



ON GUARD! The rapier-like tip of Lockheed's new Starfighter points directly at the camera in this arresting shot of what is described as the world's fastest fighter. Speeds are still on the security list. Astride his Mach-busting mount is Test Pilot Tony LeVier, the first man to fly the F-104. The view emphasizes the Starfighter's small frontal area, 21 feet 11 inches wing tip to wing tip.

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B-47 Booster

A liquid injection system which introduces a mixture of alcohol and water into the B-47's jet engines to provide increased power for take-off has now been installed on most of the USAF's all-jet medium bombers. The installation was discussed recently by the manager of the General Electric Company's J-47 engine project.

Technical Training

Republic Aviation Corp. is moving to alleviate the aircraft industry's shortage of trained technical manpower with a college-level training program on company time. Early this month, more than 10 advanced aeronautical courses will be offered by the company. Eventual enrollment is expected to top 1,500 students.

NATO Airfields

NATO airfields in Western Europe, exclusive of those under the military administration of member nations, now number 174. The ultimate plan calls for 250 such fields, 75 of them small airports for about 25 planes each and 175 larger installations which could accommodate upward of 175 aircraft.

Traffic Boom

Commercial airlines in the United States last year carried more than 41,000,000 passengers, according to the latest Aircraft Industries Association of America tally. That was over twice as many as traveled by air in 1950. At the current rate of increase, conservative estimates call for a 60,000,000 passenger load in 1960.

Payload Boost

The fuel load alone of a new military transport being produced by a U. S. manufacturer is said to be more than eight times the gross weight of a transport turned out by the same company 30 years ago. Payload for this four turbo-prop giant is in the 100,000-lb. class. The power plants develop 24,000 hp.

Top Employer

The aircraft industry in the United States has again taken over from the automotive industry as the nation's largest employer, according to latest available figures. Aircraft, aircraft engines, systems and component manufacturers topped all others in number of employees during June, July and August. Figure for August was 814,400.

CF-105 Support

An \$86,000 contract for lightweight, highly mobile ground support equipment for the RCAF's new CF-105 supersonic jet fighter has been placed with Consolidated Diesel Electric Corp. of Canada, Ltd., by Avro Aircraft Ltd.

Civilian Orders

The United States aircraft industry in the past 12 months booked more dollar orders for civilian aircraft than for military planes. An Aircraft Industries Association spokesman said recently that the backlog of orders for civilian aircraft, especially new jet and turbo-prop airliners, increased by \$2,173,000,000 in the past 12 months as compared with a boost of \$1,692,000,000 in the military backlog. The total military backlog, however, at \$12,822,000,000 is still just short of four times that of the total civilian backlog of \$3,520,000,000.

MS 760's to Argentina

The Argentine Government has just ordered 48 of the twin-jet Morane-Saulnier 760 "Paris" light jet trainer/liaison aircraft with the possibility that the order may go to 100.