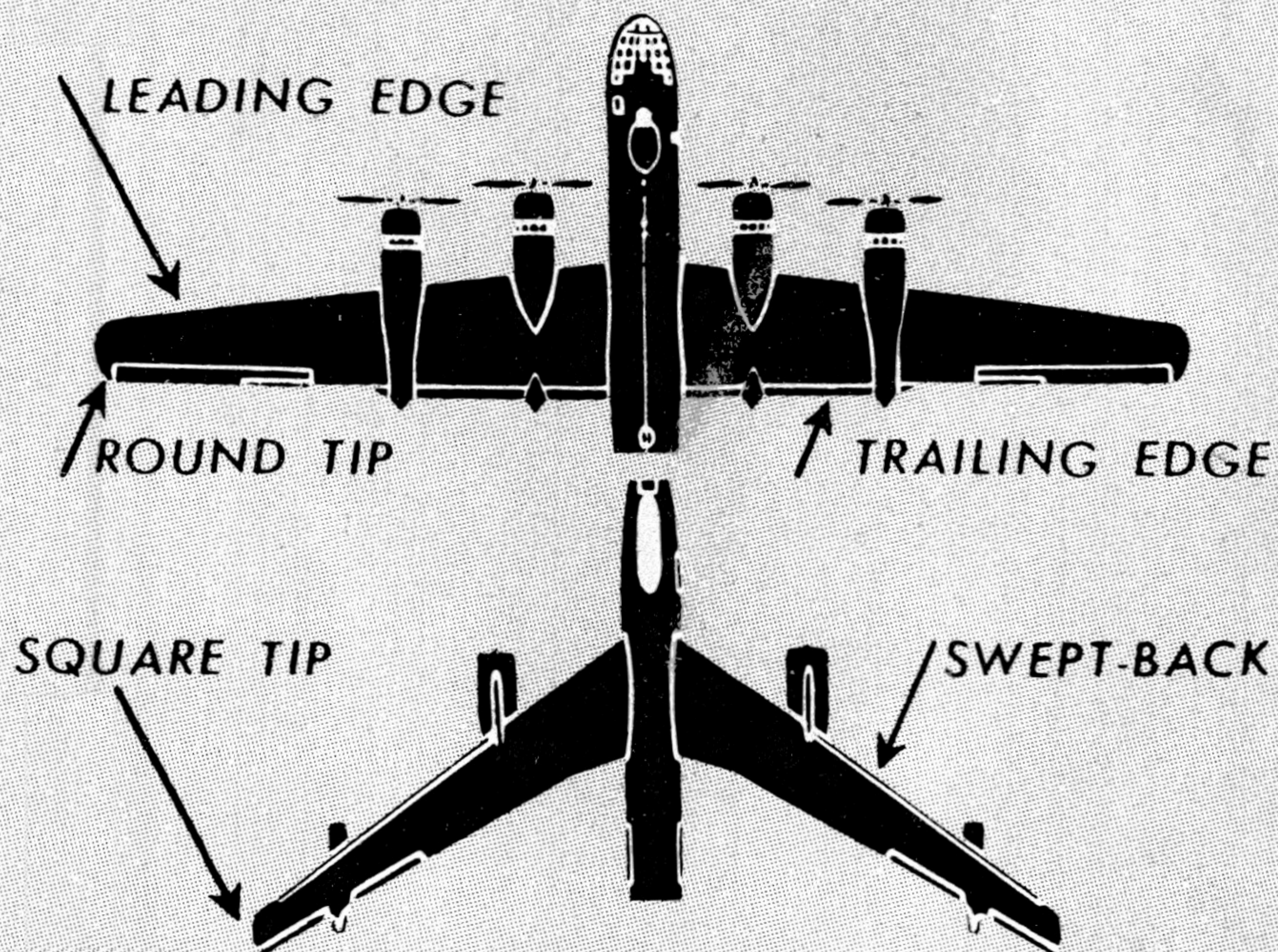
**BY Royal**

**PUDDINGS AND GELATIN DESSERTS**

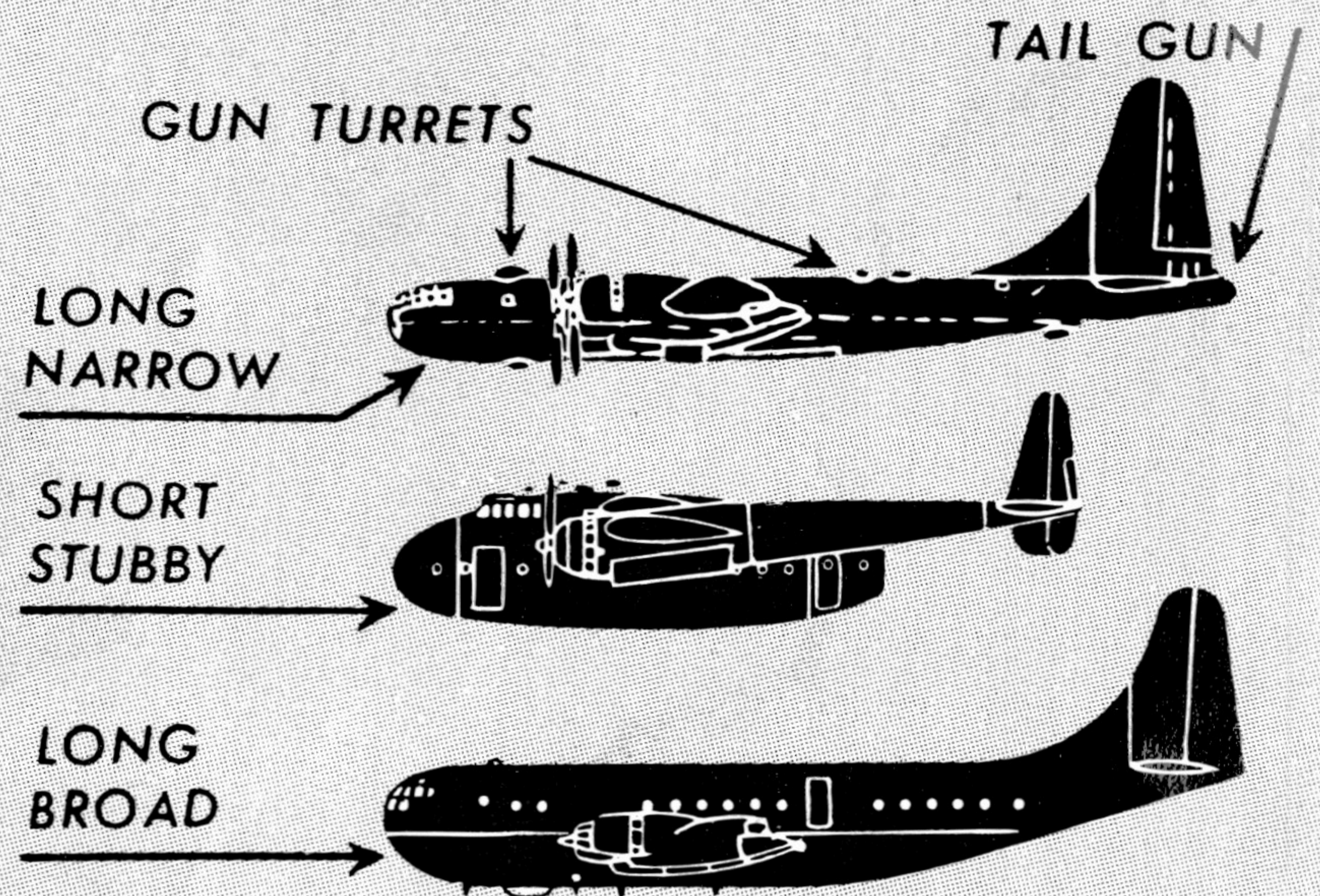


# PLANE SPOTTERS! Train yourself to recognize these important points for quick identification!

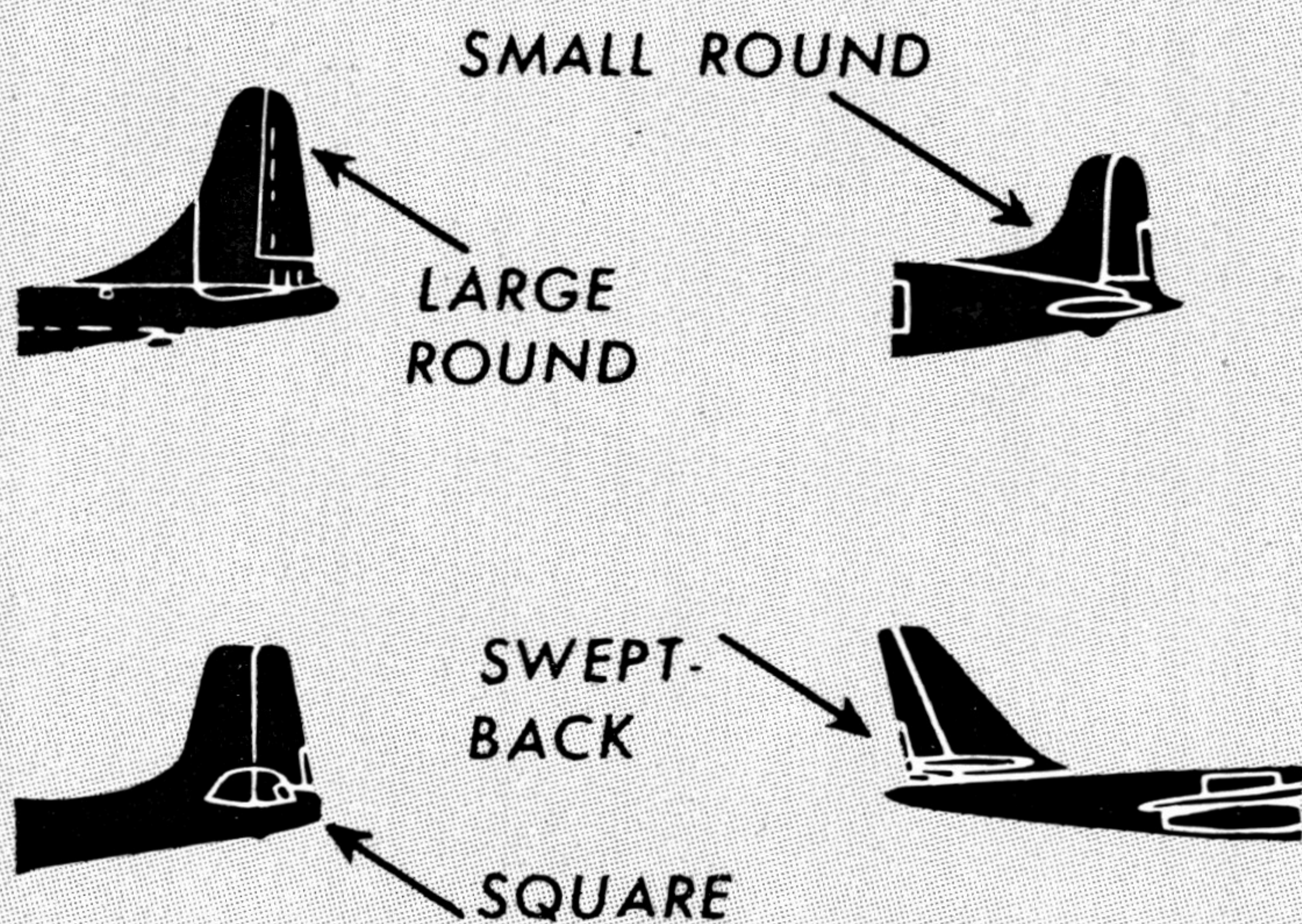
## WINGS



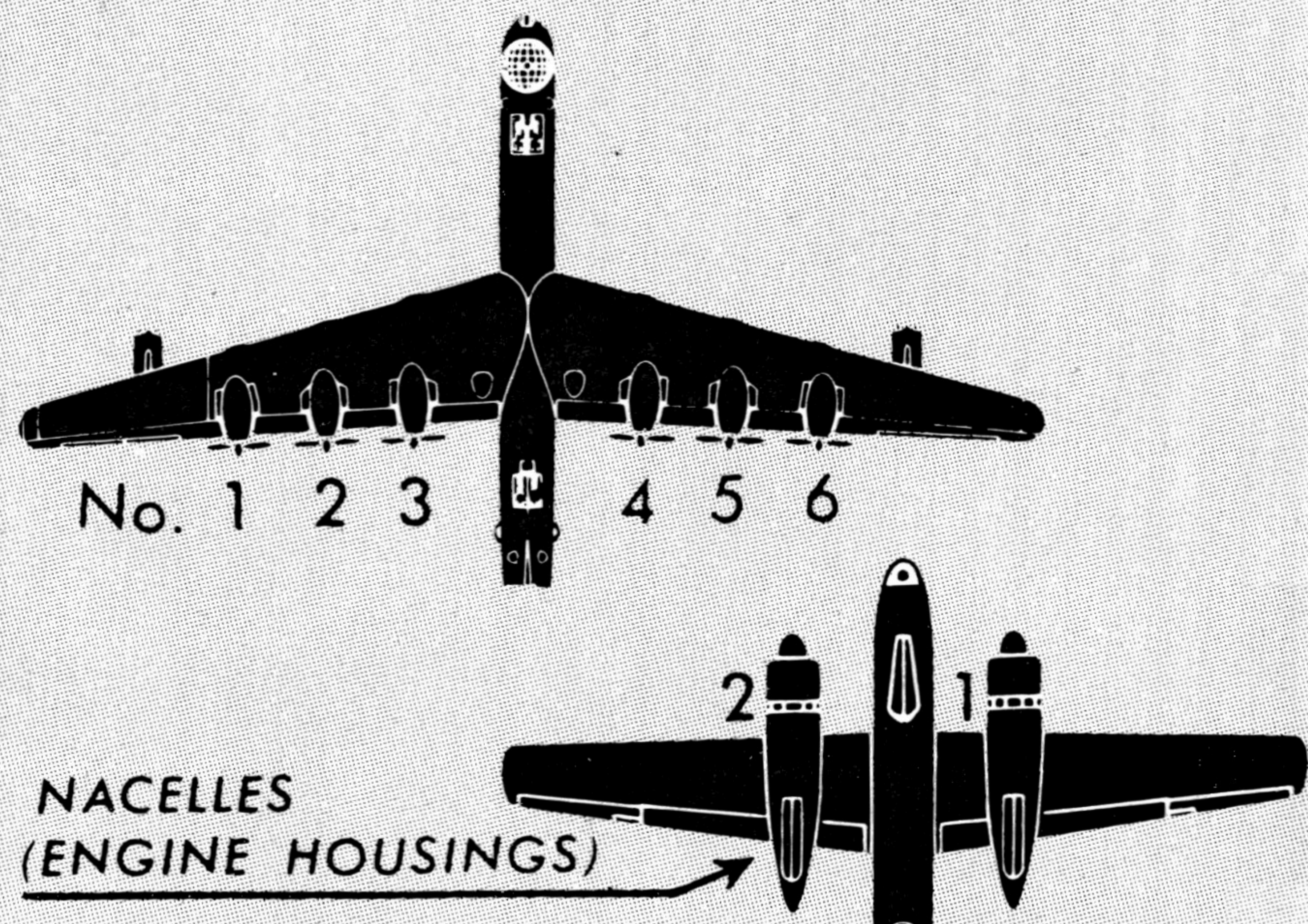
## FUSELAGE



## TAIL



## ENGINES



## ★ YOU CAN HELP!

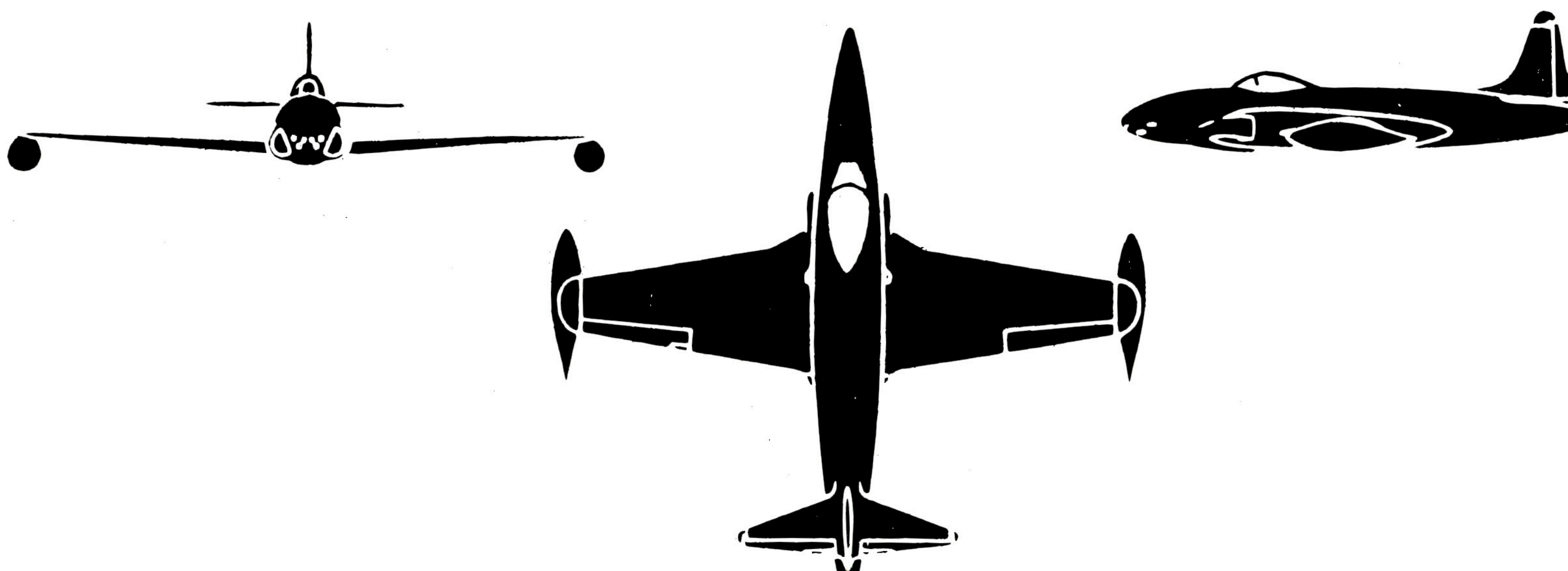
Airplane spotting is one of the most important activities you can choose. The first step is learning all you can about American military planes. This book tells you how to recognize 24 important U.S. Aircraft.

We hope that your plane spotting ability never will be needed for actual warfare. But if it is, you will enjoy the satisfaction of knowing that you prepared yourself in advance to be a valuable citizen.

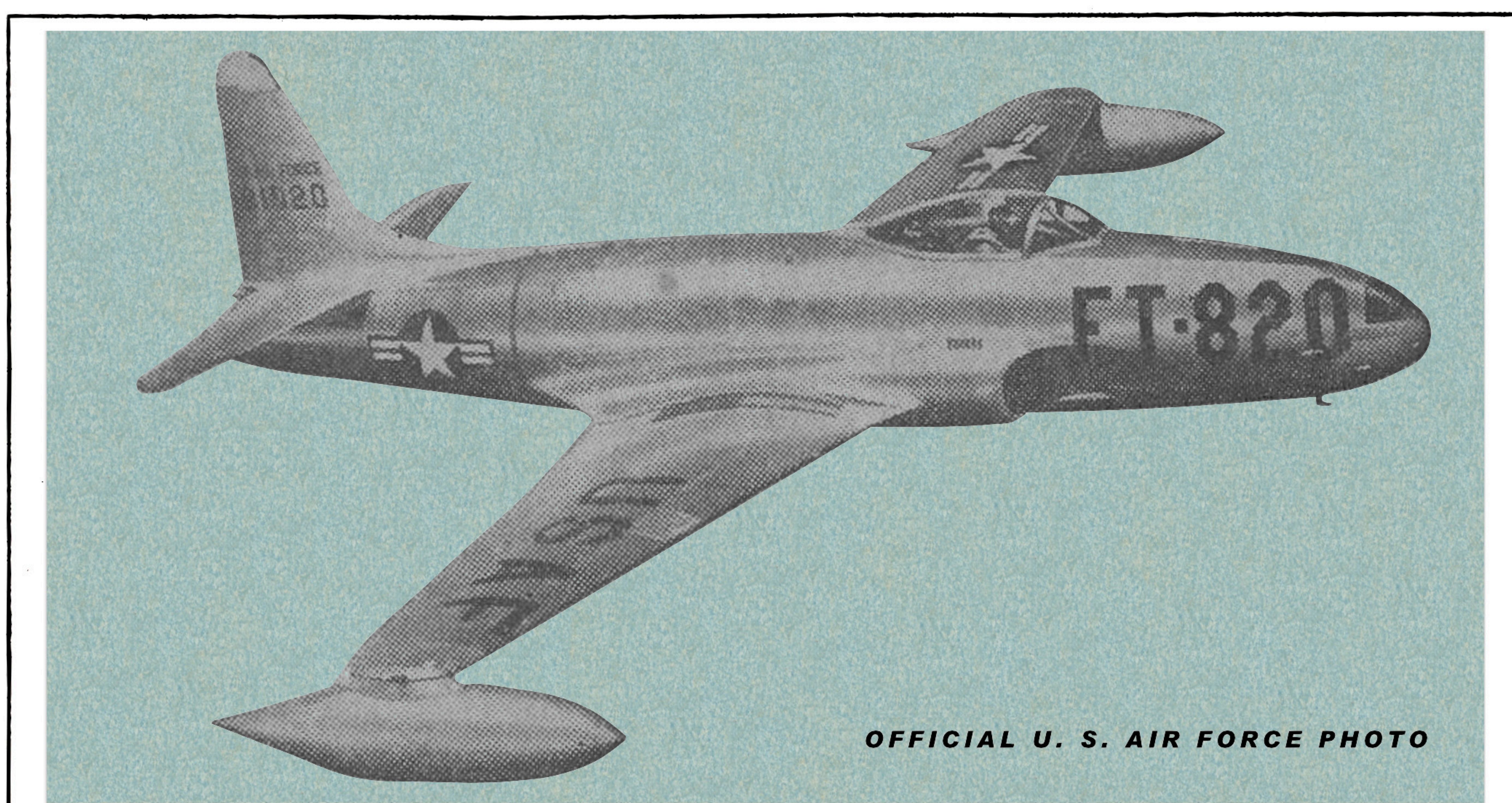
THE EDITORS

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**F-80**



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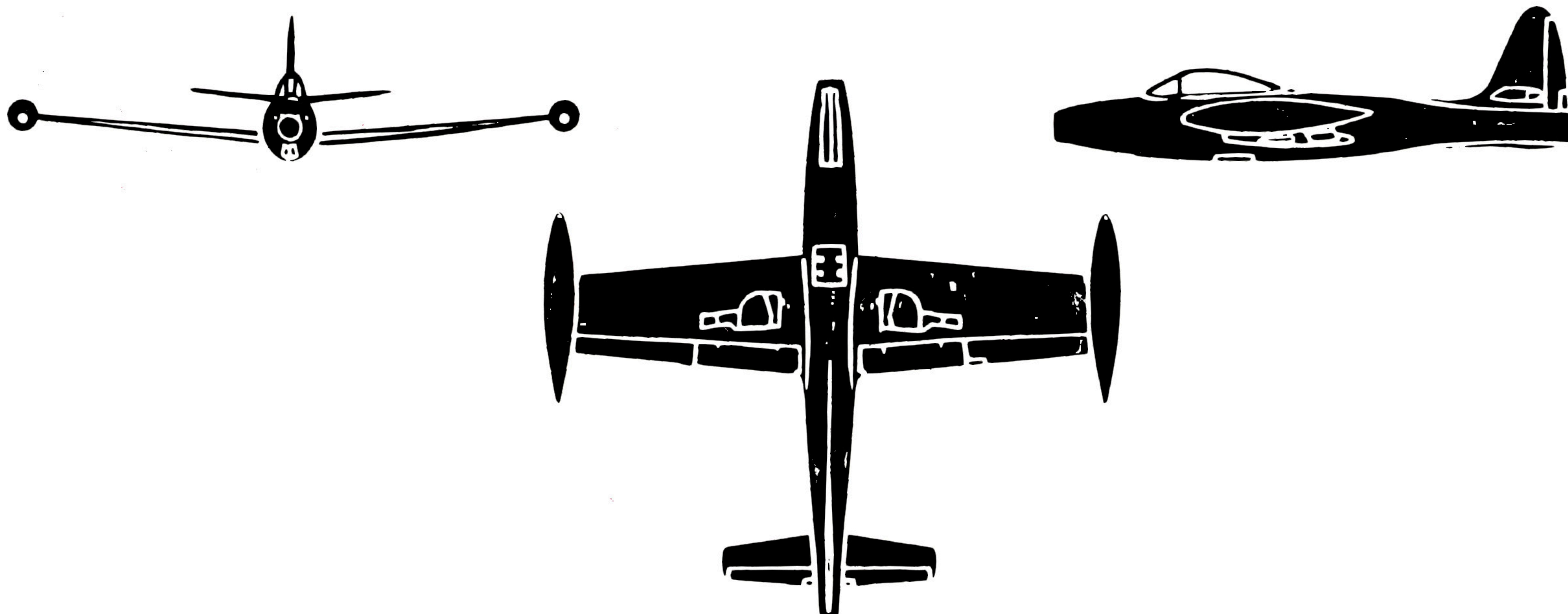
## **“SHOOTING STAR”**

**Manufacturer:** Lockheed  
**Speed:** 600 MPH class  
**Ceiling:** Over 45,000 ft.  
**Combat radius:** Over 500 mi.

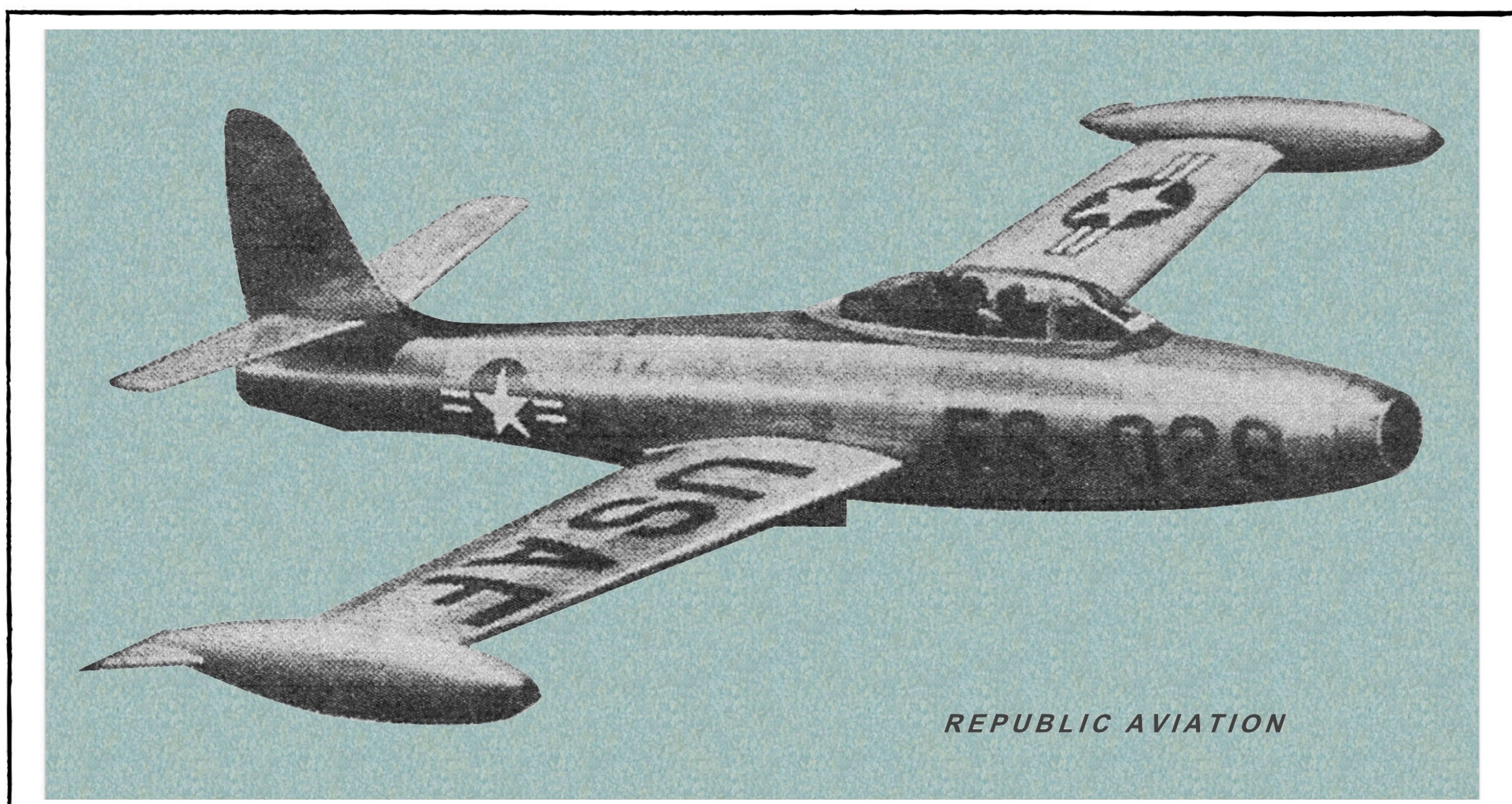
**Power plant:** 1 Allison  
 J33-A-23 turbo jet engine  
**Thrust rating:** 5,200 lbs.

This single-seater was one of the first U.S.A.F. standard jet fighters. Its value for ground support has been well proved in Korea. Wing-tip tanks add to the F-80's range. It is armed with six 50-calibre machine guns. The RF-80 version of this plane is used for tactical reconnaissance missions.





**F-84**



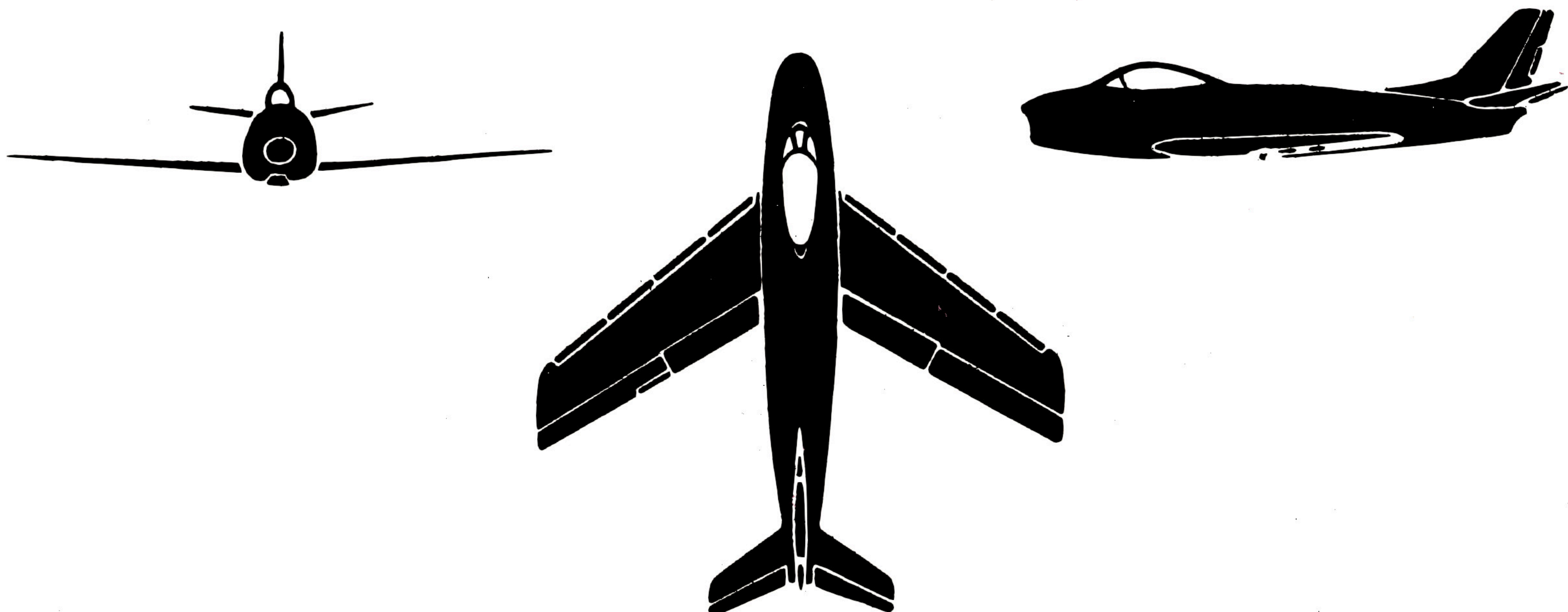
## **“THUNDERJET”**

**Manufacturer:** Republic  
**Speed:** 600 MPH class  
**Ceiling:** Over 45,000 ft.  
**Combat radius:** Over 850 mi.

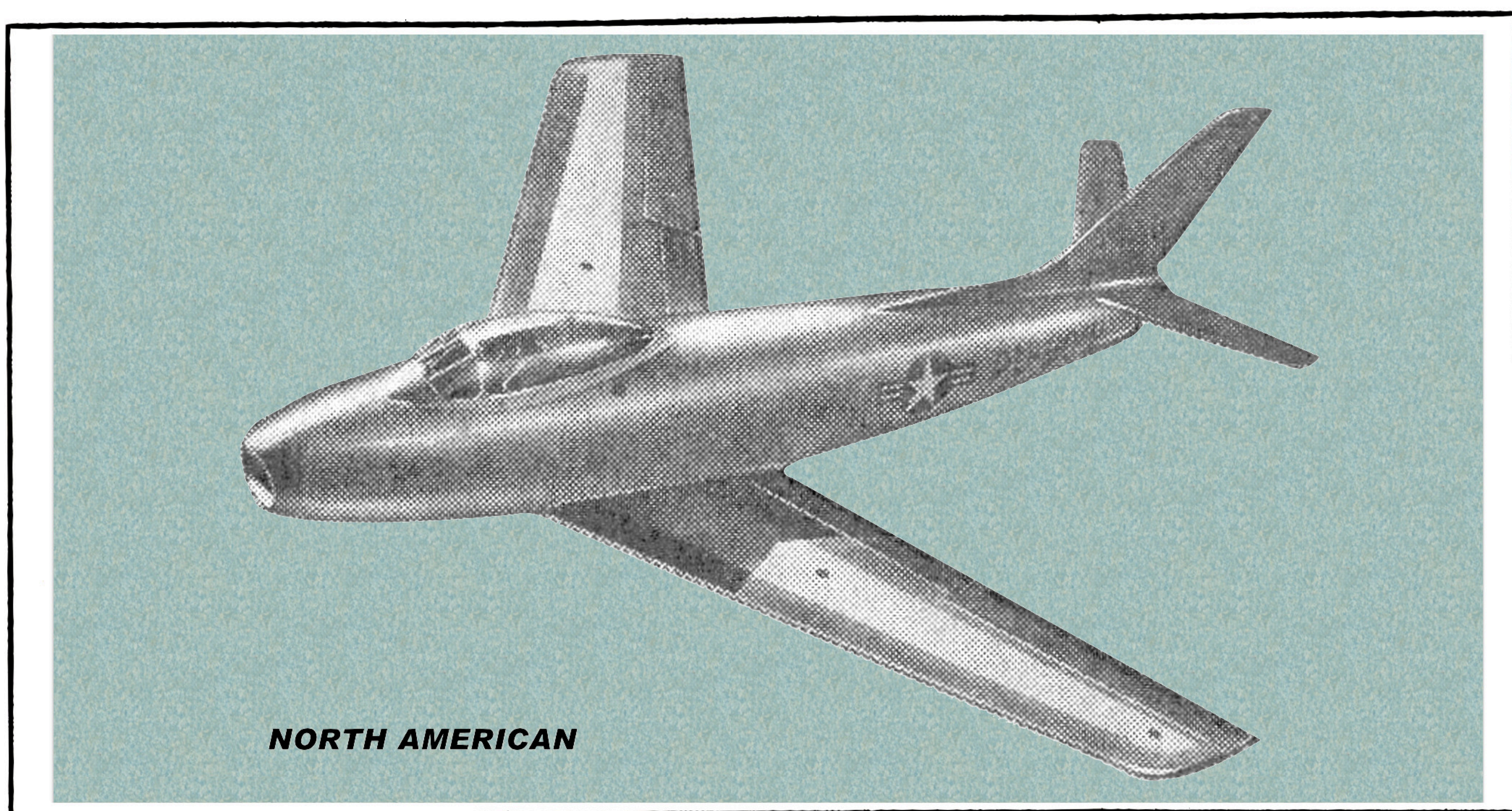
**Power plant:** 1 Allison  
 J35-A-17 turbo jet engine  
**Thrust rating:** 5,000 lbs.

This single-seater U.S.A.F. jet fighter is armed with six 50-calibre machine guns, two 1,000-lb. bombs, with provision for thirty-two 5" rockets (HVAR) or two Tiny Tims and sixteen rockets, aircraft depth charges, incendiary bombs and napalm tanks. It has provided outstanding ground support for U. N. troops in Korea. Latest Thunderjet is the F-84F with swept-back wings and tail surfaces.





**F-86**



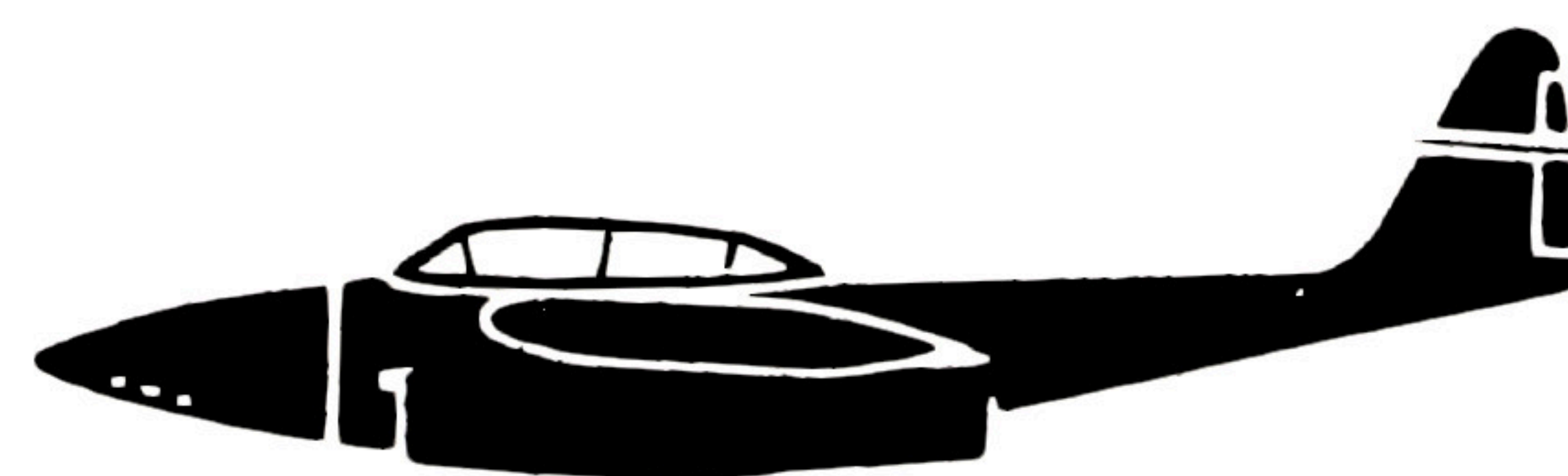
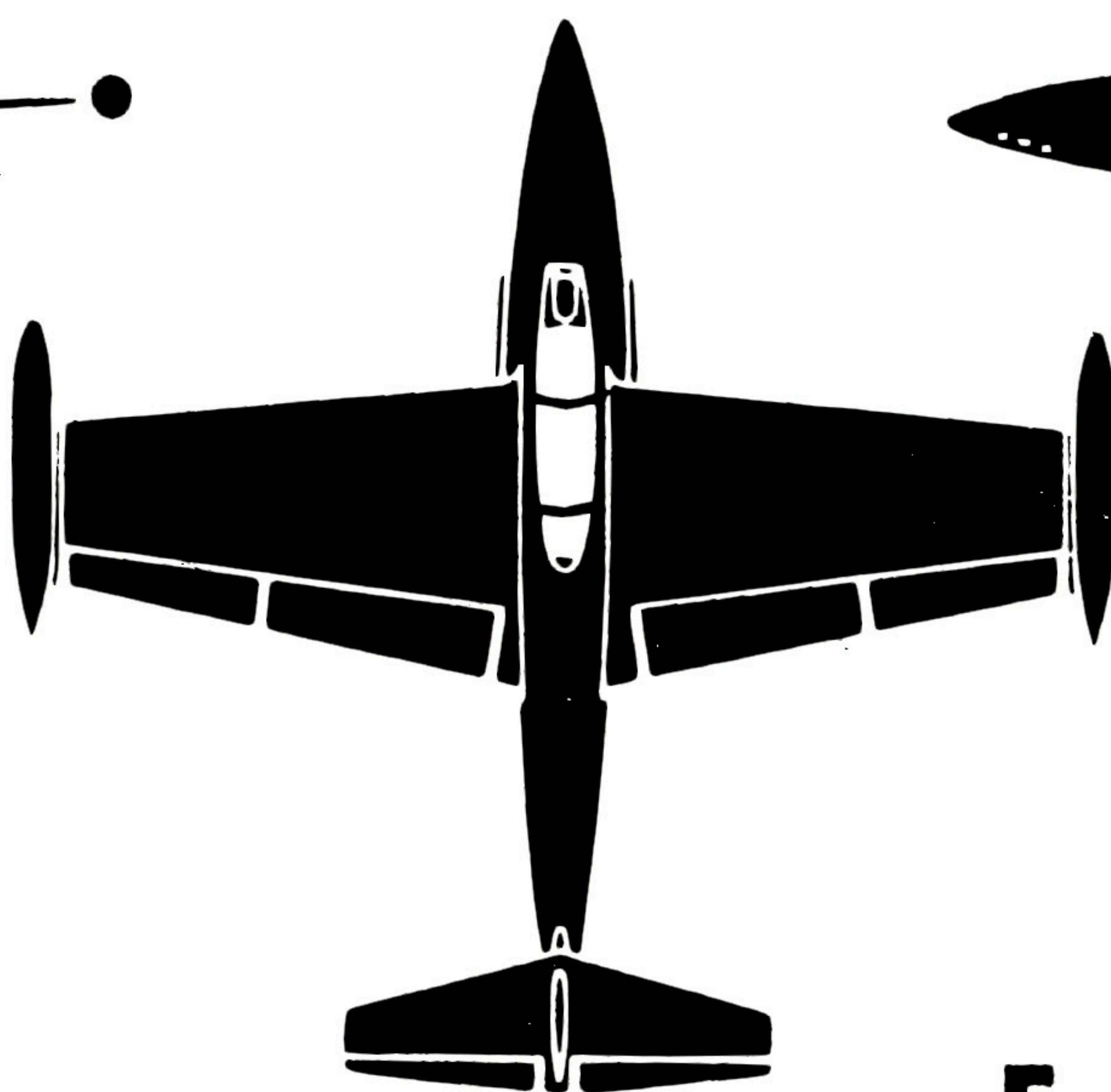
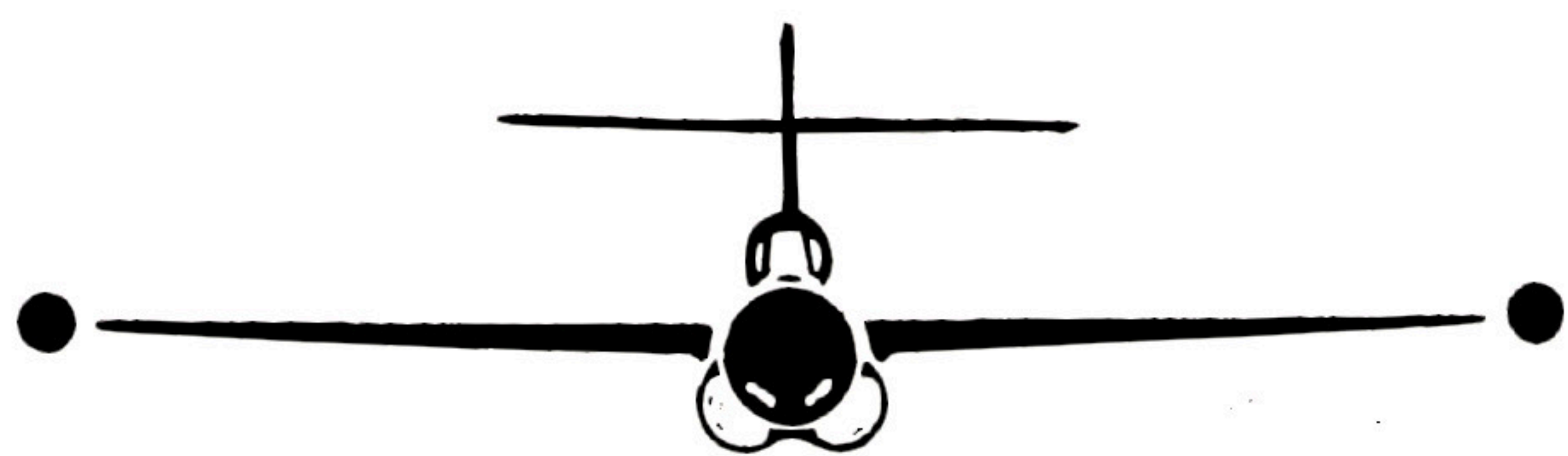
## **"SABRE"**

**Manufacturer:** North American  
**Speed:** 650 MPH class  
**Ceiling:** Over 45,000 ft.  
**Combat radius:** Over 500 mi.

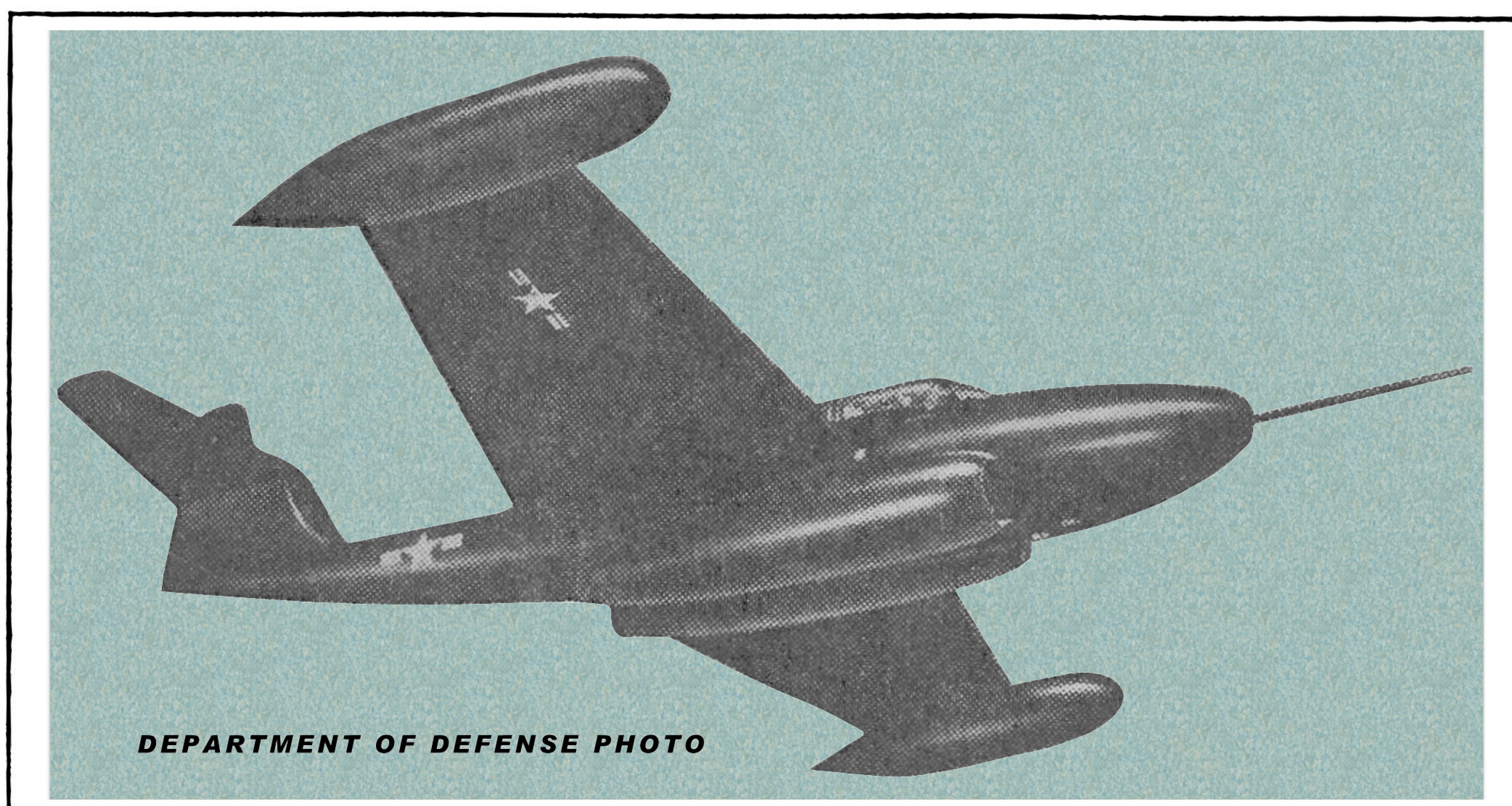
**Power plant:** 1 General Electric  
 J47 turbo jet engine  
**Thrust rating:** 5,200 lbs.

This U.S.A.F. fast single-seater has proved equal to the Russian MIG-15 in both fire-power and speed. The Sabre, armed with six 50-calibre machine guns in the nose, is equipped with wing racks to carry sixteen 5-inch rockets (HVAR) for low-altitude ground support. Control of the plane is greatly aided by its 35-degree swept-back wings, first on a U.S.A.F. fighter.





**F-89**



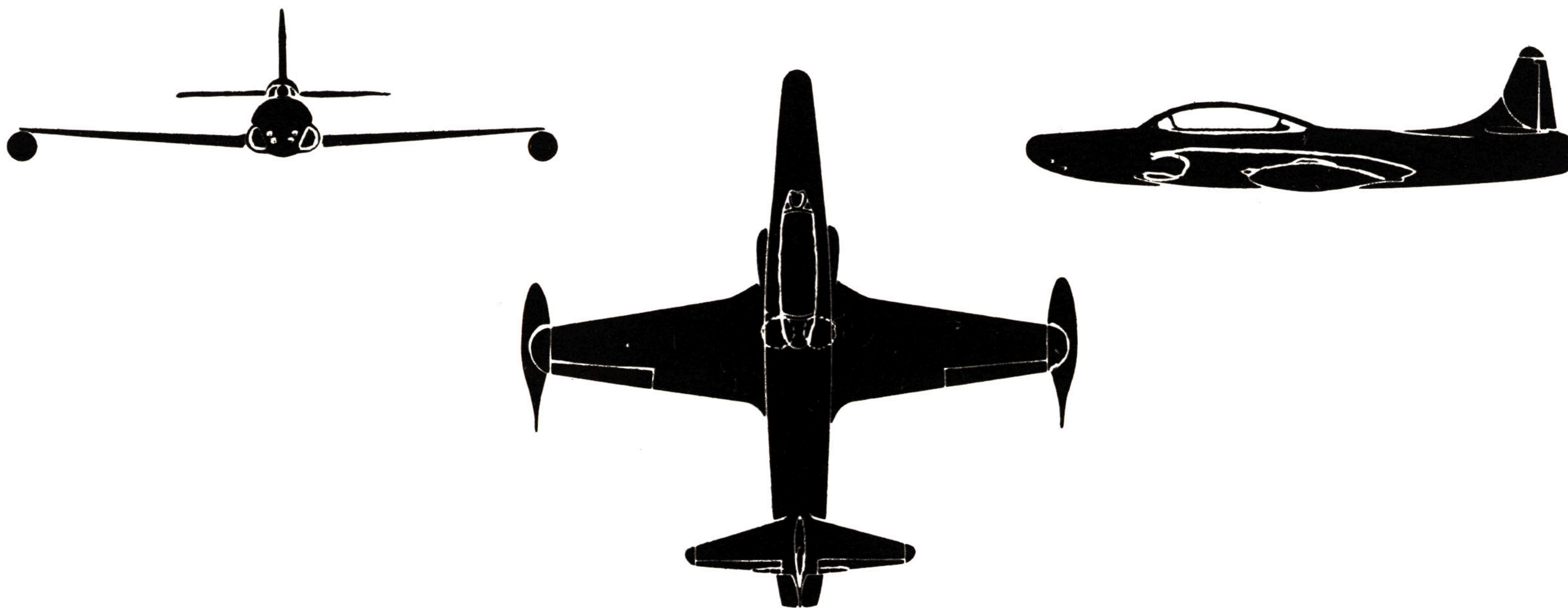
## **“SCORPION”**

**Manufacturer:** Northrop  
**Speed:** 600 MPH class  
**Ceiling:** 40,000 ft.

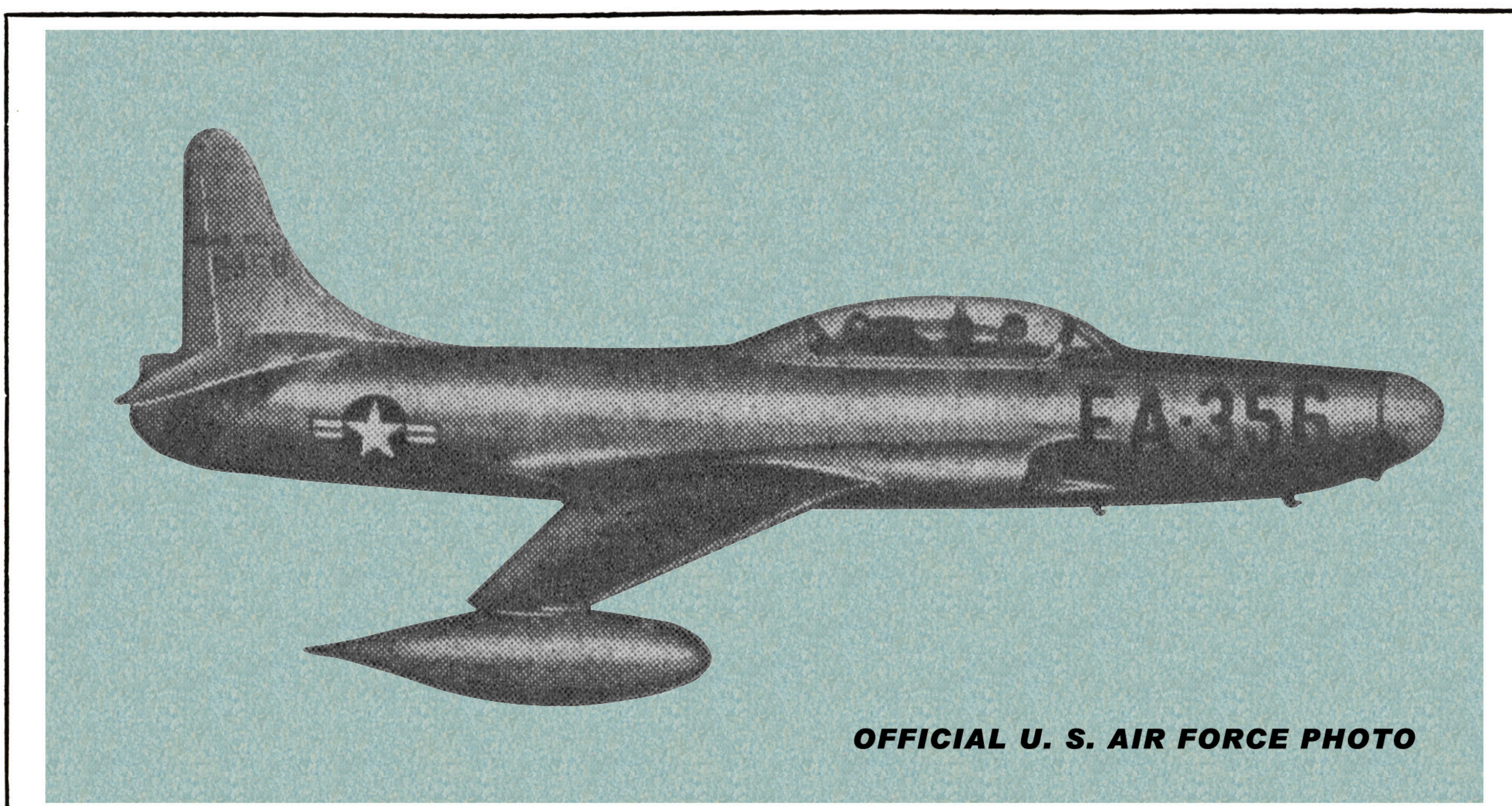
**Power plant:** 2 Allison J35-A-21  
 turbo jet engines with after  
 burner  
**Thrust rating:** About 4,000 lbs.  
 each engine

The Scorpion is the U.S.A.F.'s newest jet fighter specially designed for tactical operations at night and during bad weather. Its 2-man crew is seated, one behind the other, in a pressurized cabin equipped with pilot-ejection seats to “explode” men clear of the plane if they must bail out. The F-89 is about 50 feet long and 15 feet high, with an approximate 50-foot wingspan.





## **F-94**



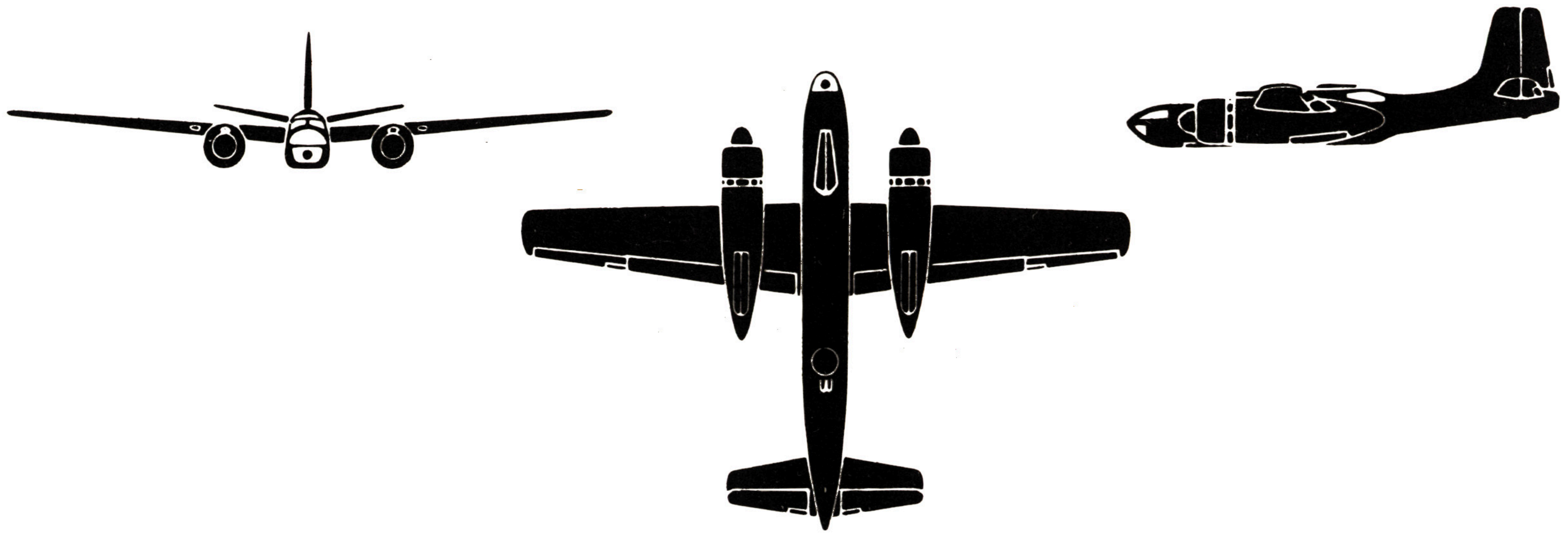
**OFFICIAL U. S. AIR FORCE PHOTO**

**Manufacturer:** Lockheed  
**Speed:** 600 MPH class  
**Ceiling:** Over 45,000 ft.  
**Combat radius:** Over 500 mi.

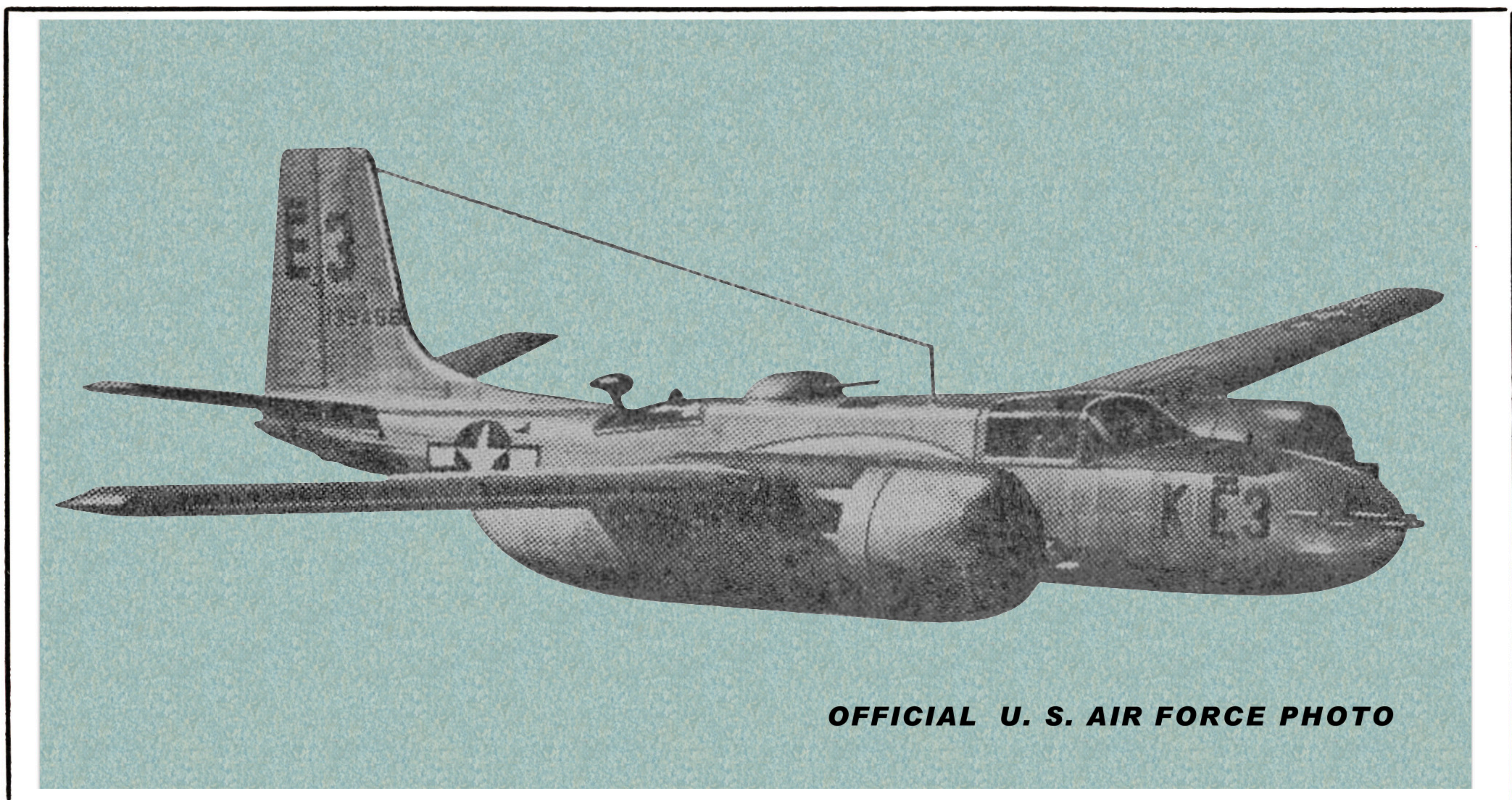
**Power plant:** 1 Allison J33-A-33  
 turbo jet engine with after burner  
**Thrust rating:** 5,200 lbs.

The F-94, an all-weather jet interceptor, now guards our vital areas 24 hours a day. This U.S.A.F. jet plane, an advance development of the F-80, is manned by a pilot and a radar operator. Radar and guns are housed in the nose. The latest version, F-94C, is powered by 1 Pratt and Whitney turbo jet J48 engine with a thrust rating of 6,250 lbs.





## B-26



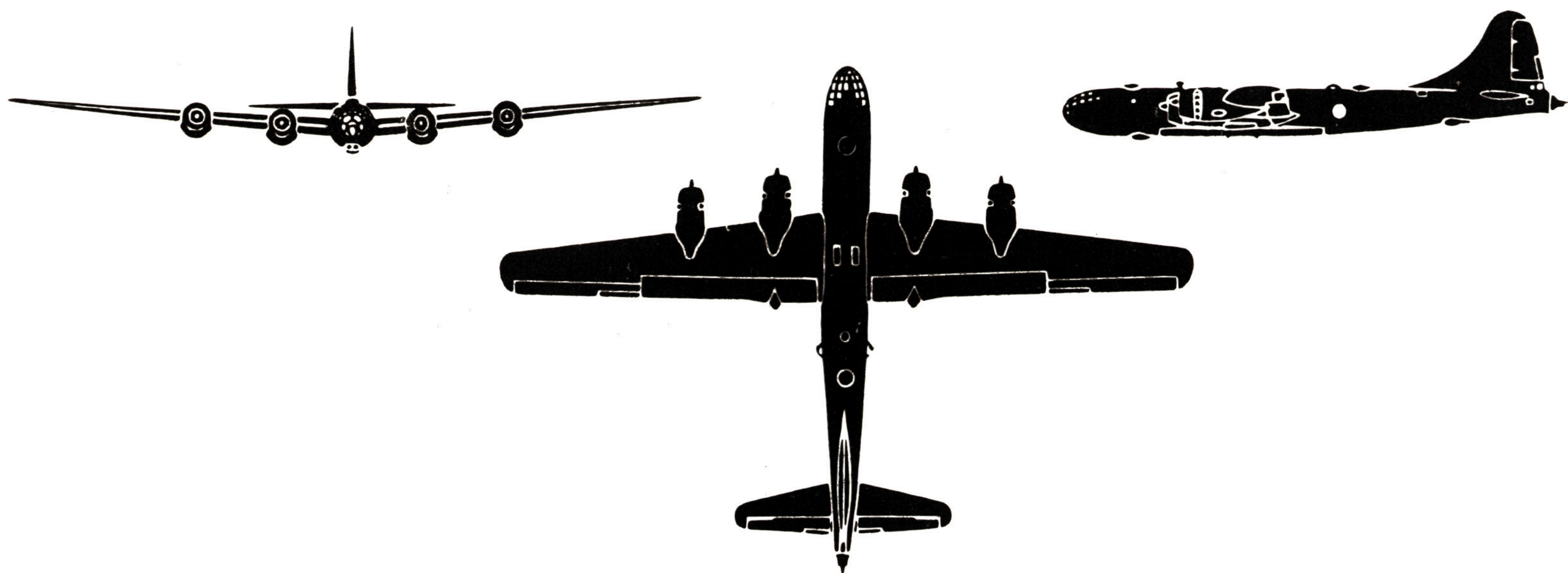
## “INVADER”

**Manufacturer:** Douglas  
**Speed:** 350 MPH  
**Ceiling:** Over 25,000 ft.  
**Combat radius:** Over 900 mi.

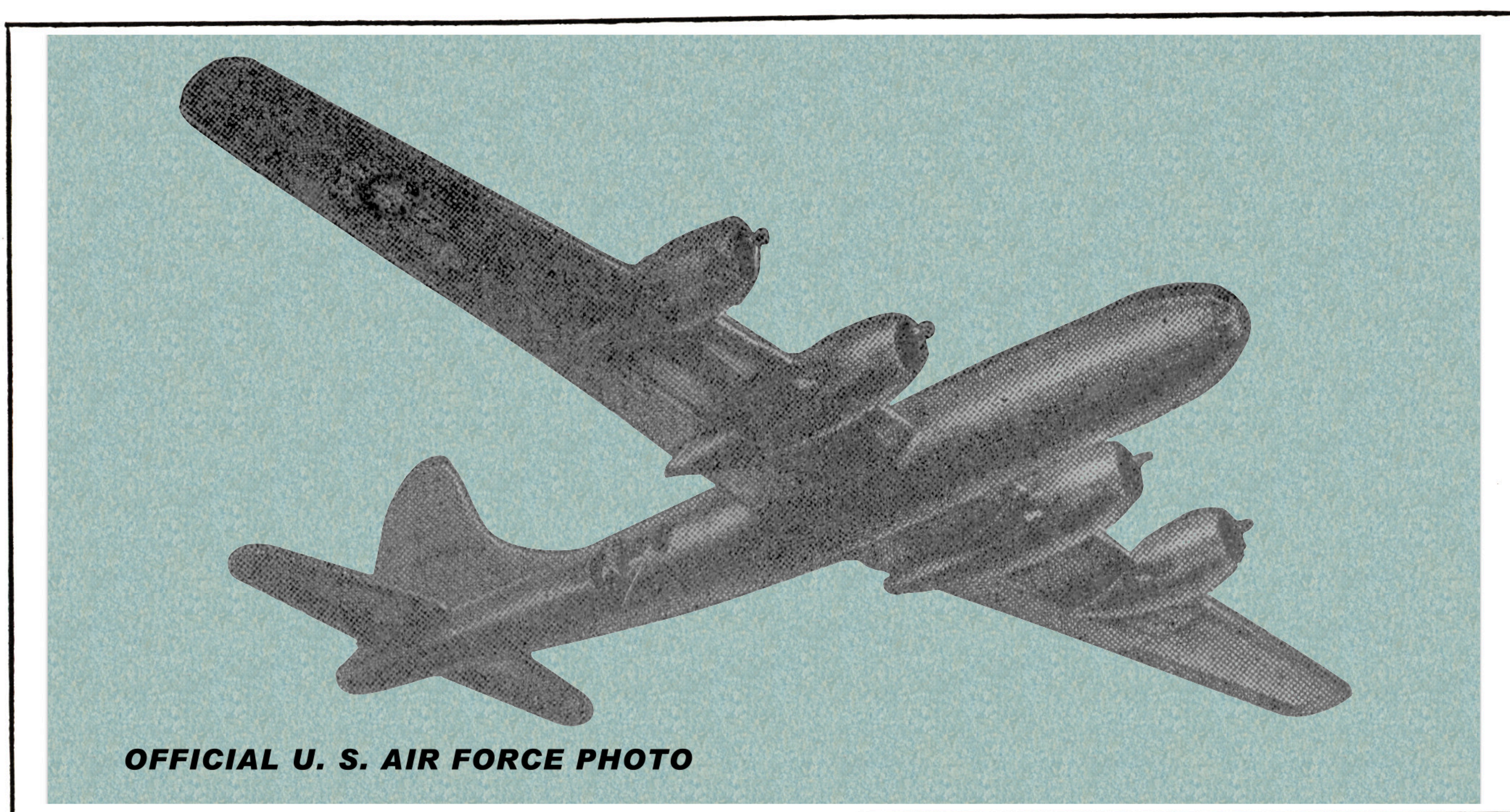
**Power plant:** 2 Pratt and Whitney  
 R-2800 engines  
**Horsepower:** 2,085 each

During World War II, this U.S.A.F. light bomber was known as the famous A-26 Invader. It has since gained additional glory during low-level bombing action in Korea. The Invader carries a three-man crew. It can carry a bomb load of 5,000 lbs. and fourteen 5-inch rockets (HVAR). Depending upon nose configurations, the Invader's armament may include sixteen 50-calibre machine guns or two 37-mm. cannons, or one 75-mm. cannon and two 50-calibre machine guns.





**B-29**



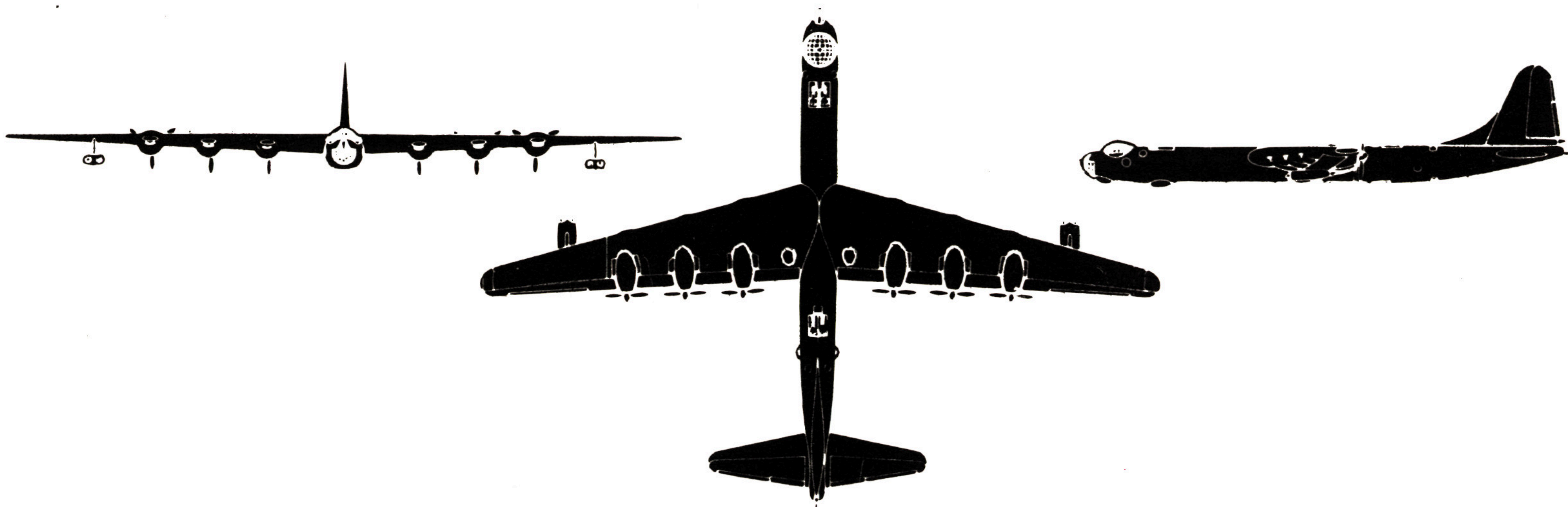
## **“SUPERFORTRESS”**

**Manufacturer:** Boeing  
**Speed:** Over 350 MPH  
**Ceiling:** Over 35,000 ft.  
**Range:** Over 4,600 mi.

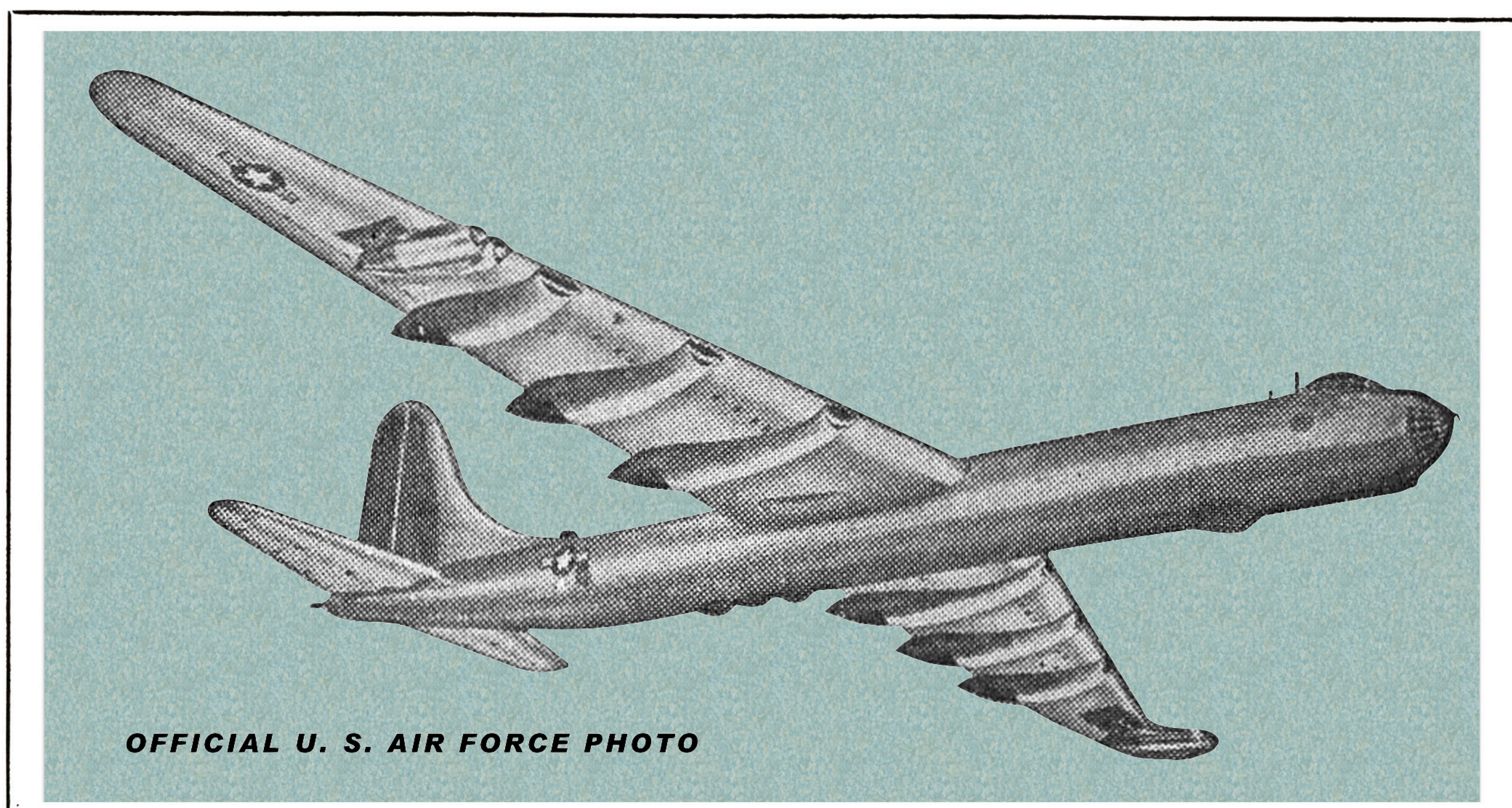
**Power plant:** 4 Wright R-3350 engines, each with 2200 HP; Hamilton Hydromatic propellers  
**Crew:** 11 men

Now classified as a U.S.A.F. strategic medium bomber, the Superfortress was the largest used in World War II, when it was termed a heavy bomber. Its 20,000-lb. bomb load capacity qualifies it to carry an “A” bomb. The B-29 is armed with twelve 50-calibre machine guns in electrically operated, remote-control turrets. Its wingspan is 141 ft., 3 in.; length, 99 ft.





## B-36

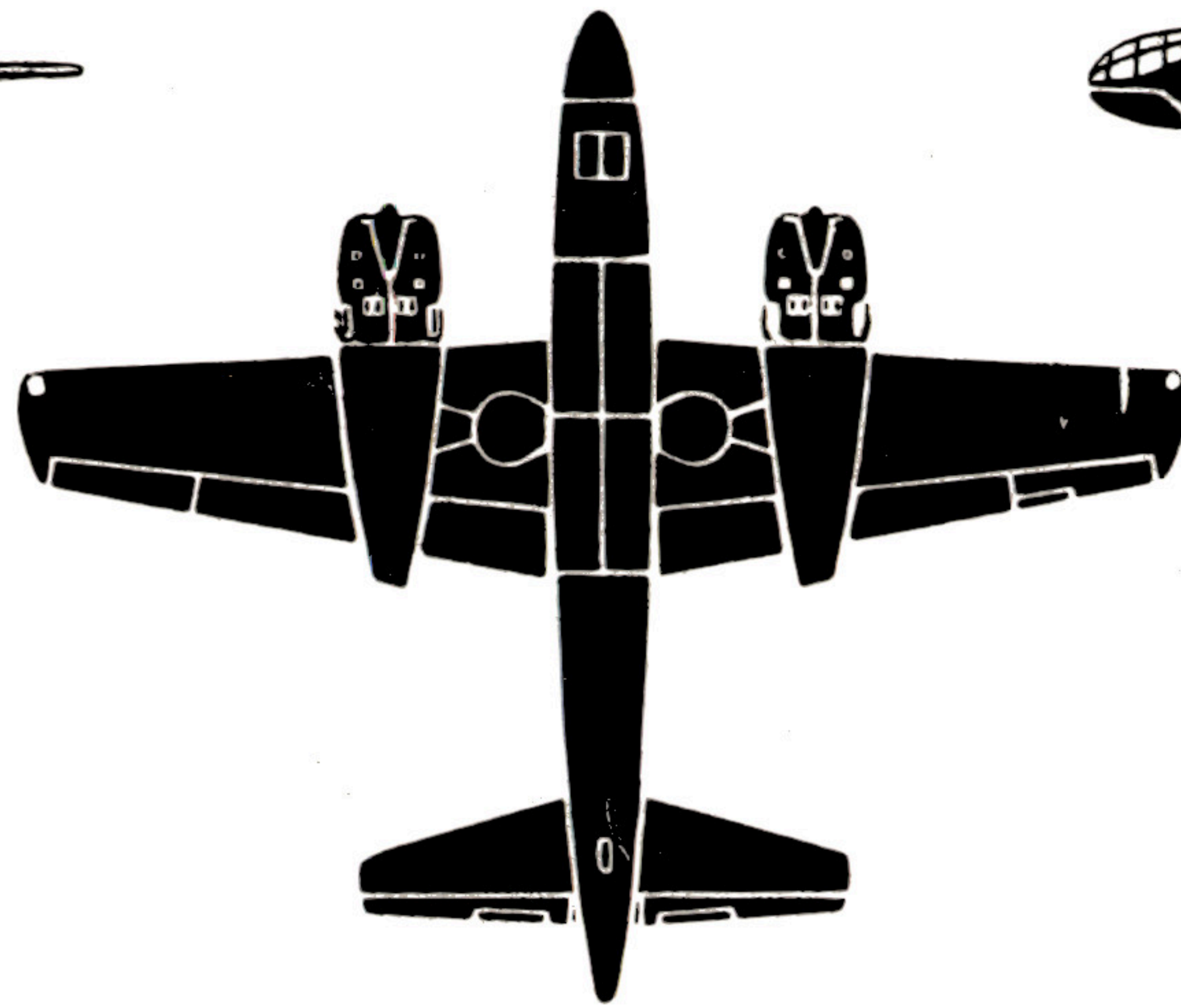


**Manufacturer:** Convair  
**Speed:** Over 435 MPH  
**Ceiling:** Over 45,000 ft.  
**Range:** 10,000 mi.  
**Crew:** 16 men

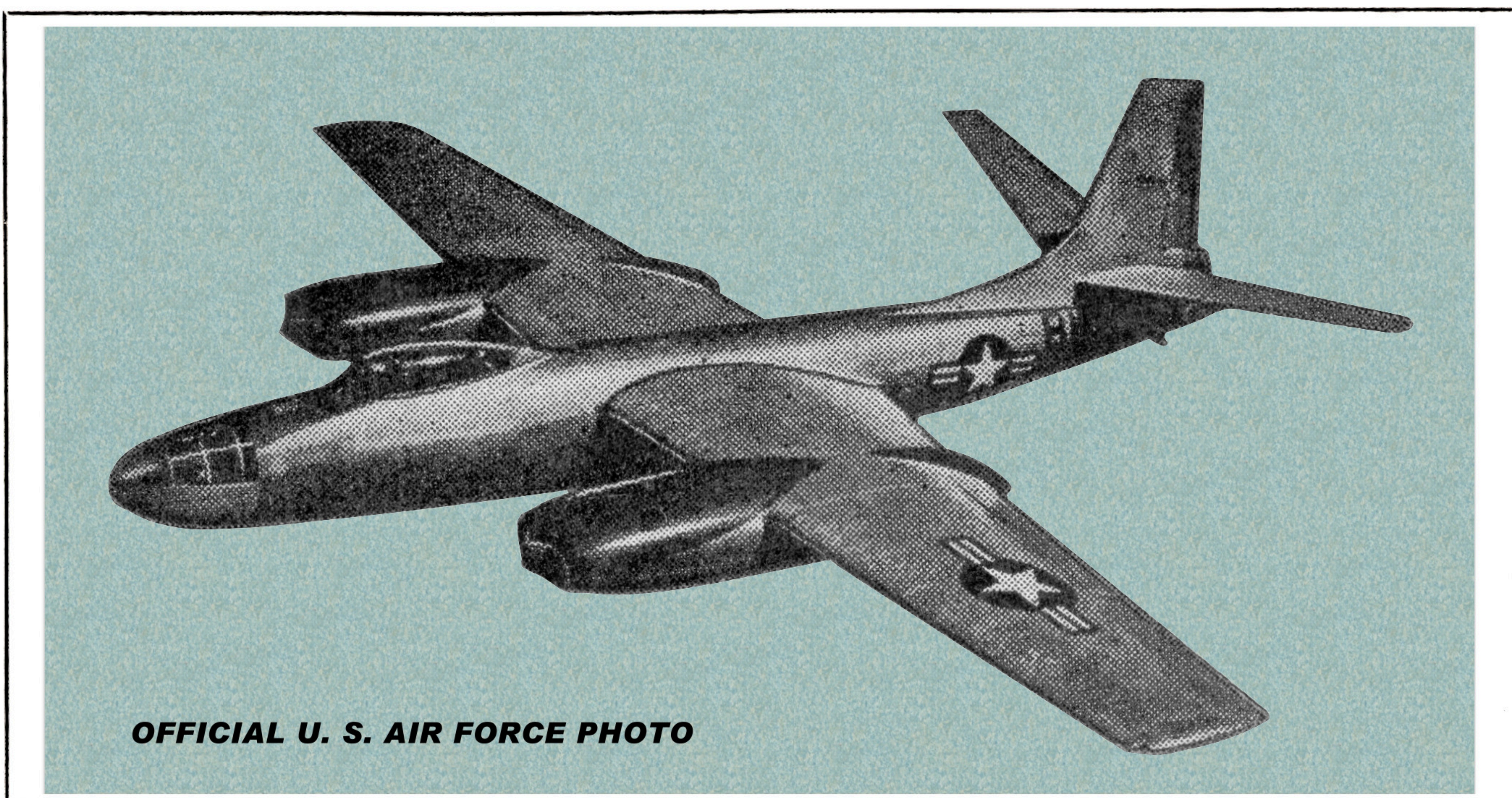
**Power plant:** 6 Pratt and Whitney R-4360 engines of 3500 HP each, plus 4 General Electric J47 turbo jet engines mounted in pairs under each wing.  
**Thrust rating (J47's):** 5,200 lbs. each

The world's largest and heaviest bomber, this pride of the U.S.A.F. carries a maximum bomb load of 84,000 lbs. and is capable of delivering an "A" bomb. The B-36D is known as an "inter-continental" bomber by virtue of its great range. Its wingspan is 230 ft.; length, 162 ft., 6 in. The 3-bladed General Electric pusher-type propellers have a reversible pitch.





## **B-45**



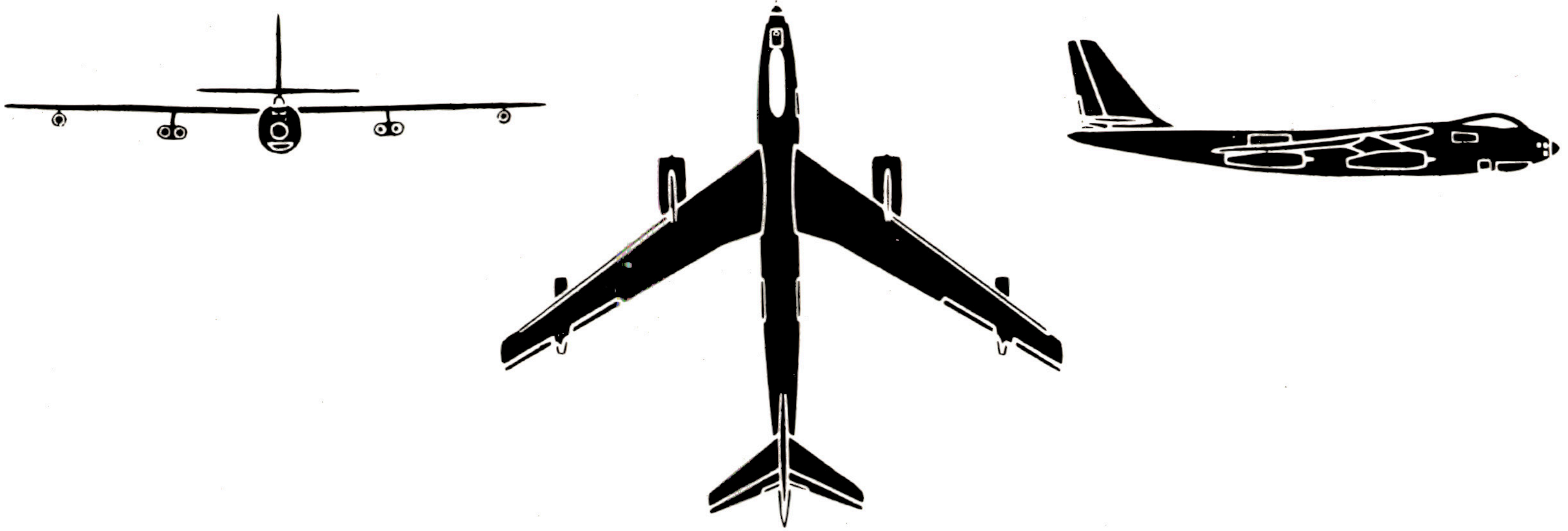
## **“TORNADO”**

**Manufacturer:** North American  
**Speed:** 550 MPH class  
**Ceiling:** Over 40,000 ft.  
**Combat radius:** 800 mi.

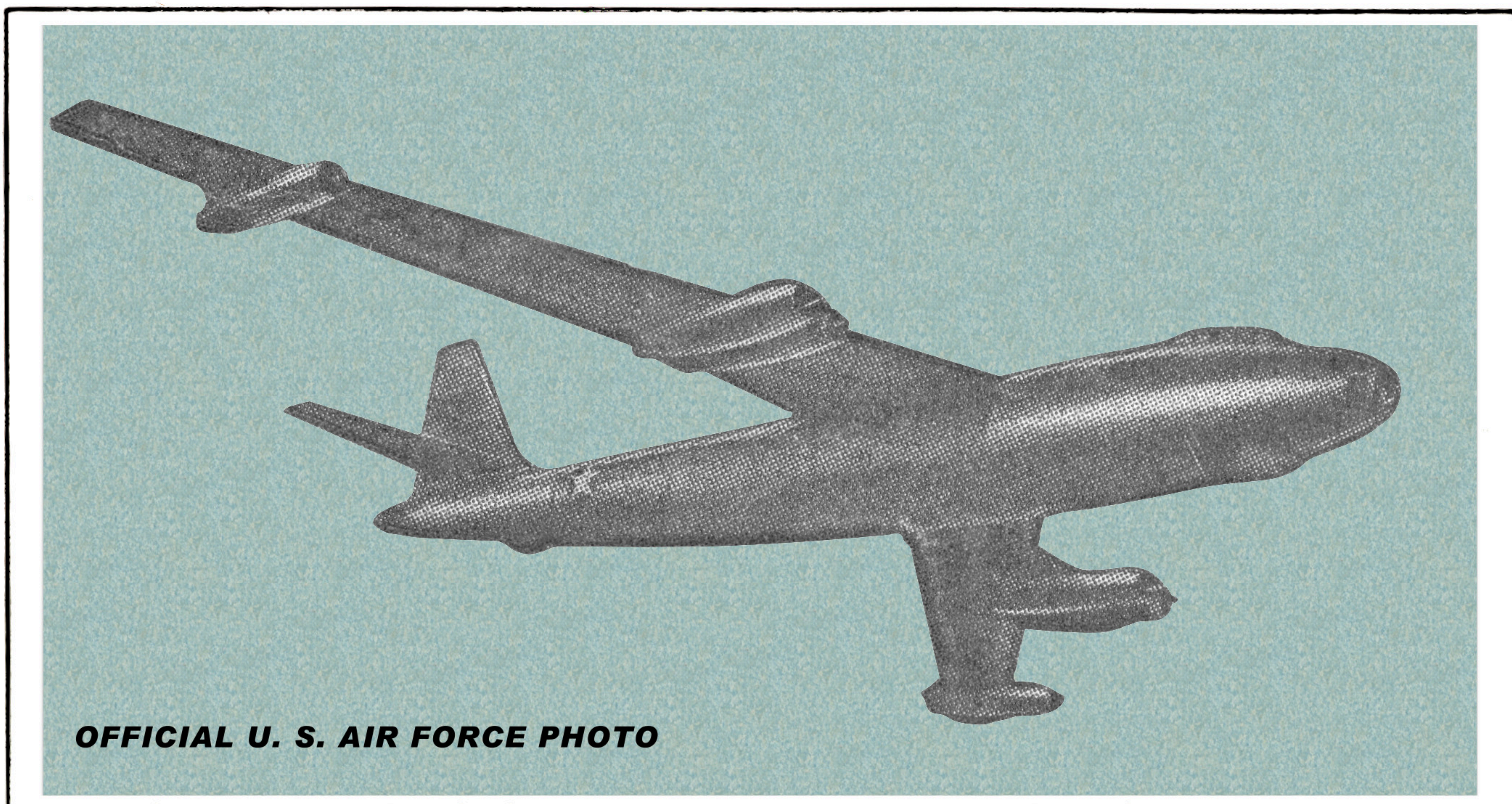
**Power plant:** 4 General Electric  
 J47 turbo jet engines  
**Thrust rating:** 5,200 lbs. each

Capable of carrying a bomb load weighing more than 10 tons, the Tornado is the U.S.A.F.'s first operational all-jet bomber. It is manned by a crew of four. The B-45 is extremely fast for its size — wingspan, 89 ft.; length, 75 ft. The range of the B-45C has been extended by the addition of wing tanks. The RB-45 is the reconnaissance version of this model.





**B-47**



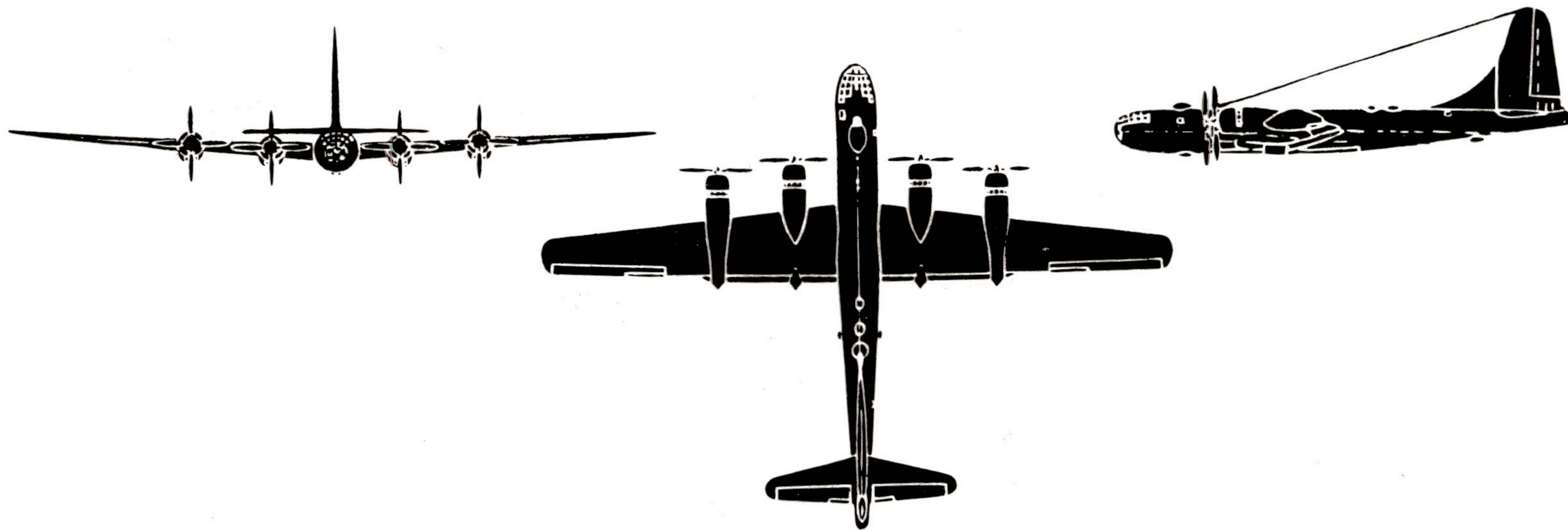
## **“STRATOJET”**

**Manufacturer:** Boeing  
**Speed:** 600 MPH class  
**Ceiling:** Over 40,000 ft.  
**Combat radius:** 1,000 mi.

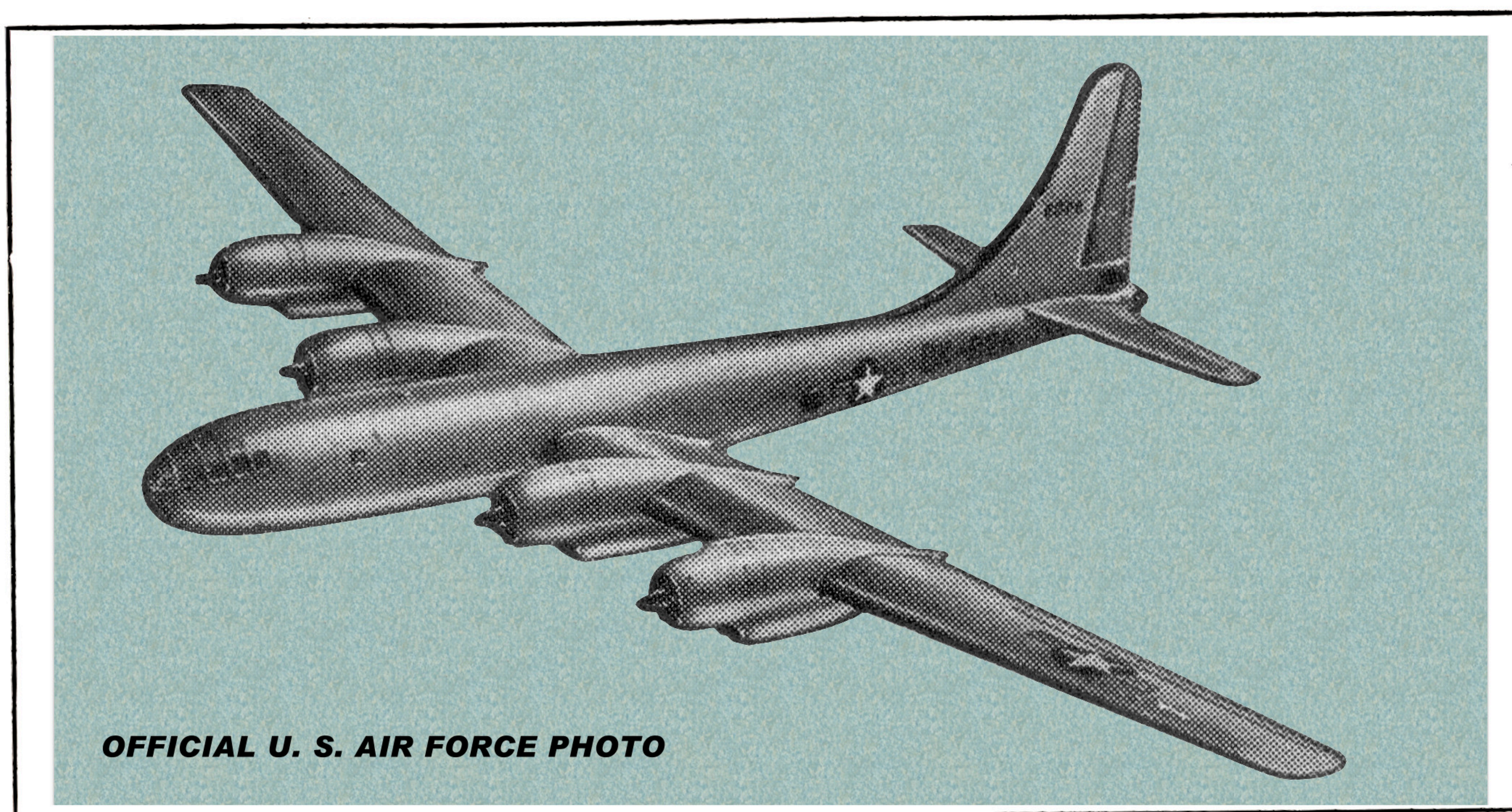
**Power plant:** 6 General Electric  
 J47 turbo jet engines  
**Thrust rating:** 5,200 lbs. each  
**Crew:** 3 men

World's fastest known bomber, the U.S.A.F.'s Stratojet carries a 20,000-lb. bomb load. In 1949, an earlier model flew from Moses Lake, Wash., to Andrews AF base, Maryland, in 3 hours, 46 minutes — averaging 607.8 MPH. The B-47's swept-back wings span about 116 ft. The plane is approximately 108 ft. long.





## **B-50**



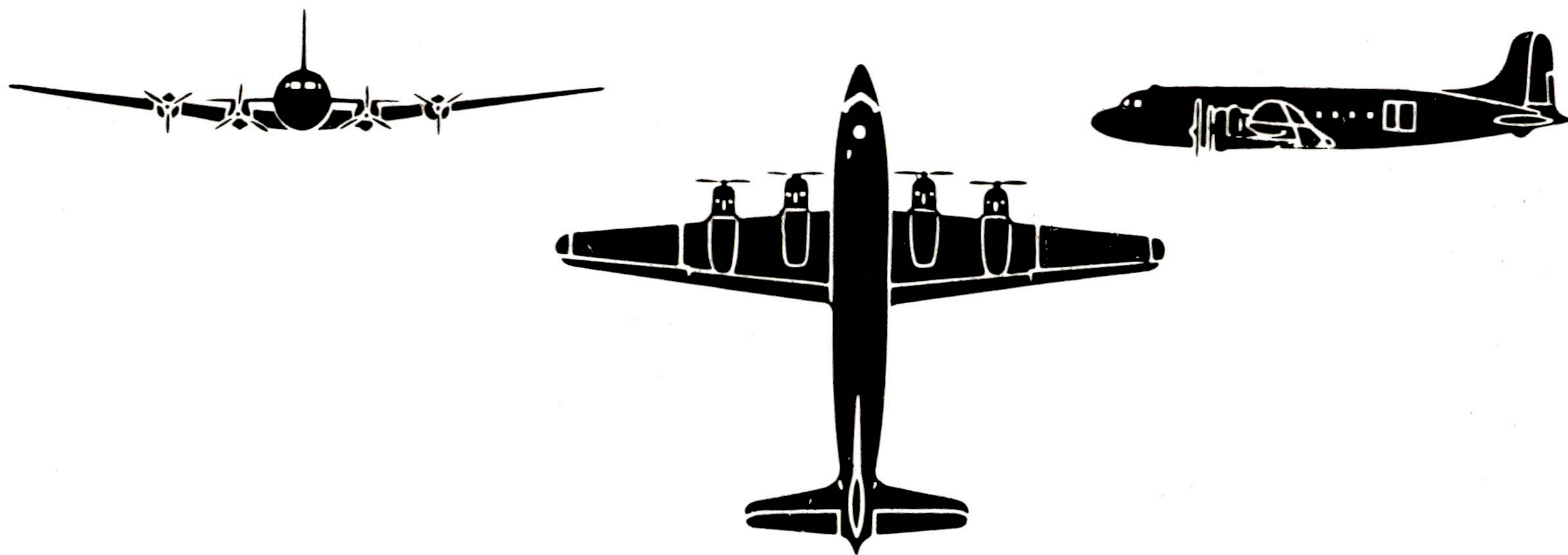
## **“SUPERFORTRESS”**

**Manufacturer:** Boeing  
**Speed:** Over 400 MPH  
**Ceiling:** Over 40,000 ft.  
**Combat radius:** 2,300 mi.

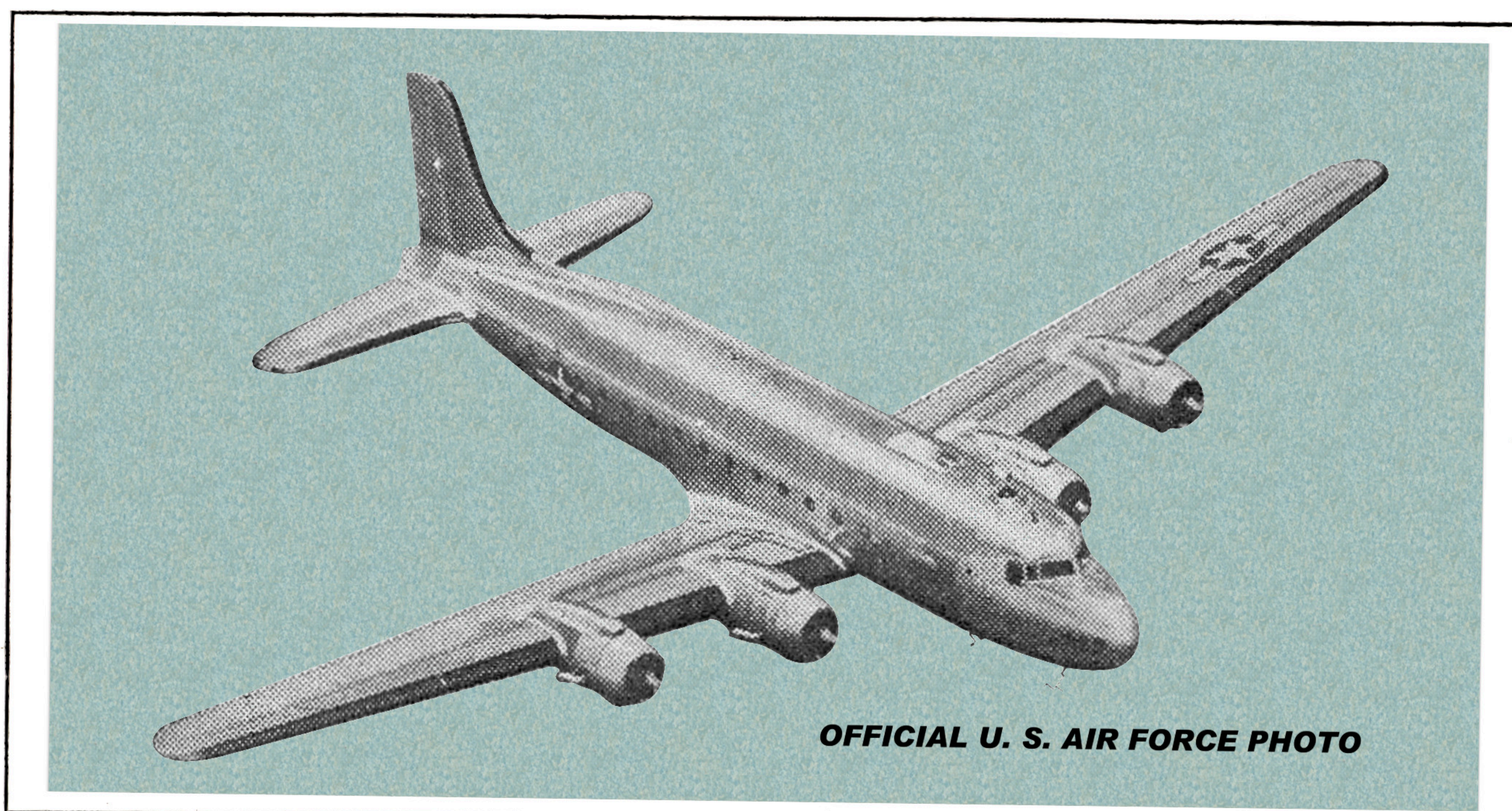
**Power plant:** 4 Pratt and Whitney  
 R-4360 Wasp Majors  
**Horsepower:** 3,500 each  
**Crew:** 11 men

A further development of World War II's B-29, the U.S.A.F. Superfortress can carry a 28,000-lb. bomb load. The B-50's 2 external 700-gallon fuel tanks increase its range to about 6,000 miles. Refueling can be accomplished in mid-air with an air-tanker. The Superfortress' wingspan is 141 ft., 3 in.; its length, 99 ft. It is heavily armed with electrically-operated gun turrets.





**C-54**



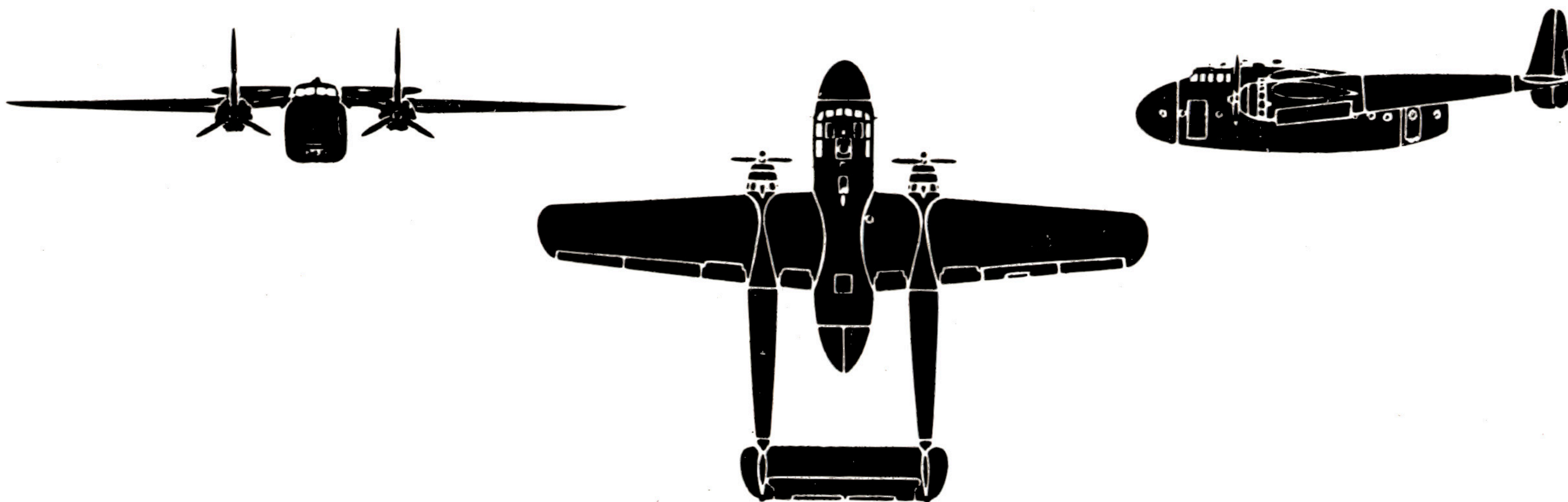
## **“SKYMASTER”**

**Manufacturer:** Douglas  
**Speed:** About 300 MPH  
**Ceiling:** Over 30,000 ft.  
**Range:** 2,300 mi.

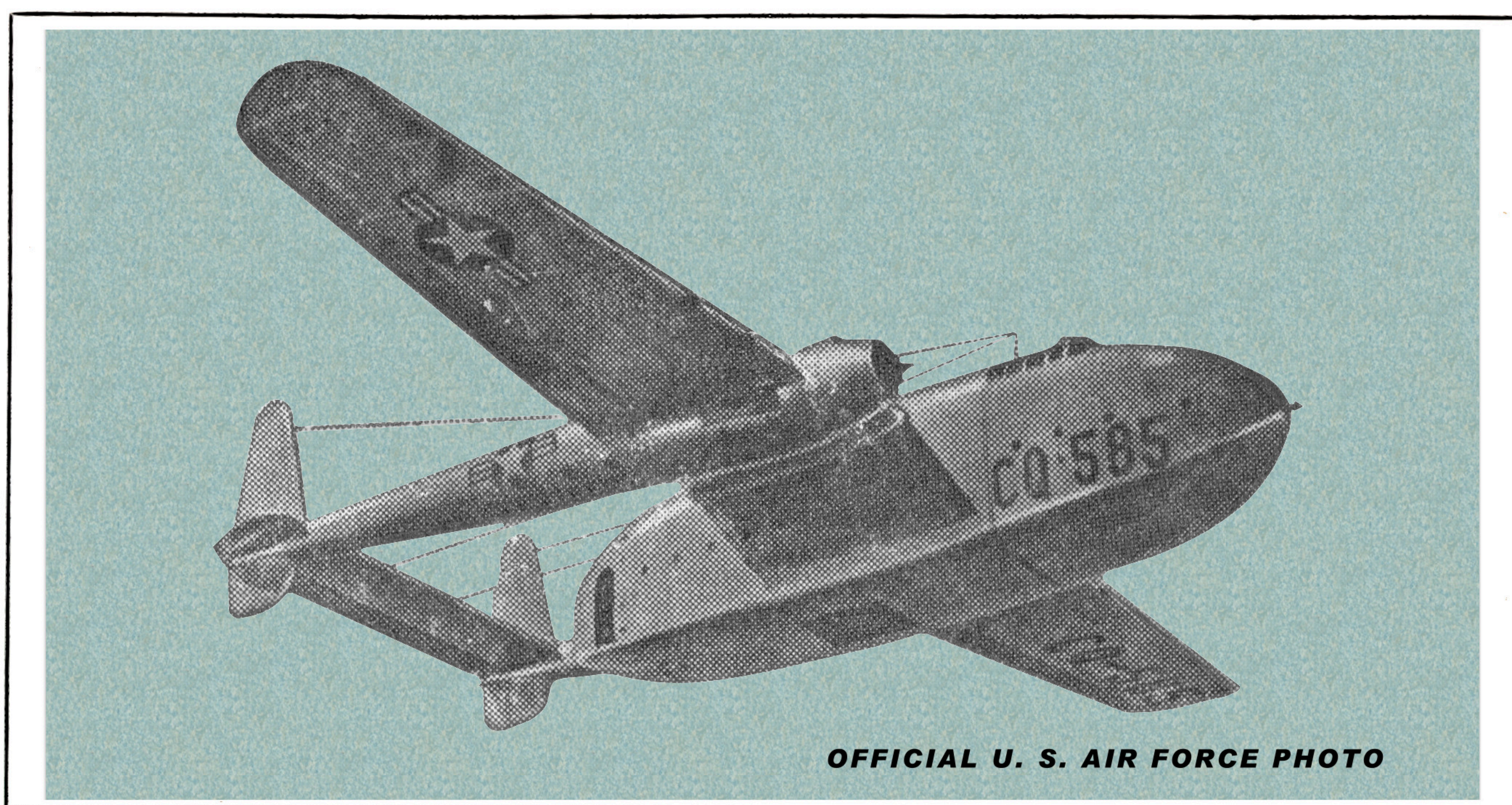
**Power plant:** 4 Pratt and Whitney  
 R-2000 engines  
**Horsepower:** 1,450 each  
**Crew:** 3 men

A military version of the well-known DC-4, the Skymaster has a capacity of 49 troops or 31,700 lbs. of cargo. It serves as a cargo transport, troop transport or air evacuation transport. The Skymaster has a distinguished record of service in the Berlin airlift and U. N. Korean warfare. Its wingspan is 117 ft., 6 in.; length, 93 ft., 5 in.





**C-82**



OFFICIAL U. S. AIR FORCE PHOTO

## **“PACKET”**

**Manufacturer:** Fairchild

**Speed:** 250 MPH

**Ceiling:** 30,000 ft.

**Range:** 2,400 mi.

**Power plant:** 2 Pratt and Whitney

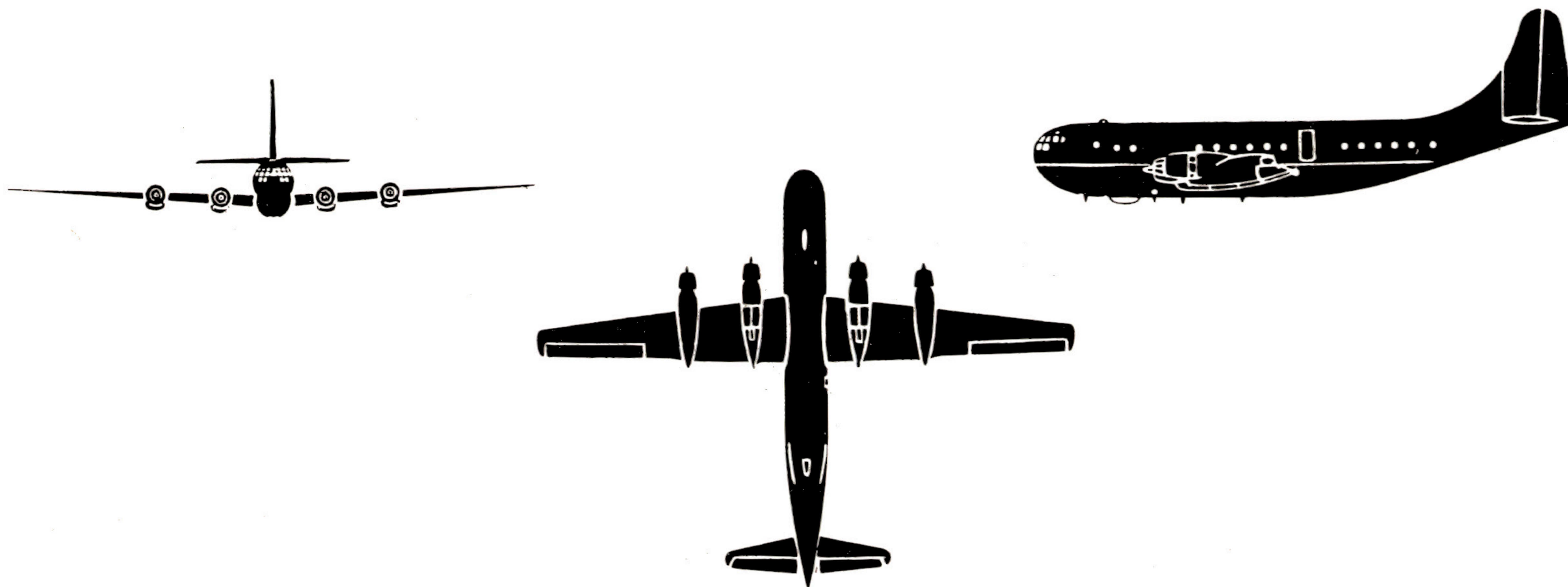
R-2800 engines

**Horsepower:** 2,000 each

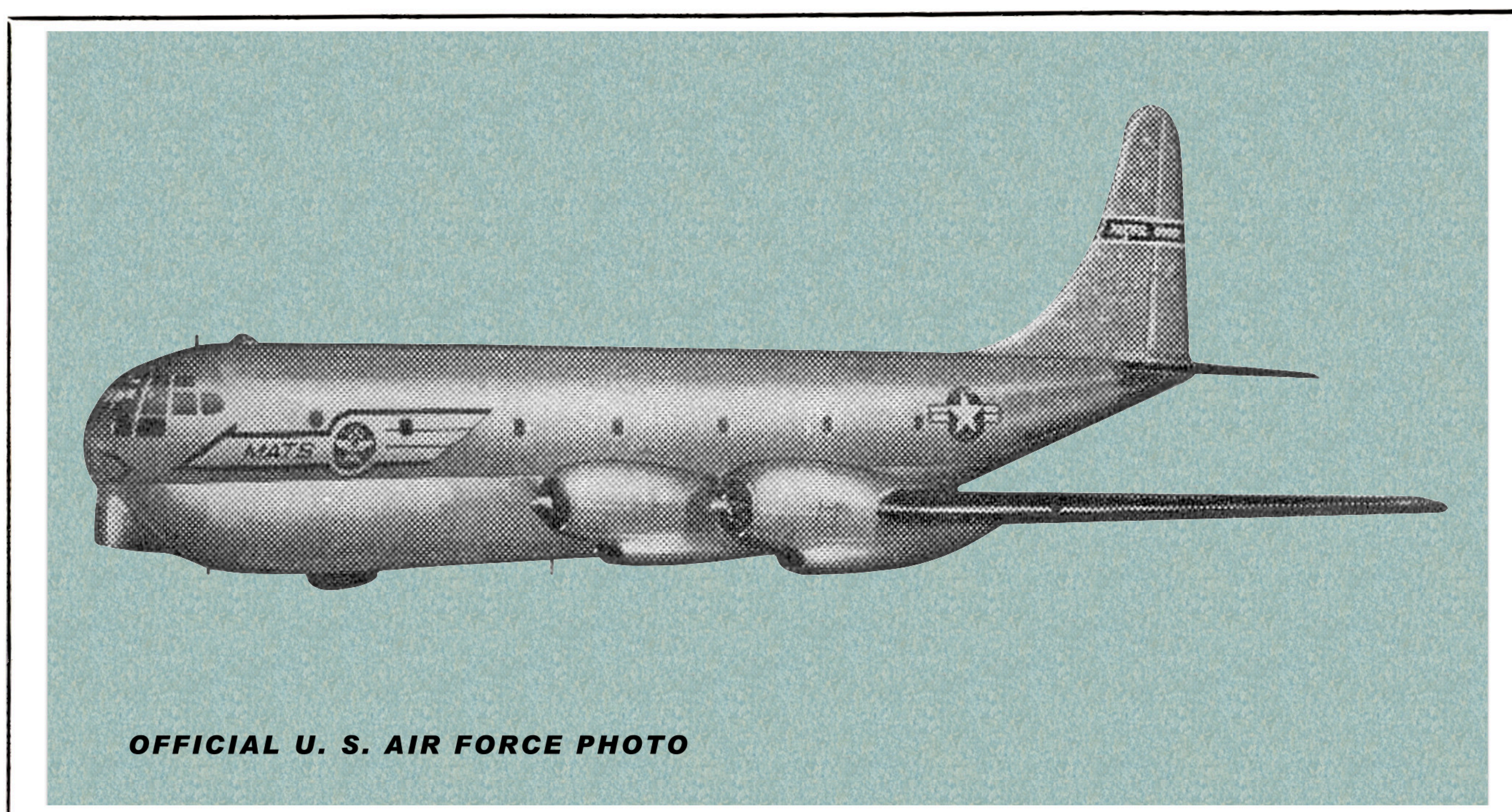
**Crew:** 3 men

With a capacity of 42 paratroopers and their equipment, the Packet has proved extremely valuable for paratroop operations and cargo drops in U. N. Korean service. This U.S.A.F. air transport has a wingspan of 106 ft., 5 in.; length, 77 ft., 1 in.





## C-97



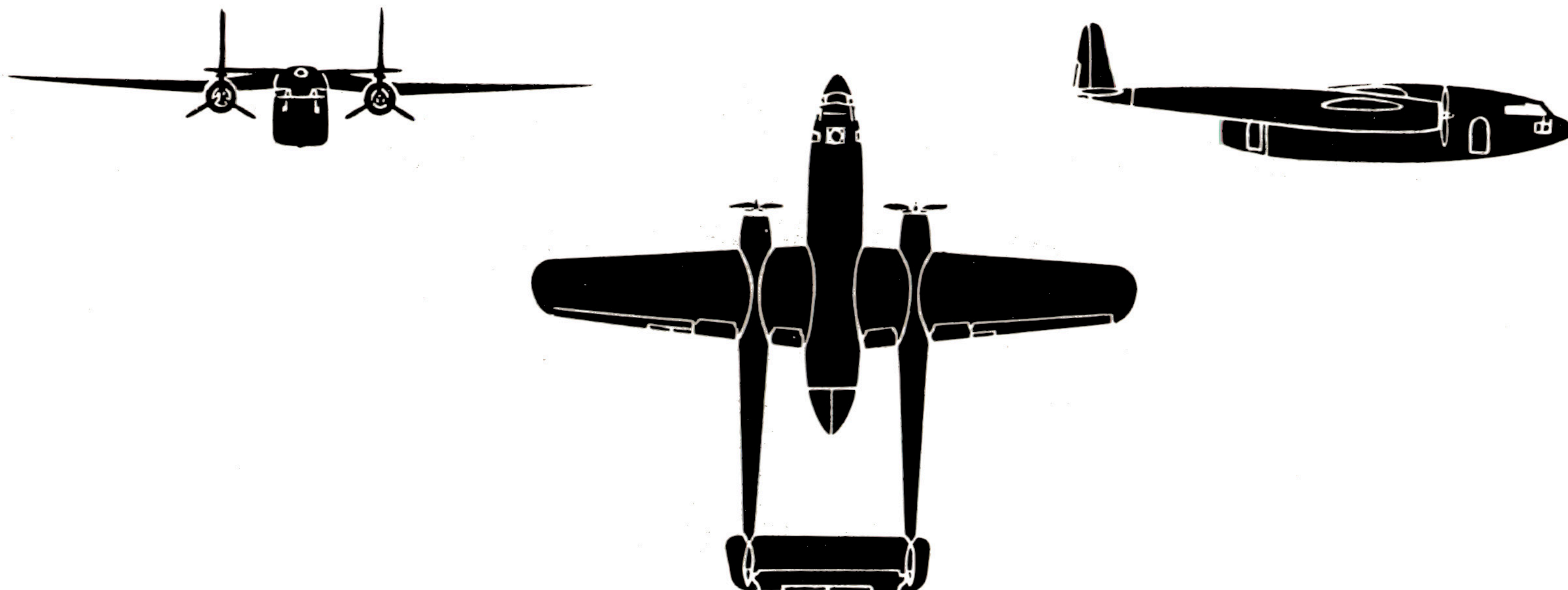
## “STRATOFREIGHTER”

**Manufacturer:** Boeing  
**Speed:** Over 375 MPH  
**Ceiling:** Over 35,000 ft.  
**Range:** 4,000 mi. maximum  
**Combat radius:** Over 1,100 mi.

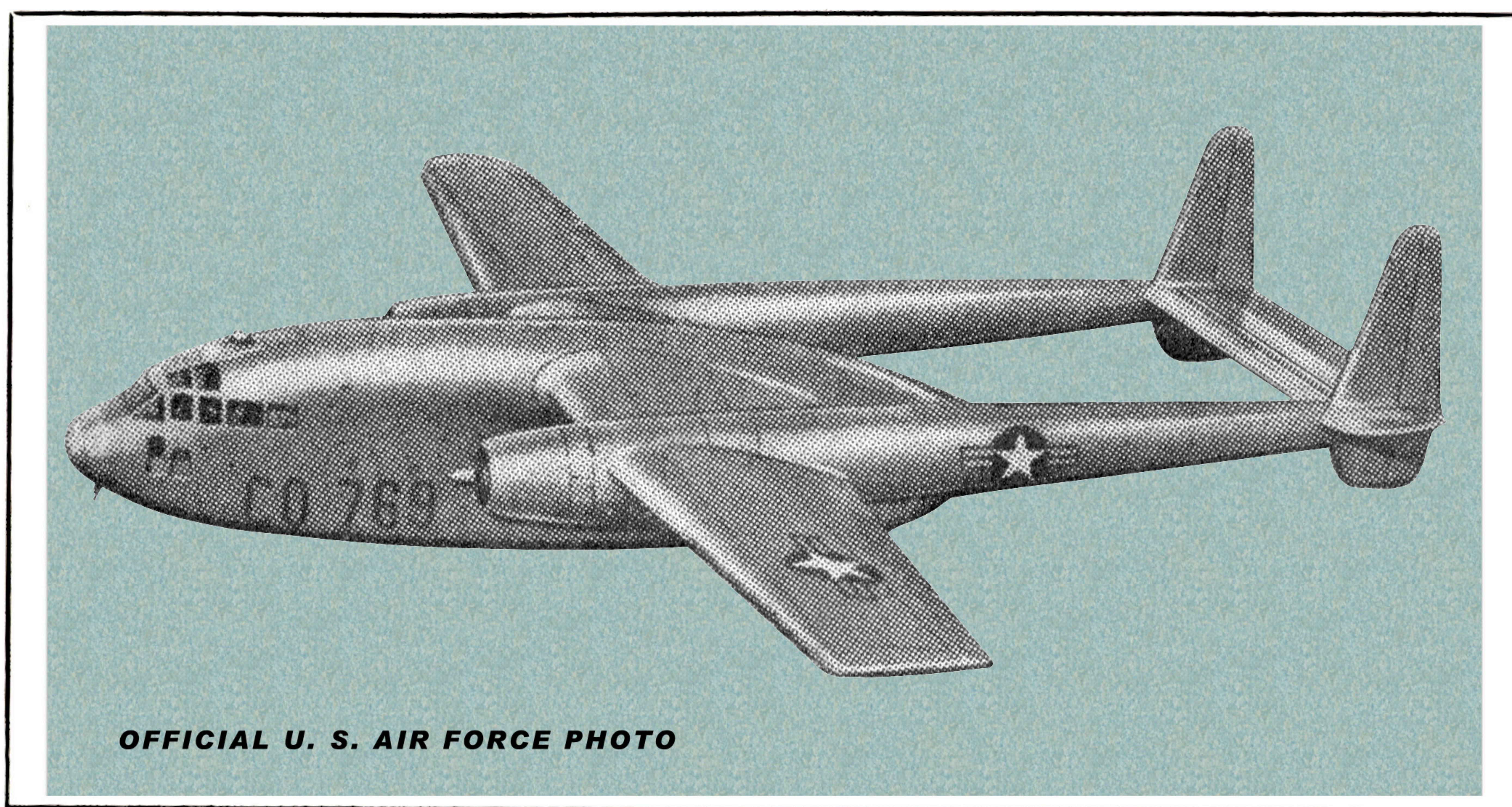
**Power plant:** 4 Pratt and Whitney  
 R-4360 engines with Hamilton  
 reversible propellers  
**Horsepower:** 3,500 each  
**Crew:** 5 men

This double-deck U.S.A.F. air transport carries tremendous loads — up to 68,000 lbs. of cargo or 134 fully-equipped troops. High altitude flying is made possible by its pressurized cabin. Vehicles enter and leave the plane through large doors under the tail. The C-97 is equipped with radar. Its wingspan is 141 ft., 4 in.; length, 110 ft., 4 in.





**C-119**



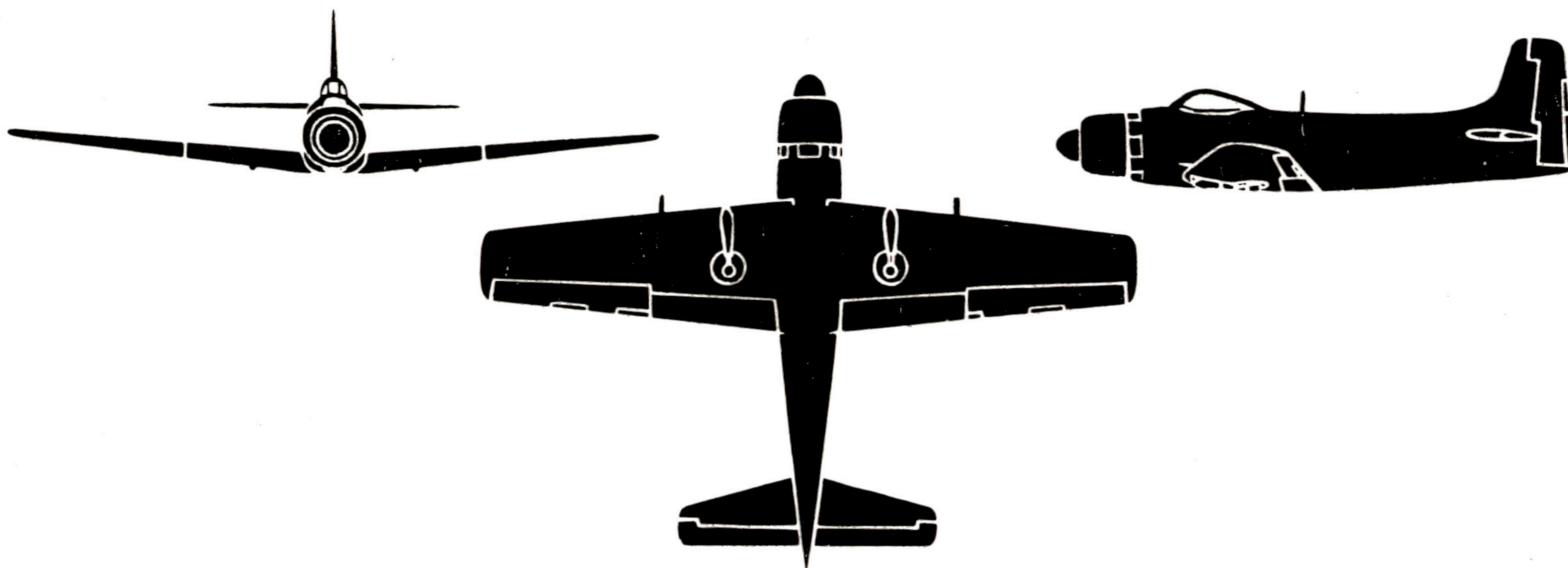
## **“PACKET”**

**Manufacturer:** Fairchild  
**Speed:** Over 250 MPH  
**Ceiling:** About 25,000 ft.  
**Range:** About 2,000 mi.  
**Combat radius:** 1,100 mi.

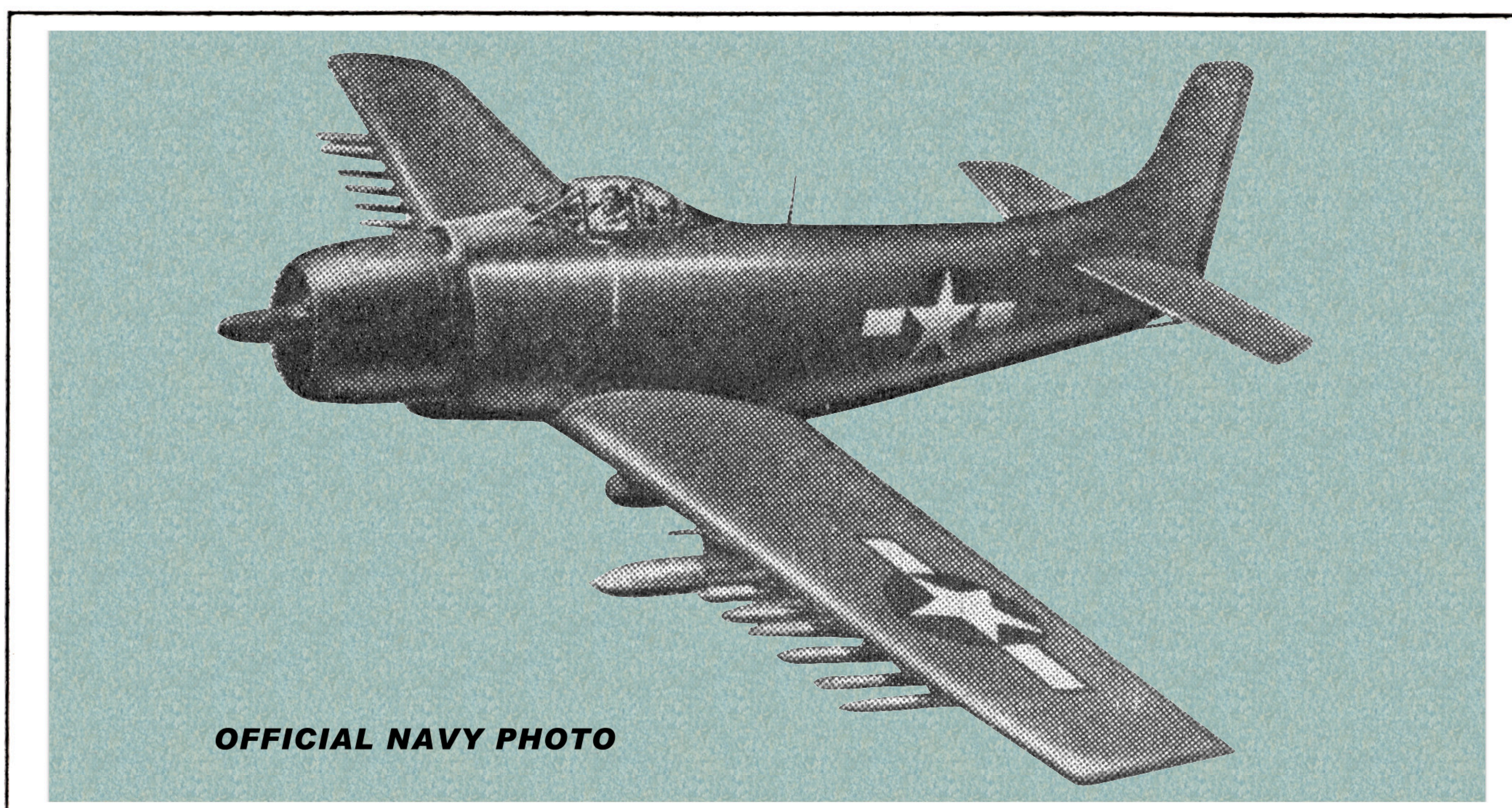
**Power plant:** 2 Pratt and Whitney  
 R-4360 engines with Hamilton  
 propellers  
**Crew:** 5 men

The C-119 is an improved version of the famous C-82 Packet, with greater power and capacity. This U.S.A.F. air transport carries up to 30,000 lbs. of cargo. It will accommodate 64 fully-equipped paratroopers. Large vehicles or other equipment can parachute safely to the ground from the C-119's rear door in the fuselage. Wingspan is 109 ft., 4 in.; length, 85 ft., 9 in.





**AD**



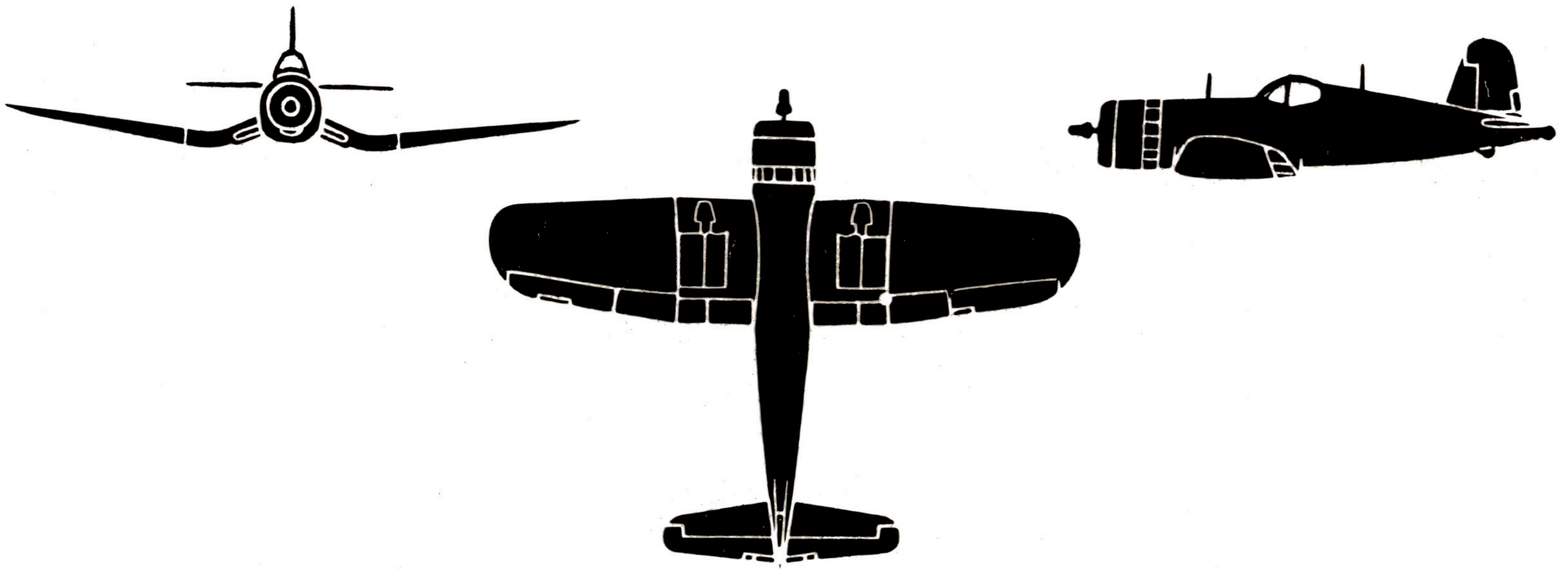
## **“SKYRAIDER”**

**Manufacturer:** Douglas  
**Speed:** Over 350MPH (nautical)  
**Ceiling:** Over 30,000 ft.  
**Range:** Over 1,000 mi.

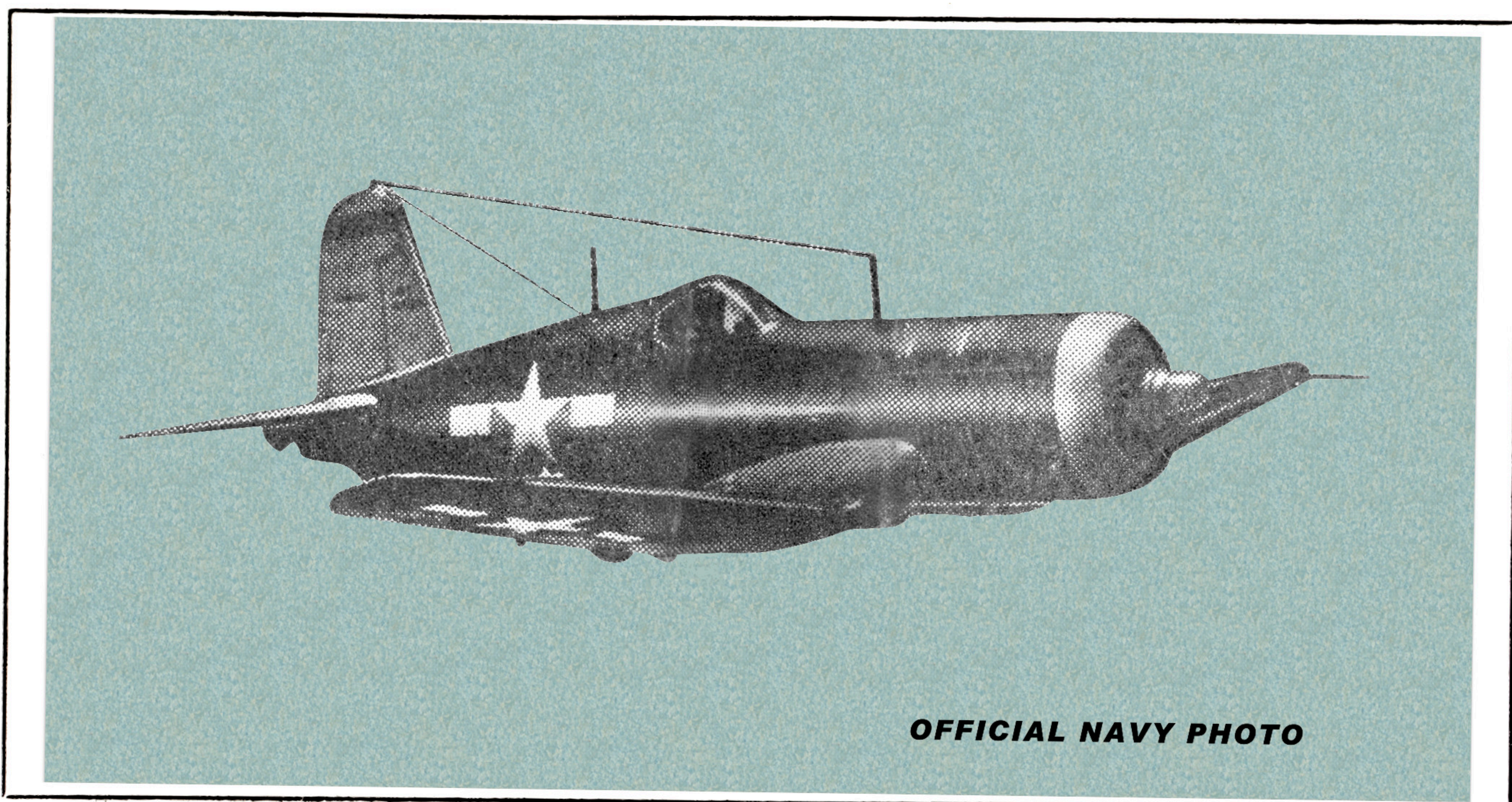
**Power plant:** 1 Wright R-3350  
 engine  
**Horsepower:** 2,500 maximum

The Skyraider is a standard U. S. Navy carrier-based attack bomber with a crew of 1 or 2 men. It is propeller-driven. Armament includes bombs, rockets and two 20-mm. cannons. The Skyraider's wings span 50 ft. and the plane is 38 ft., 4 in. long.





**F4U**



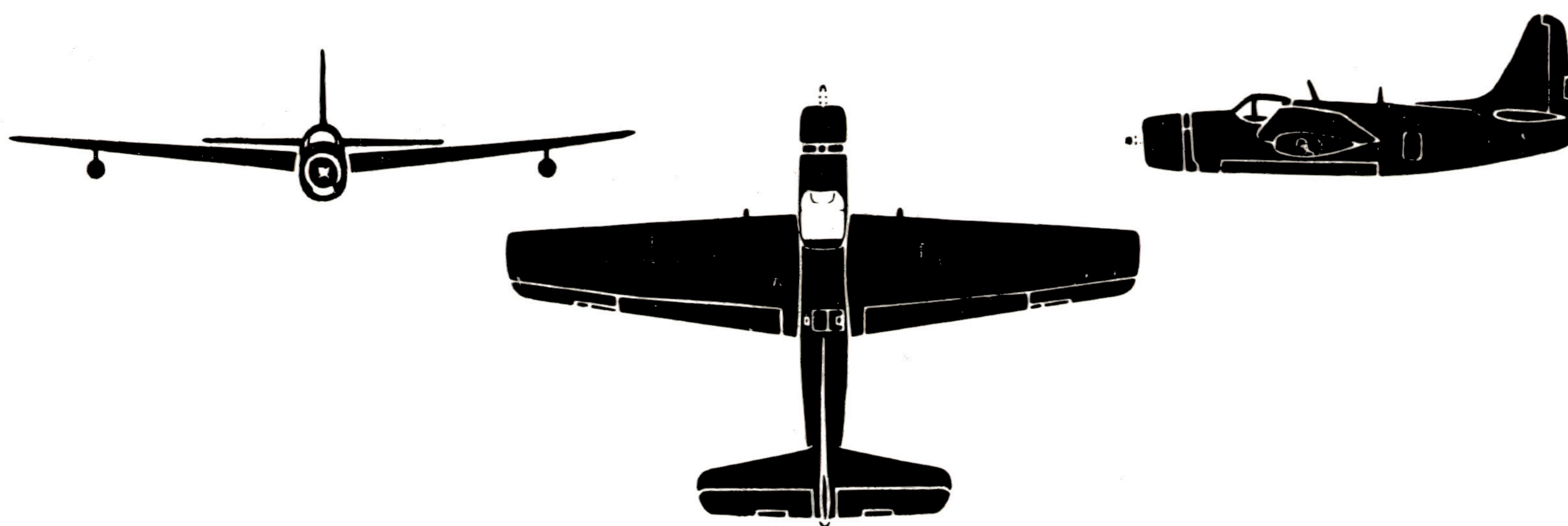
## **"CORSAIR"**

**Manufacturer:** Chance Vought  
**Speed:** Over 400 MPH (nautical)  
**Ceiling:** Over 40,000 ft.  
**Range:** 1,500 mi.

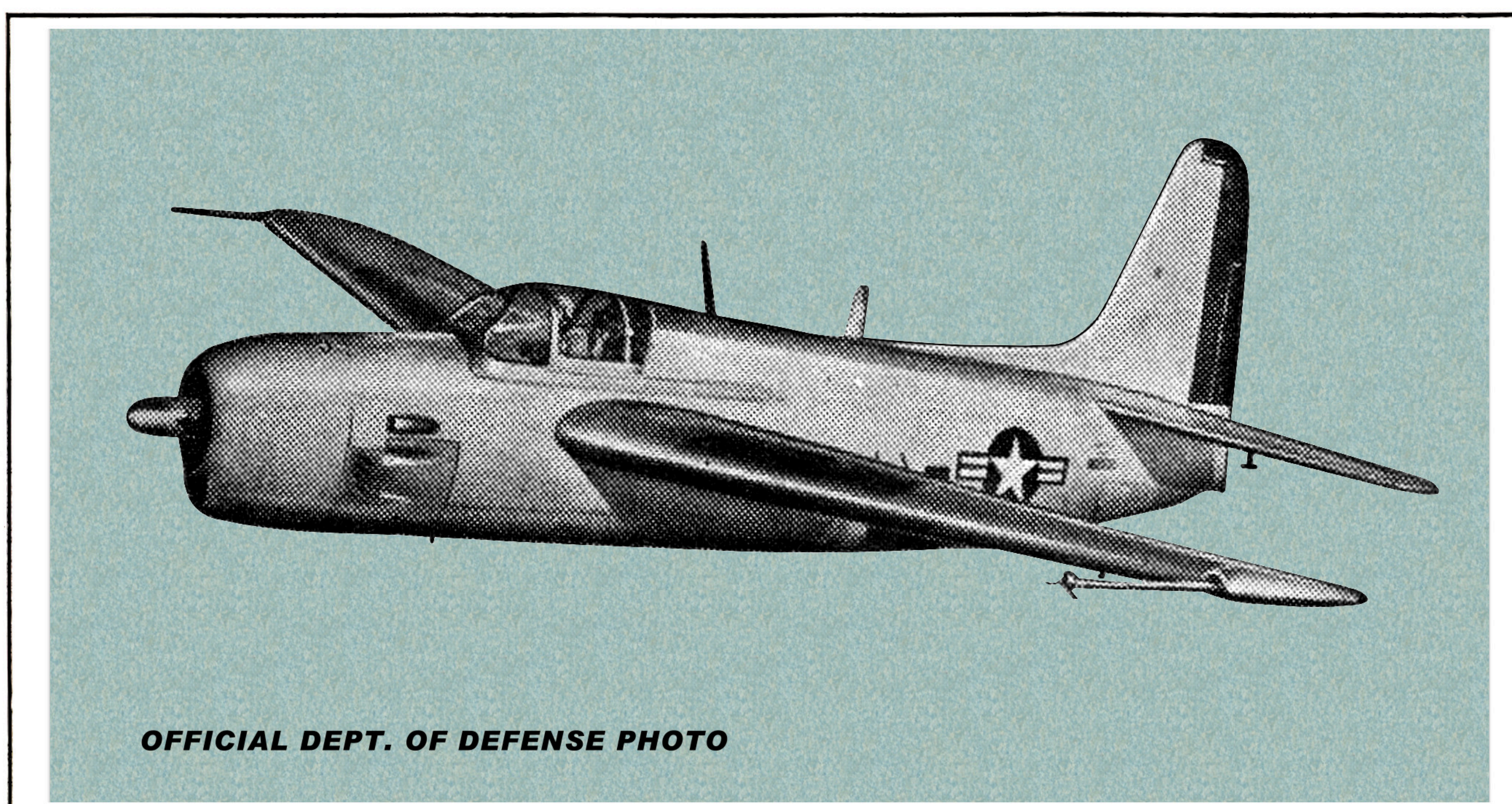
**Power plant:** 1 Pratt and Whitney  
 R-2800 engine  
**Horsepower:** 2,500 maximum

The Corsair distinguished itself in the Pacific during World War II. This propeller-driven U. S. Navy fighter is operated by one man. It is carrier-based. Fast and highly maneuverable, the F4U is armed with four 20-mm. cannons. Wingspan is 41 ft.; length, 34 ft., 6 in.





**AF**



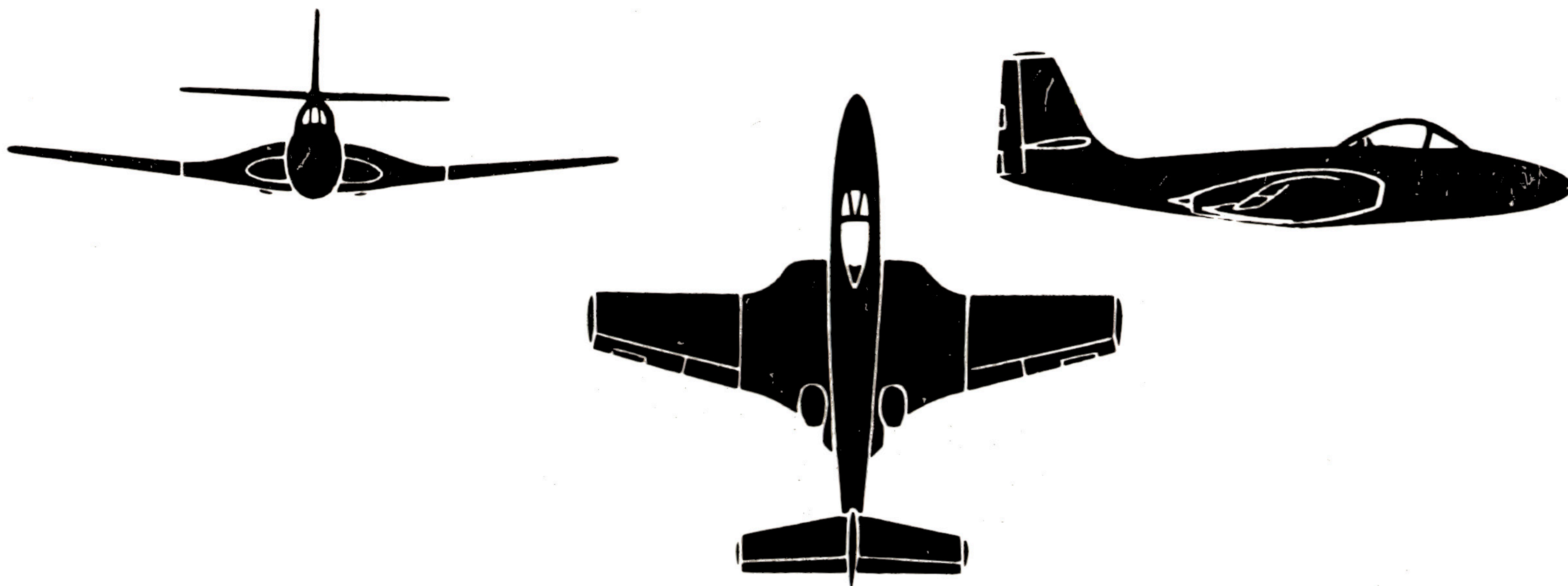
## **“GUARDIAN”**

**Manufacturer:** Grumman  
**Speed:** Over 250 MPH (nautical)  
**Ceiling:** About 20,000 ft.  
**Range:** About 1,000 mi.

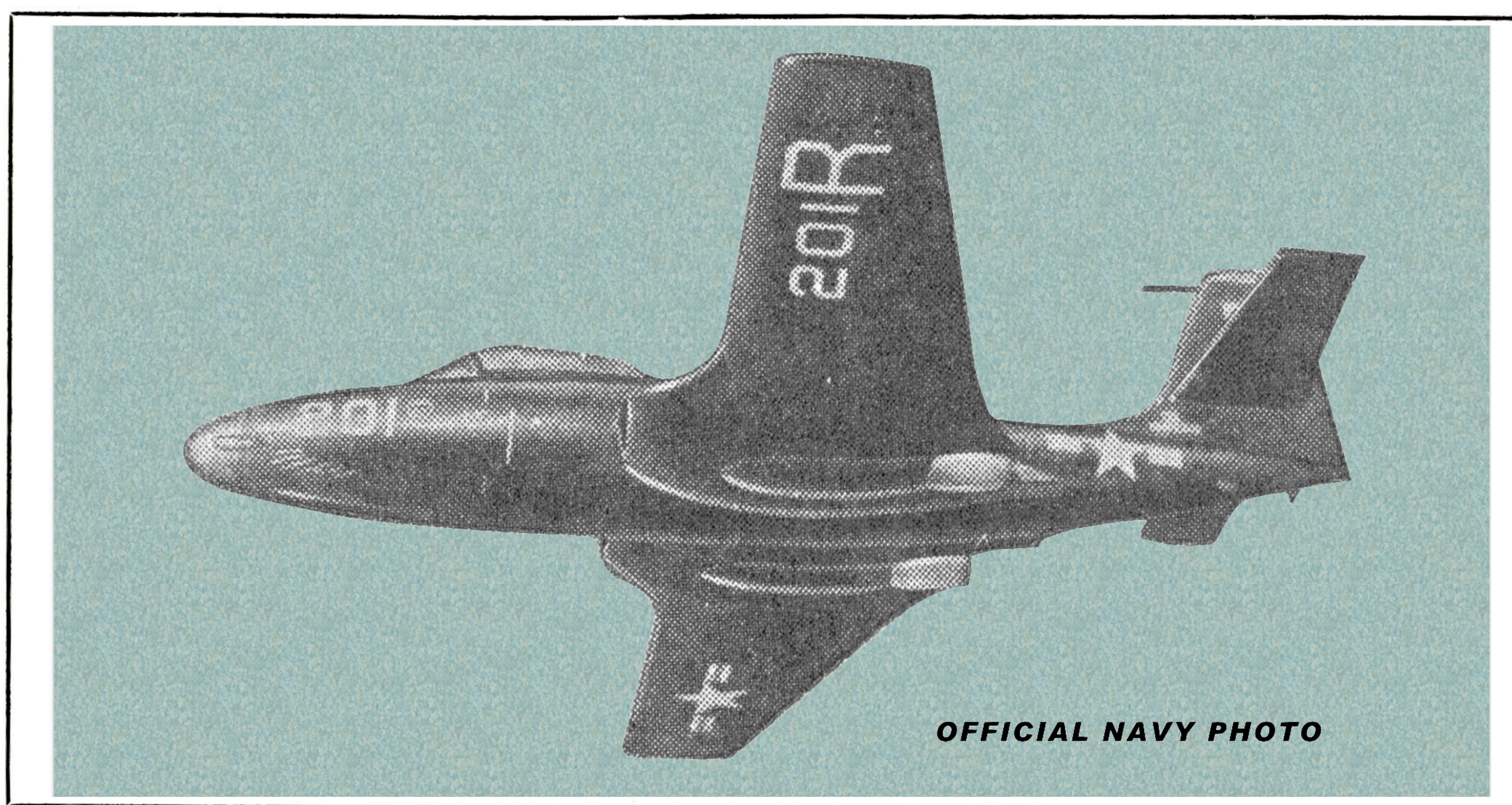
**Power plant:** 1 Pratt and Whitney  
 R-2800 engine  
**Horsepower:** 2,400 maximum

Believed to be one of the world's largest single-engine aircraft, this attack bomber is used by the U.S. Navy's Air Anti-submarine squadrons. The AF-2S usually is accompanied by its sister ship, the AF-2W, which searches out hostile submarines with its radar. The AF-2S and AF-2W are known as the "Hunter Killer" Twins.





## **F2H**



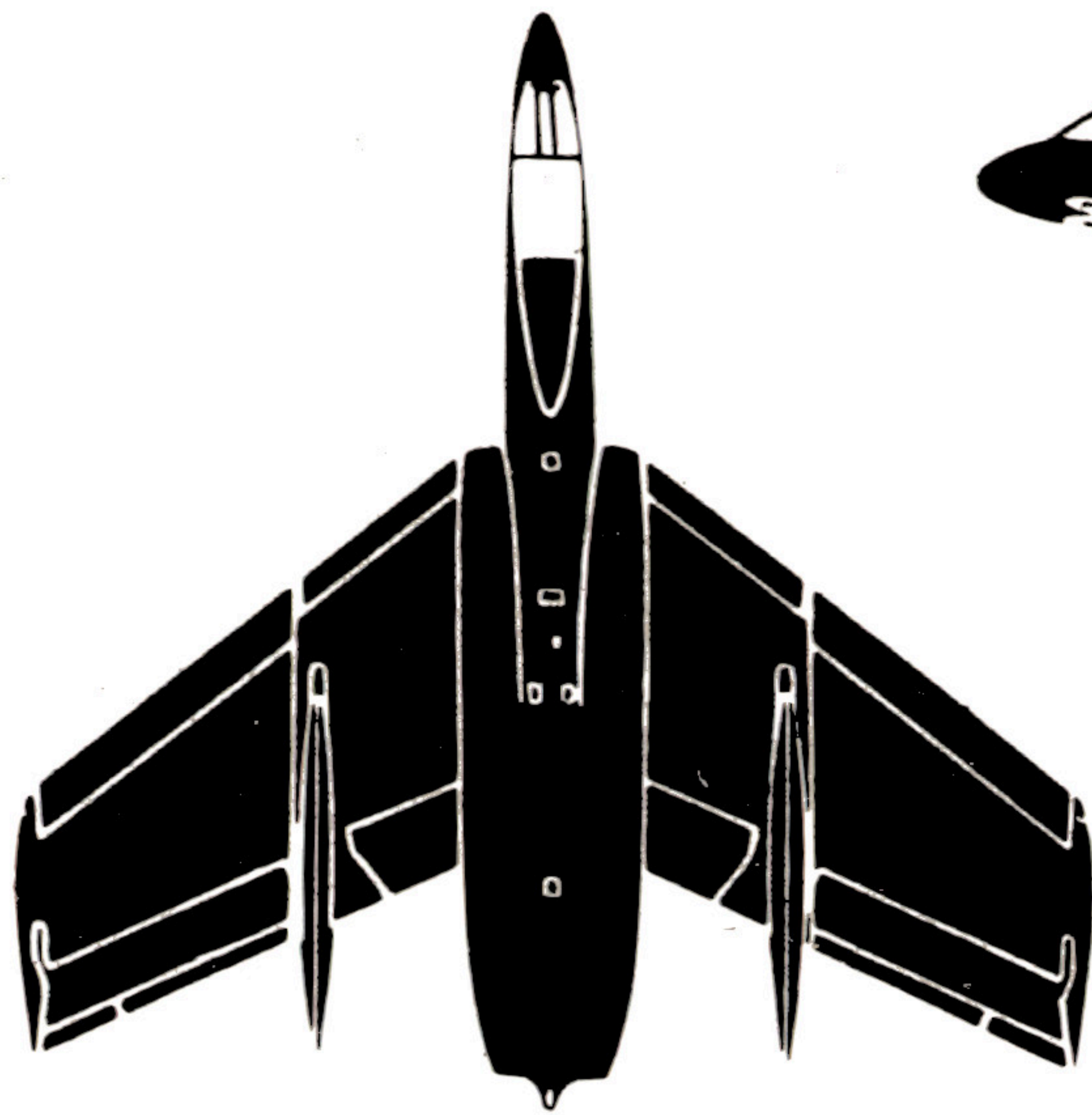
## **“BANSHEE”**

**Manufacturer:** McDonnell  
**Speed:** About 500 MPH (nautical)  
**Ceiling:** Over 45,000 ft.  
**Range:** Over 1,200 mi.

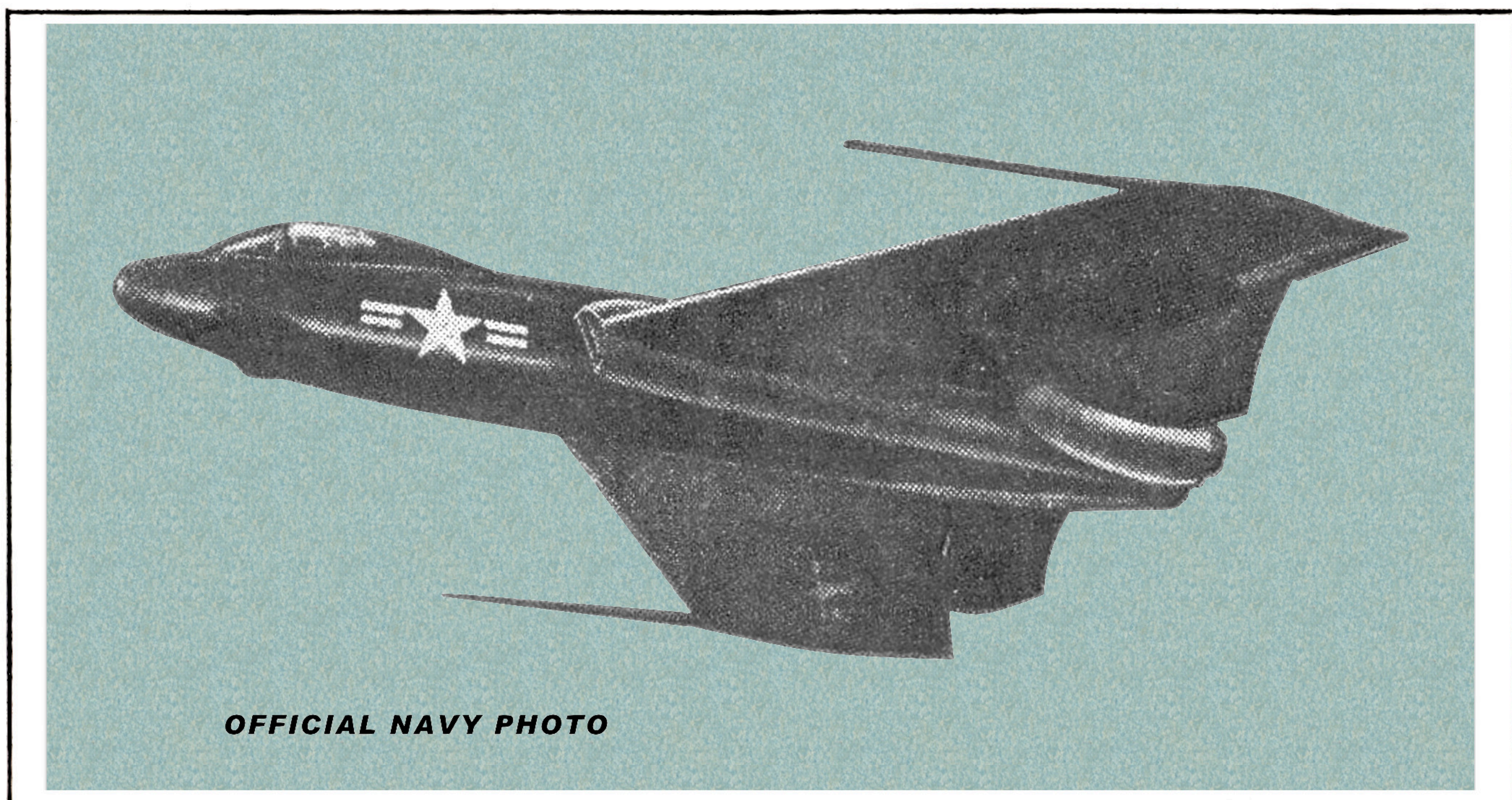
**Power plant:** 2 Westinghouse J34  
 turbo jet engines  
**Thrust rating:** About 3,000 lbs.  
 each

One of the world's most powerful carrier-based fighter planes is this single-seater U. S. Navy jet, designed for high speed and a high rate of climb. It is armed with four 20-mm. cannons in the nose. The Banshee's wings span 41 ft., 7 in. It is 40 ft., 2 in. long.





**F7U**



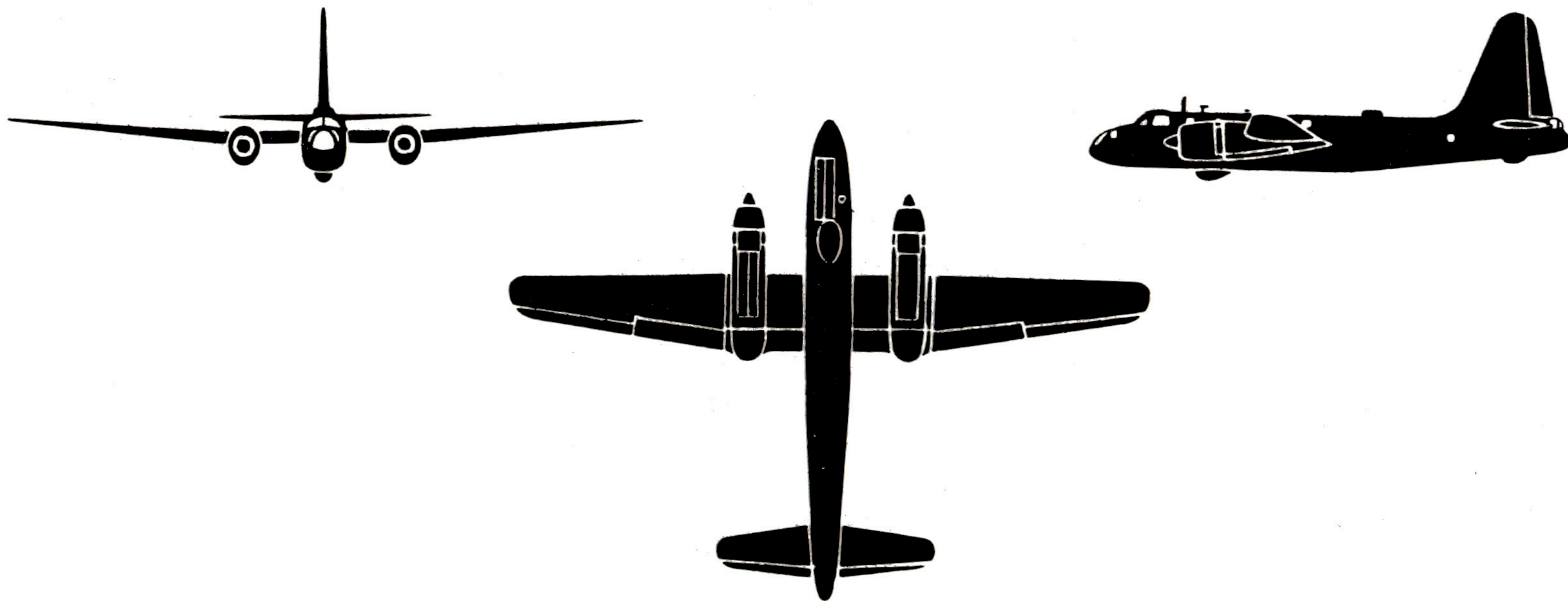
## **“CUTLASS”**

**Manufacturer:** Chance Vought  
**Speed:** Over 600 MPH (nautical)  
**Ceiling:** Over 20,000 ft.

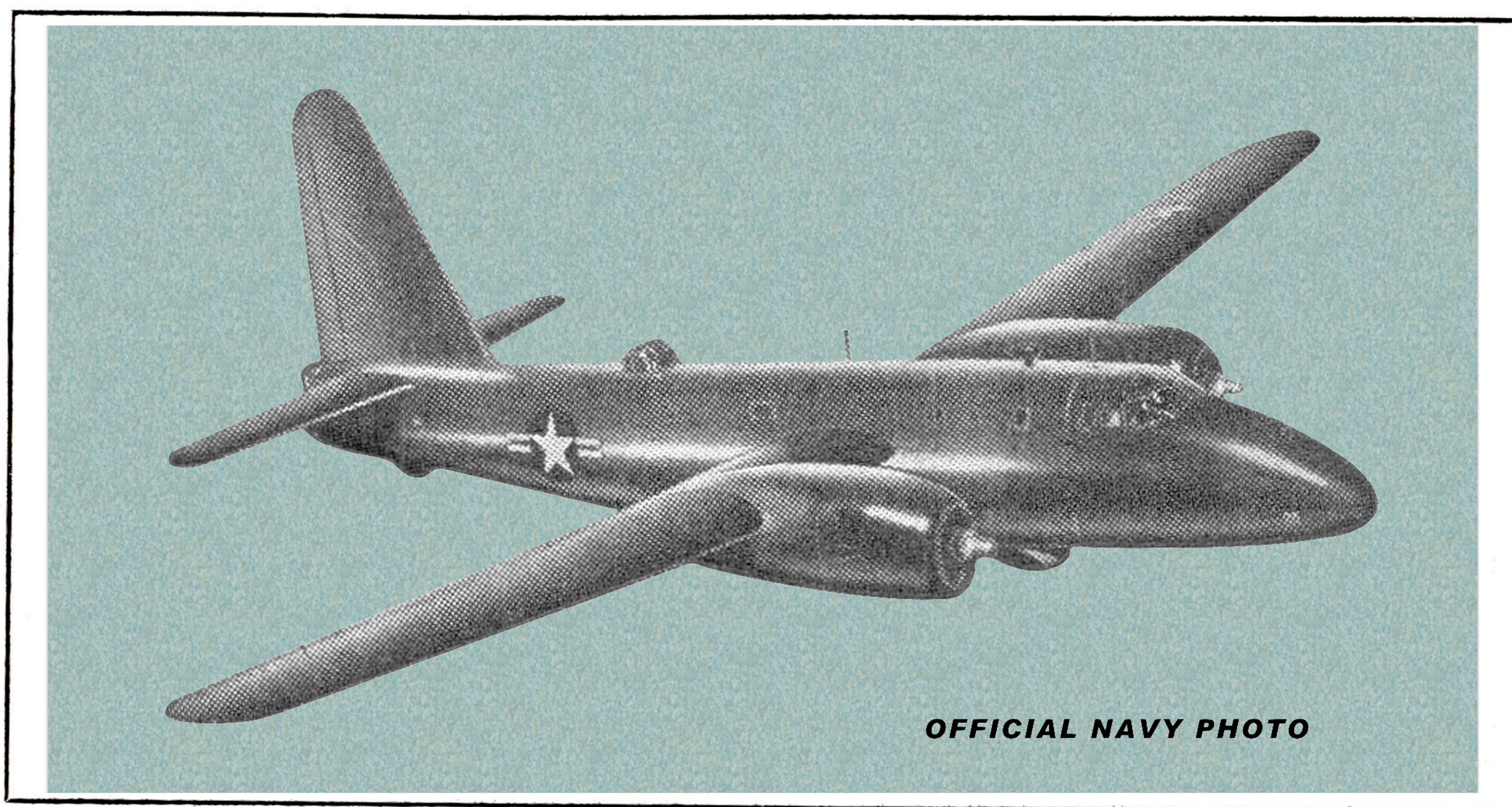
**Power plant:** 2 Westinghouse  
 J34 turbo jet engines  
**Thrust rating:** About 3,000 lbs.  
 each

A single-seater, this twin-tailed U. S. Navy jet fighter is noted for its extreme speed and power. The Cutlass is designed for carrier-based operations. Its lethal power includes guns in the nose.





**P2V**



OFFICIAL NAVY PHOTO

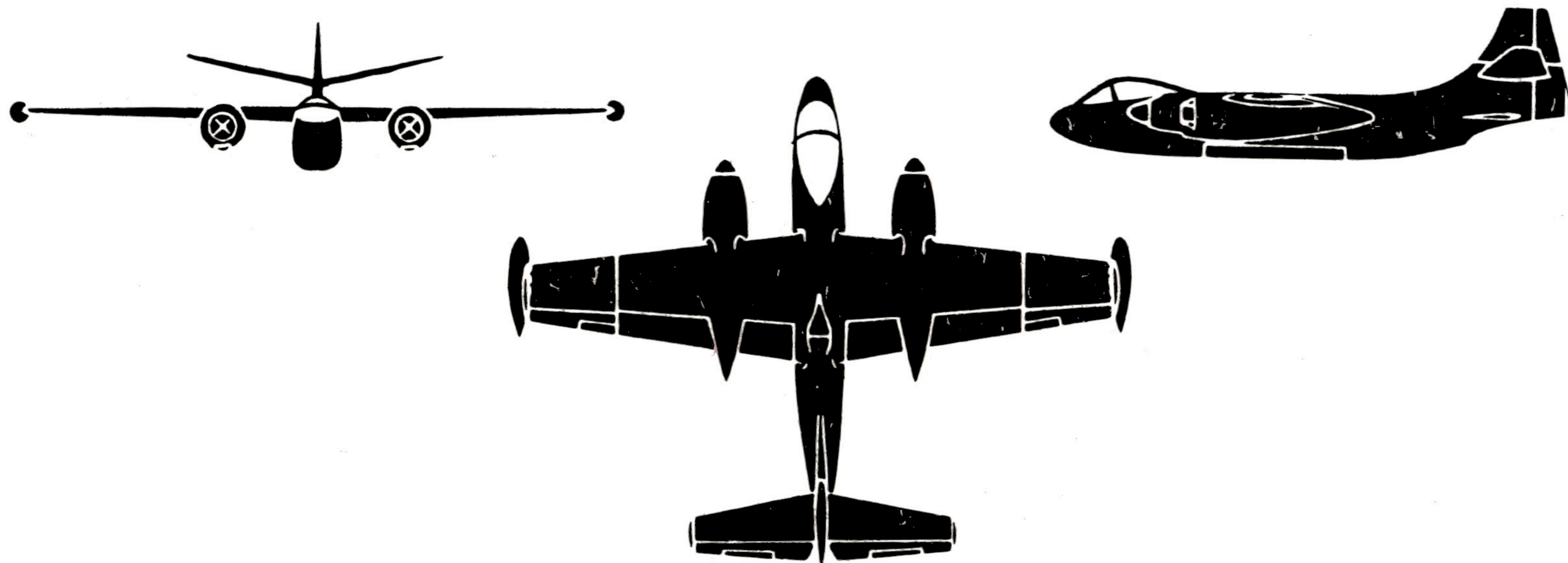
## **“NEPTUNE”**

**Manufacturer:** Lockheed  
**Speed:** Over 250 MPH (nautical)  
**Ceiling:** About 26,000 ft.  
**Range:** About 2,500 mi.

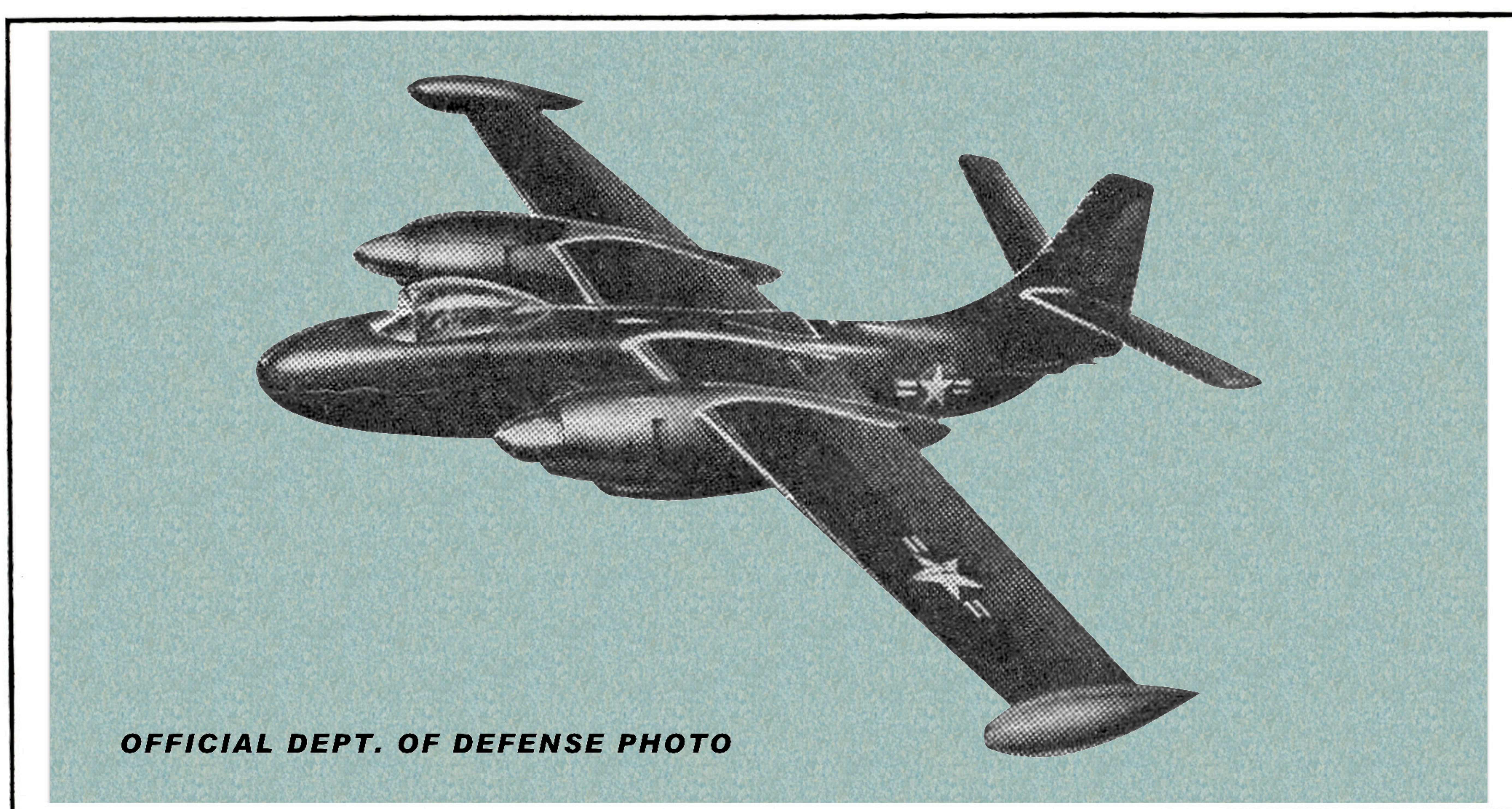
**Power plant:** 2 Wright R-3350  
 engines  
**Horsepower:** About 3,250 each

The U.S. Navy's Neptune is a long-range patrol bomber with a crew ranging from 4 to 9 men. It is heavily armed with nose guns and gun turrets. The P2V's wingspan is 100 ft. The plane is 75 ft., 11 in. long.





**AJ**



OFFICIAL DEPT. OF DEFENSE PHOTO

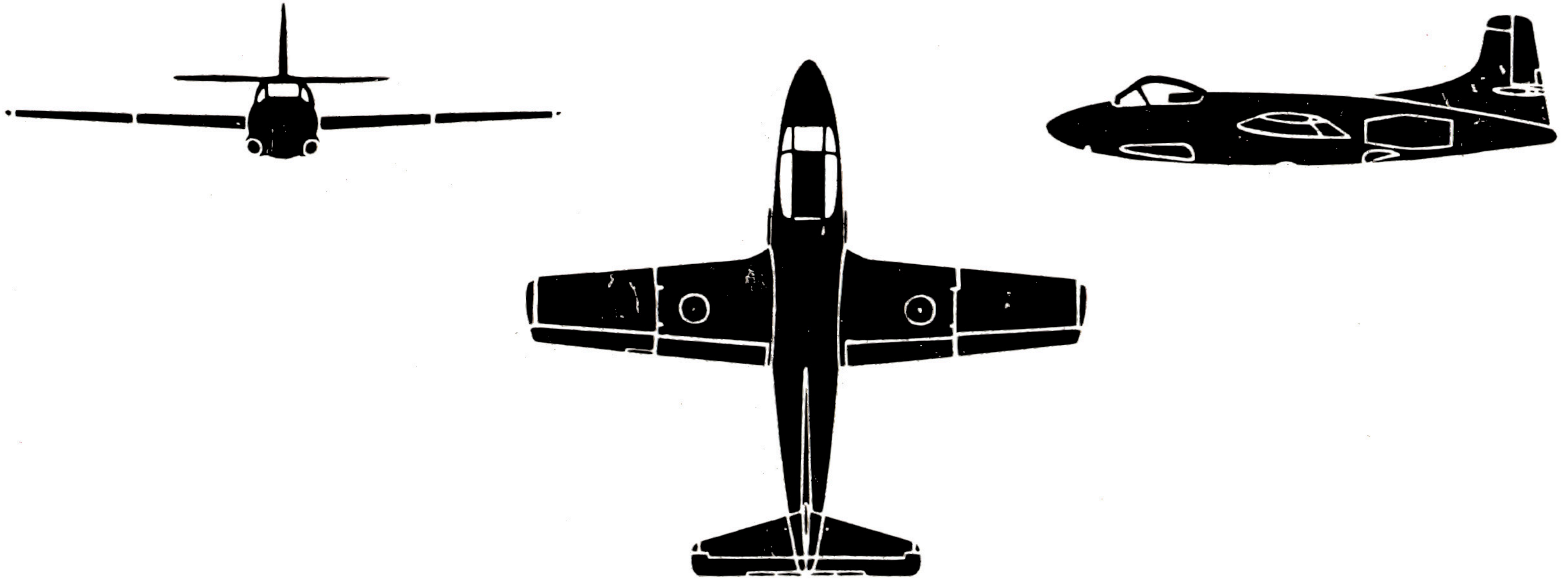
## **"SAVAGE"**

**Manufacturer:** North American  
**Speed:** Over 400 MPH (nautical)  
**Ceiling:** Over 20,000 ft.  
**Range:** Over 1,000 mi.

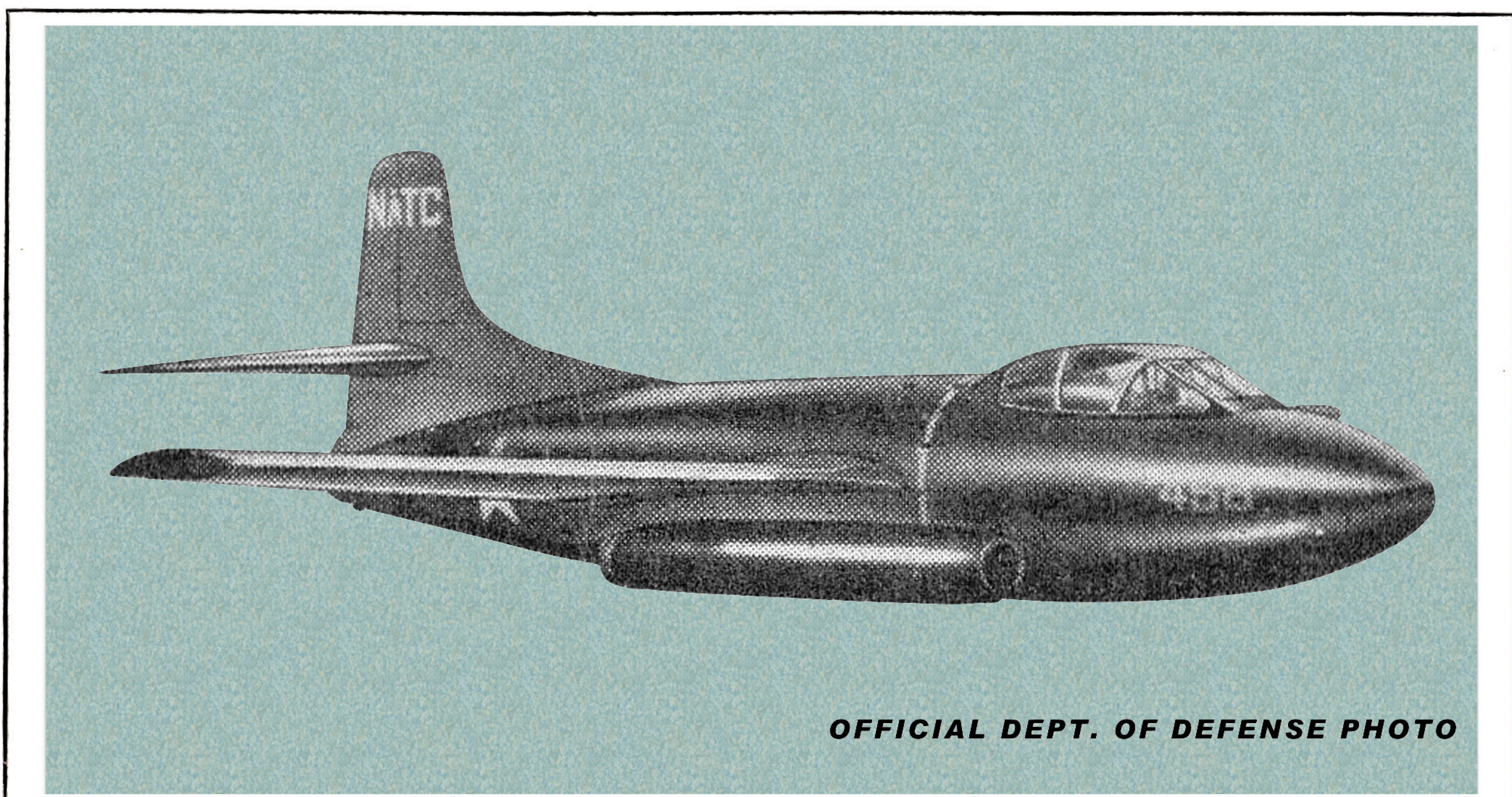
**Power plant:** 2 Pratt and Whitney  
 R-2800 engines and 1 Allison  
 J33  
**Horsepower:** About 2,300 each

One of the latest attack bombers added to the U. S. Navy, the Savage carries a three-man crew. This powerful, heavily-built plane is designed for carrier-based operations. Machine guns and bombs are included in the AJ's armament. Its wing-span is 71 ft., 5 in.; length, 63 ft., 1 in.





**F3D**



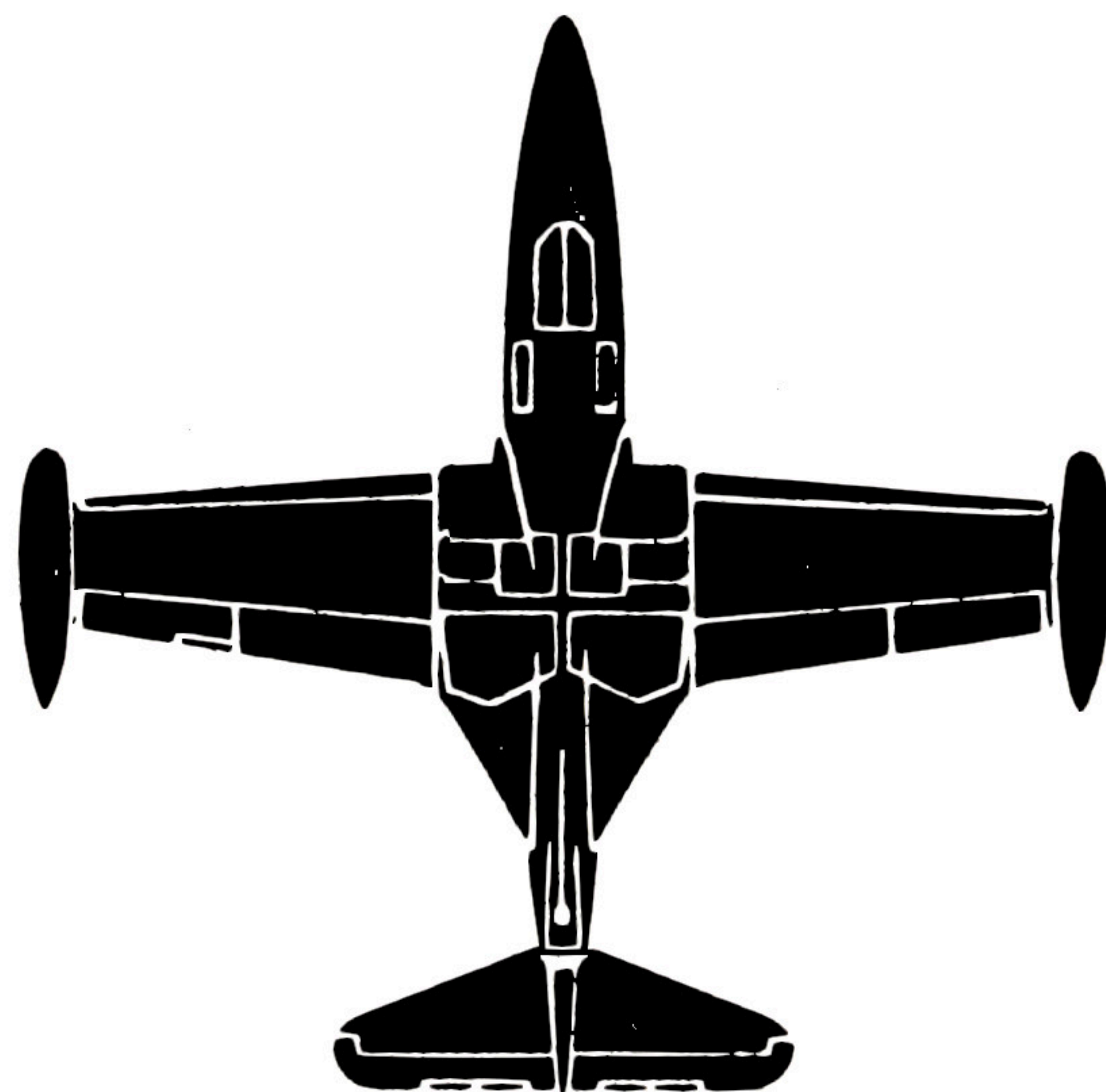
## **“SKYKNIGHT”**

**Manufacturer:** Douglas  
**Speed:** Over 600 MPH (nautical)  
**Ceiling:** Over 30,000 ft.

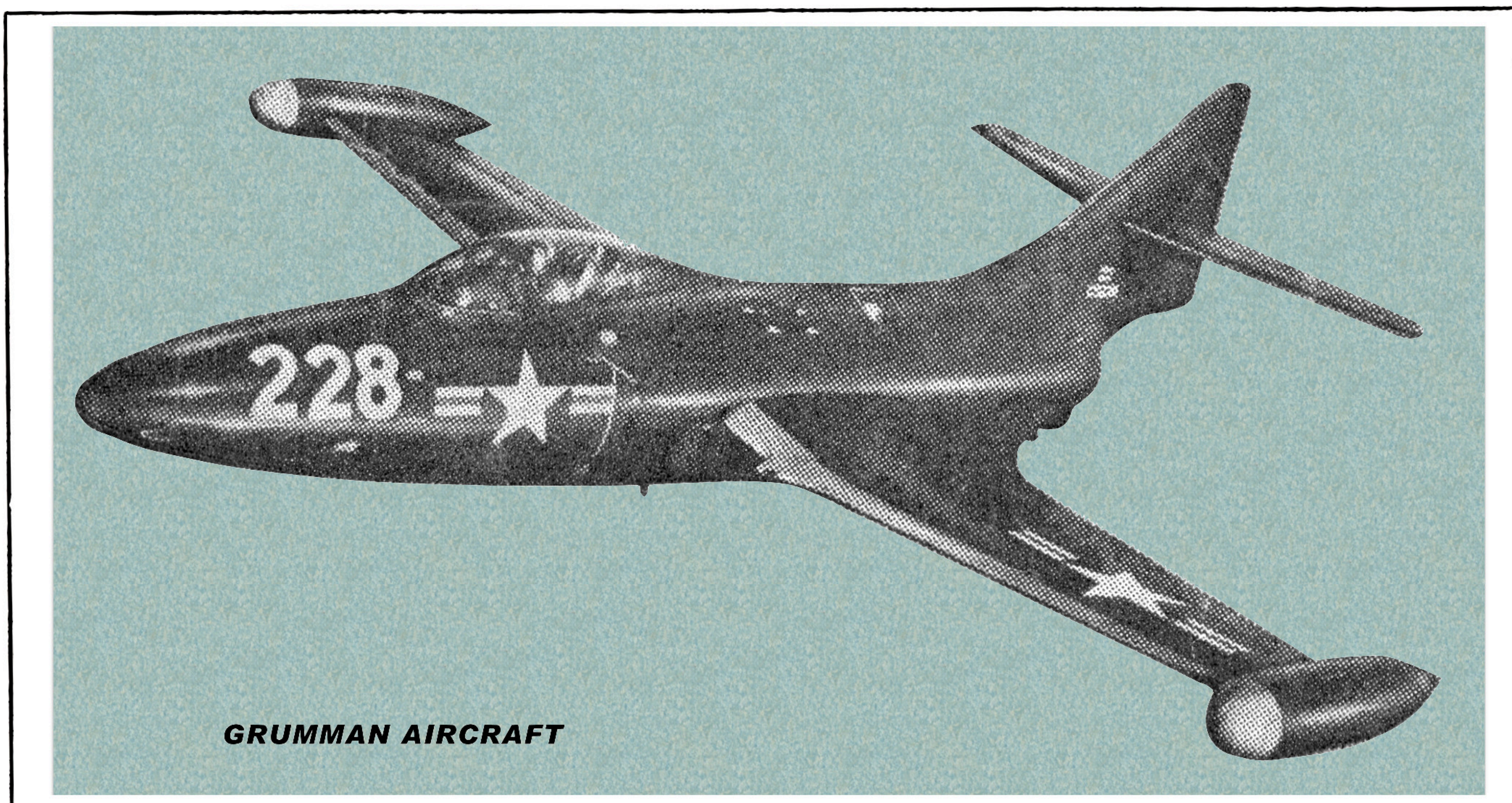
**Power plant:** 2 Westinghouse  
 J34 turbo jet engines  
**Thrust rating:** About 3,000 lbs.  
 each

One of the U. S. Navy's latest all-weather fighters, the two-seater Skyknight is a heavily-armed plane designed for carrier use. Its high speed and long range make it ideally adaptable as an attack fighter, long-range patrol or reconnaissance plane, or a long-range escort fighter. The F3D's wingspan is 50 ft.; length, 45 ft., 5 in.





**F9F**



## **"PANTHER"**

**Manufacturer:** Grumman  
**Speed:** Over 500 MPH (nautical)  
**Ceiling:** Over 30,000 ft.  
**Range:** Over 1,200 mi.

**Power plant:** 1 Pratt and Whitney  
 J42 turbo jet engine  
**Thrust rating:** 5,000 lbs.

The Panther was the first U. S. Navy jet fighter. This single-seater, operating from carrier bases, has distinguished itself serving the United Nations in Korea. Fast and sleek, the heavily-armed F9F can carry bombs and rockets under its wings to support ground troops. Its wingspan is 38 ft.; length, 38 ft.





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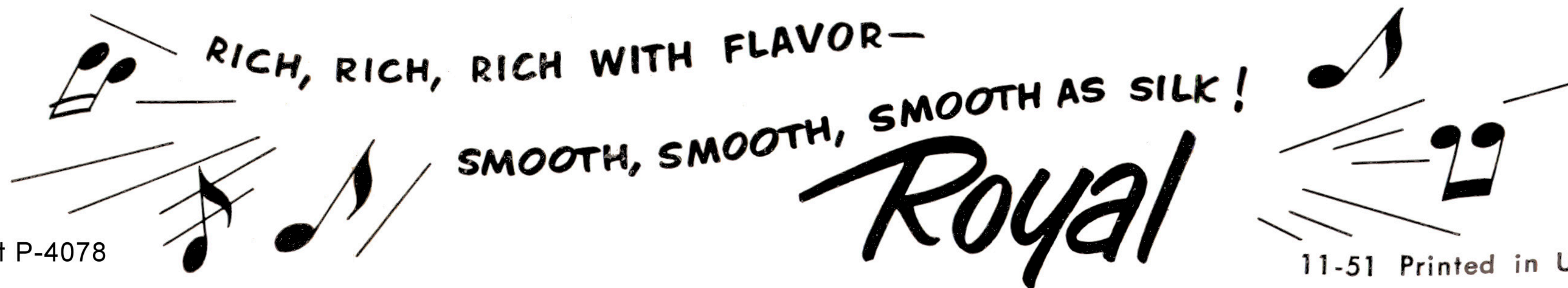


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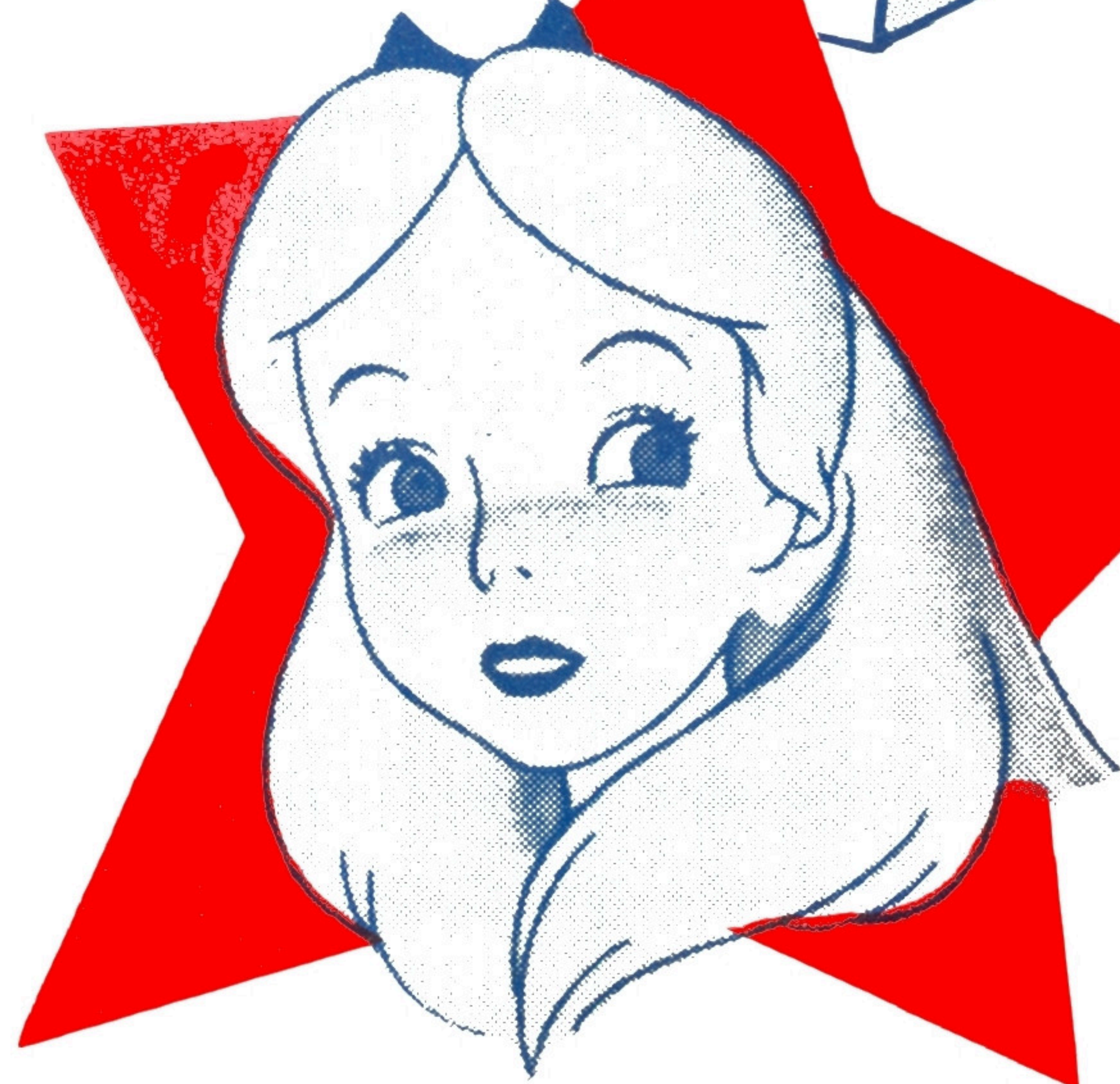
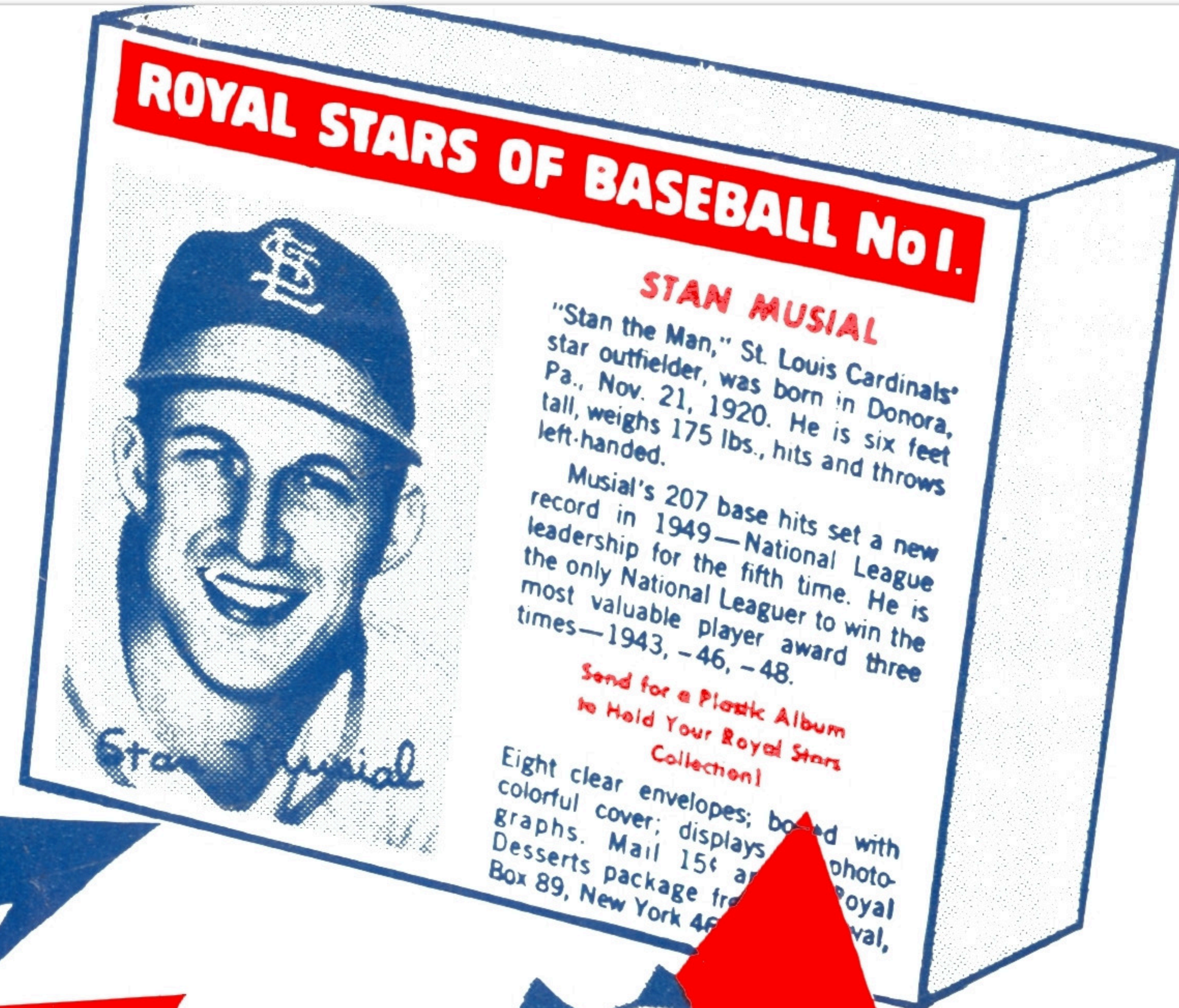
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