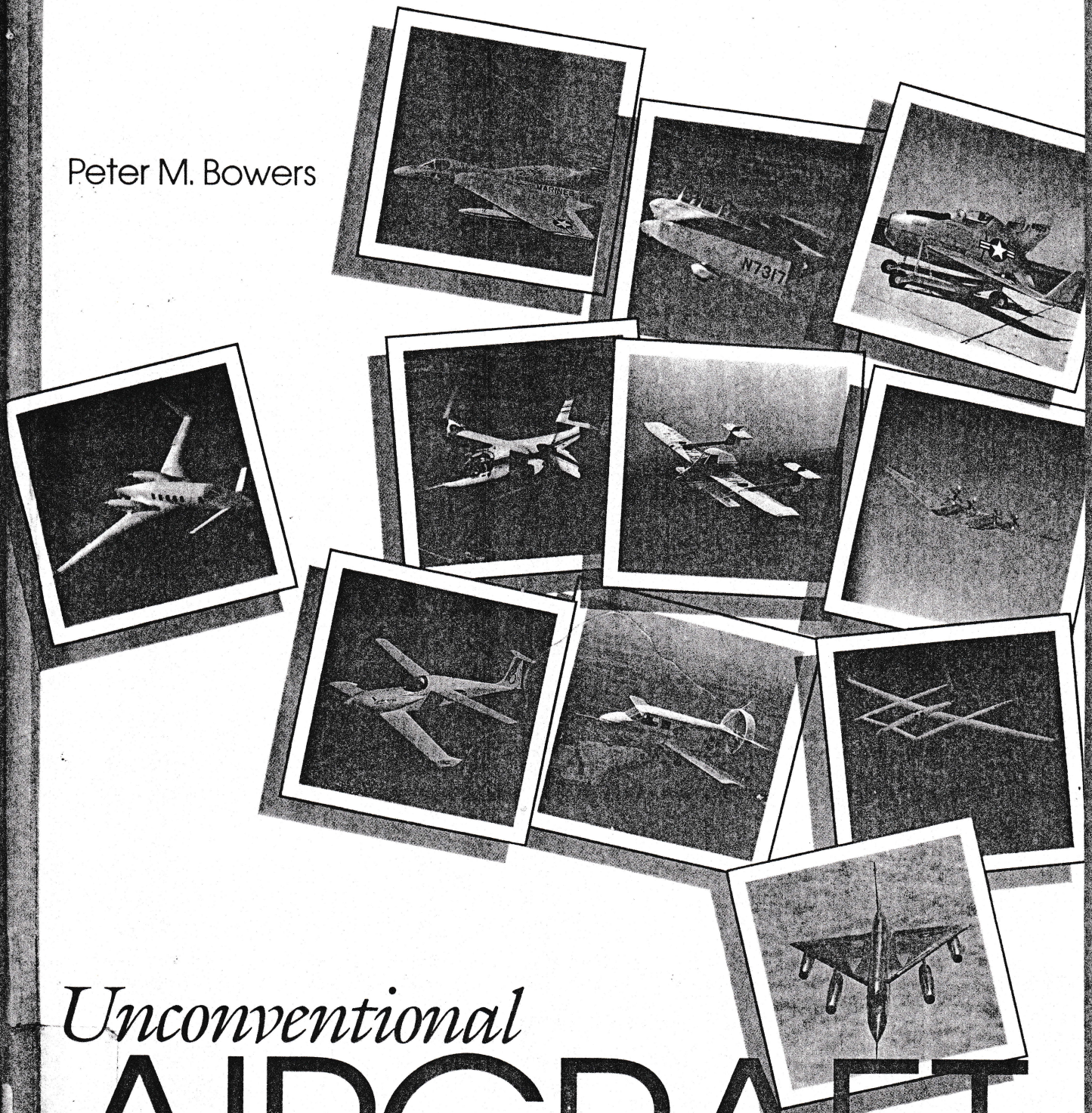
Peter M. Bowers



Unconventional AIRCRAFT

SECOND EDITION

winged helicopter, which retained all its normal helicopter capability in spite of the addition of wings and tail. No production aircraft resulted from this experiment.

The closest thing to a real "flying saucer" was the Canadian Avro Avrocar built on a U.S. Army/Air Force experimental contract as the VZ-9V in 1955 (FIG. 16-22). Direct lift from three internal jet engines enabled it to rise vertically, after which vectored thrust gave it forward motion. Stability problems prevented it from reaching its planned top speed of 260 mph. Diameter was 18 feet and gross weight 5,650 pounds.

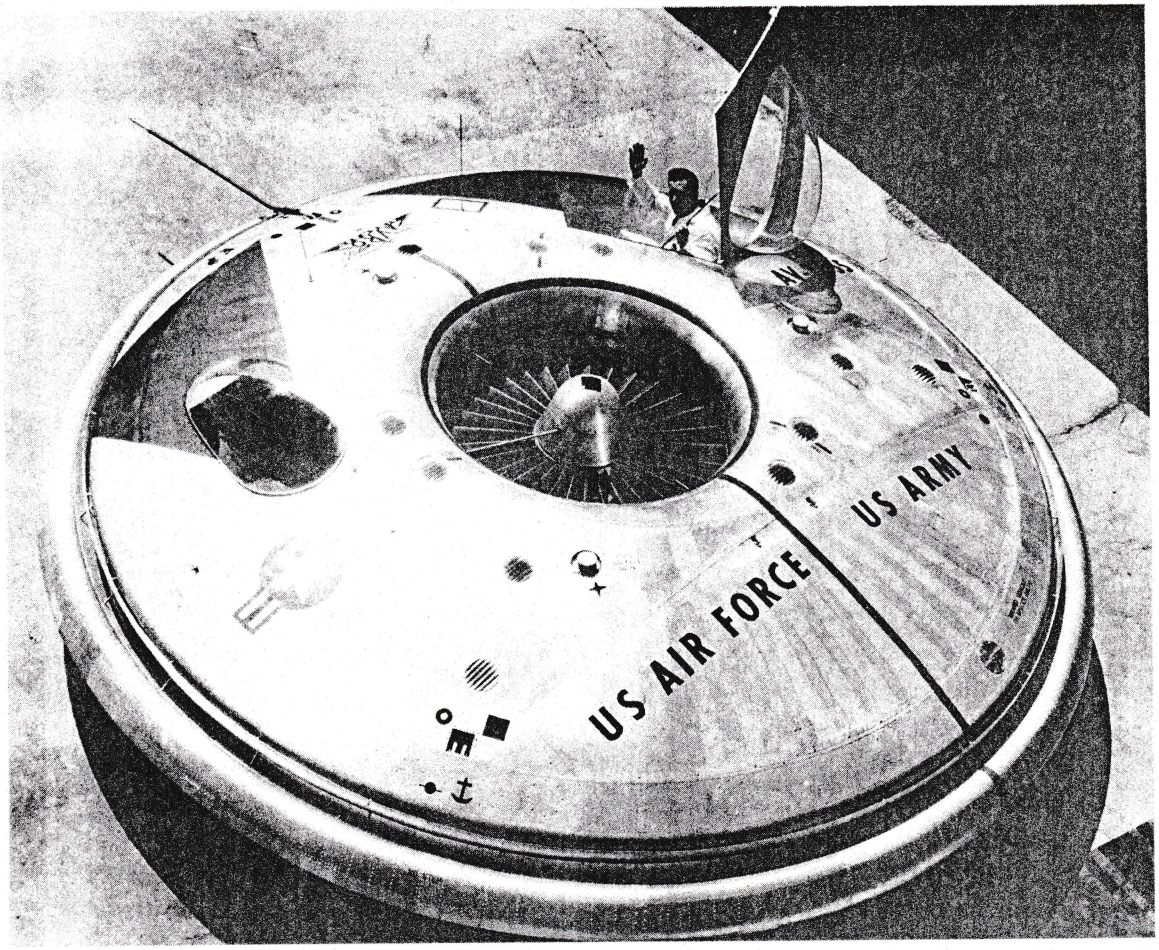


Fig. 16-22. Avro VZ-9Z Avrocar.