

FORUM of FLIGHT

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Many of the “choicer” examples, including a few presented in this edition of the Forum, have been published over the years, but if you’re searching for images to support a research project, don’t overlook NARA. Go to <https://catalog.archives.gov/advanced-search> and enter your search term. For best results, check “Photographs and other Graphic Materials” in the Type of Material section.

Negatives, slides, black-and-white, or color photos with good contrast may be used if they have smooth surfaces. Digital submissions are also acceptable, but please provide high resolution images (>3,000 pixels wide). Please include as much information as possible about the image such as: date, place, msn (manufacturer’s serial number), names, etc., plus proper photo credit (it may be from your collection but taken by another photographer).

Send submissions to the Editorial Committee marked “Forum of Flight,” P.O. Box 483, Riverside, CA 92502-0483. Mark any material to be returned: “Return to (your name and complete address).” Or you may wish to have your material added to the AAHS photo archives.

Lockheed F-104G flown by the 69th TFS, 58th TFW, the outfit that trained West German pilots at Luke AFB, Ariz. Although the 69th’s aircraft were owned by West Germany, they flew in USAF markings. Apparently license-built by Fokker, various sources list this plane as being assigned USAF s/n 63-13269.



Convair Model 880-22M-21 was initially delivered to the FAA in 1961 as N112. Later obtained by the U.S. Navy, designated UC-880 and given BuNo 161572.





- A. A fourship formation of Lockheed F-16C Fighting Falcons of the 93rd FS, 482nd FW, based at Homestead Air Reserve Station, Fla. Visible s/n are 86-0267, 86-0323 (nearest), and 88-0406.
- B. Northrop F-5G Tiger Shark prototype company demonstrator. Later designated F-20, Northrop hoped to sell this souped-up version of the Freedom Fighter as a cheaper alternative to the F-16, but only three were built before the program was cancelled.
- C. The first production North American B-45, 47-001. Fielded versions were atomic capable, and indeed a B-45 actually dropped a live nuclear weapon, albeit at the Nevada Test Site in shot "Easy" of the 1951 Buster-Jangle series.
- D. Very grungy Lockheed Model 322 Lightning, still carrying RAF serial AF207. Several hundred were ordered by France, contract taken over by Britain in mid-1940. Brits refused all but 3, the remainder went to the USAAF as trainers, designated P-322.
- E. Consolidated workers take lunch under camouflage netting near a massive PB2Y Coronado, July 1943. The number 128 on the nose indicates apparently indicates production sequence, making this BuNo 7170, which ended up with VP-102.



A



B

A - Hook down, a Grumman F-14A Tomcat of VF-84 approaches the USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71), April 1, 1993.

B - North American O-47 in temporary Red Force markings, 1941 GHQ maneuvers.

C - Lockheed C-130A "Hustlin' Husky," 57-0487, of the 17th Tactical Airlift Squadron "Firebirds" on the ramp at Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, ca. 1969. Later sold to Honduras. Crashed August 14, 1986.

D - NASA Convair F-102A, 56-0998, registered as N617NA. NASA's predecessor organization played a major role in developing the "coke bottle" fuselage, a breakthrough transonic flight research.

E - McDonnell Douglas KC-10, 79-1713, here in early airline-style livery, was the sixth Extender to come off the Long Beach, Calif., production line.



C



D



E



A

- A. Two-seat SR-71B trainer, 61-7956, during its 1,000th flight, January 15, 1982. Now on display at the Kalamazoo, Mich., Air Zoo Aerospace & Science Museum, 956 logged 3,760 hrs with the USAF before tacking on another 2,000 with NASA
- B. Convair B-36D, 44-92080, built as B-36B, converted. Redelivered to USAF late 1951. Assigned to 327th BS, 92nd BW, Fairchild AFB, Wash. Destroyed in landing accident, January 29, 1952.
- C. North American B-25C, 42-32505, in Sand and Neutral Gray desert camouflage. Went to 447th BS, 321 BG, 12th AF.



C





A

A. Convair C-131F (ex-R4Y-1), BuNo 140993, "City of Las Vegas" of Naval Air Reserve Unit, NAS North Island (NARU NORIS), in flight over the Coronado Bay Bridge.

B. Republic F-84E, 51-659, "This'll Kill Ya" of the 8th FBS, 49th FBW, is re-armed "somewhere in Korea."

C. The second Republic XP-84 Thunderjet, 45-59476, on display at the U.S. Air Force Museum, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, ca. 1946-47. Barely visible in the far distance at left is the Boeing XB-39.



B



C