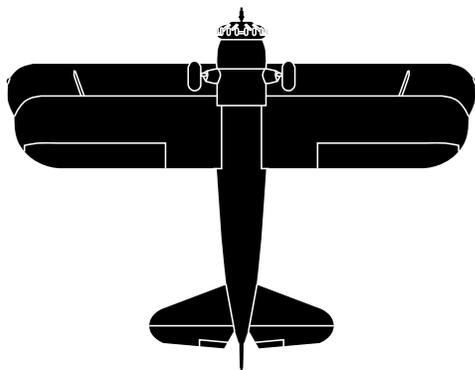
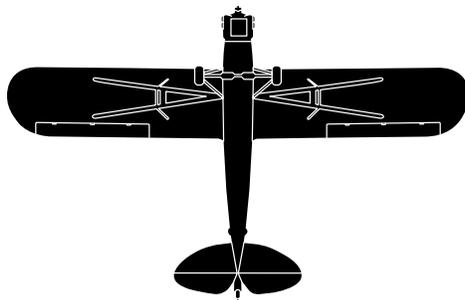


BOEING STEARMAN PT-17/N2S



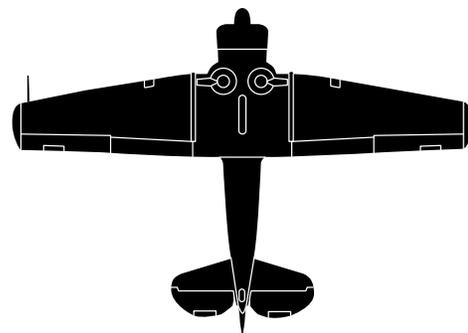
Trained more military pilots, including Navy cadet George H.W. Bush, than any other basic WWII trainer. Biplane with fixed gear.

PIPER L-4 GRASSHOPPER



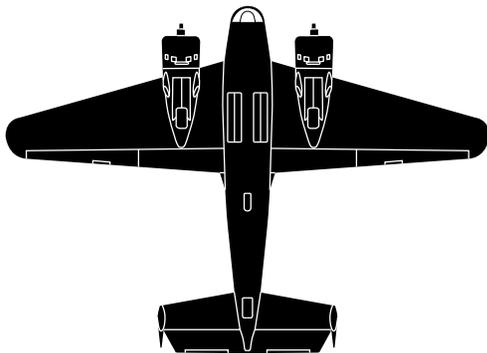
Utility transport/scout based on the 90-mph Piper J-3 Cub trainer. Small, cute, with a single, high wing.

NORTH AMERICAN AT-6/SNJ



Trainer with a 600-hp radial engine; low wing, heart-shaped horizontal tails, and greenhouse canopy. Taught pilots how to fly and shoot.

BEECH AT-11 KANSAN



Beautiful Beech (transport version: C-45); glassed-in nose; trained bombardiers and pilots for multi-engine flight; twin vertical stabilizers.



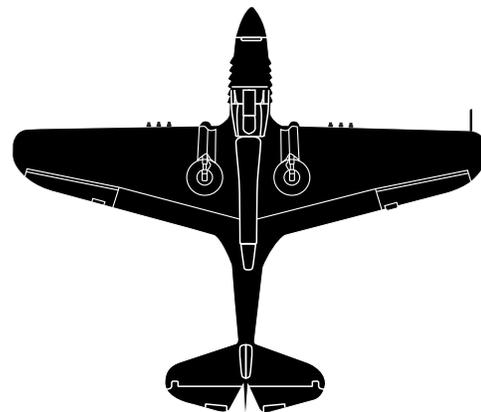
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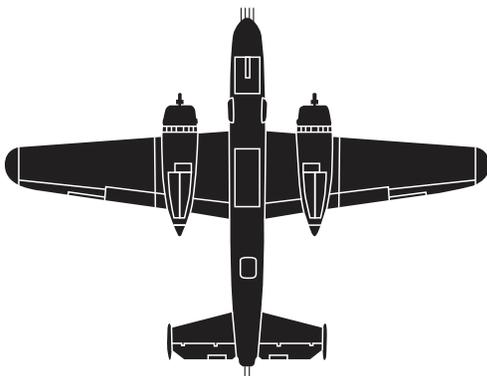
DIAGRAMS NOT TO SCALE

CURTISS P-40 WARHAWK



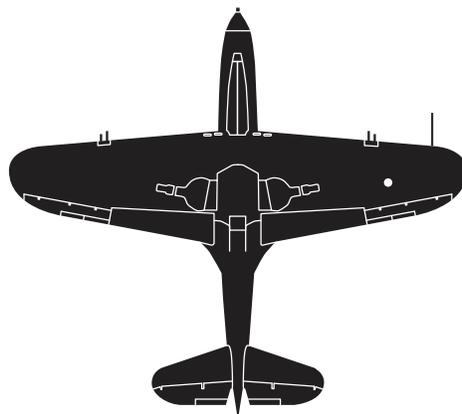
As the fighter of the Flying Tigers, painted with a shark's mouth on the air scoop under its long snout; could out-dive most adversaries.

NORTH AMERICAN B-25 MITCHELL



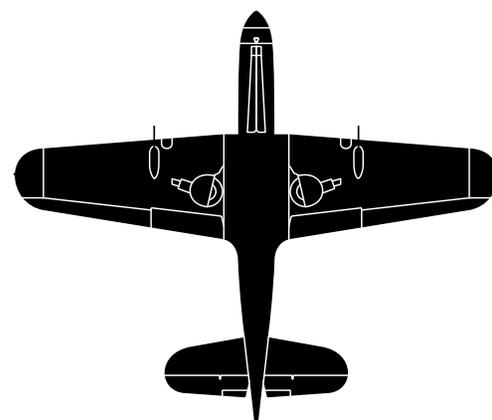
Twin-engine medium bomber famous for the Doolittle Raid. Transparent nose, glassed-in tail and waist "blisters" for gunners, big twin vertical stabilizers.

BELL P-39 AIRACOBRA



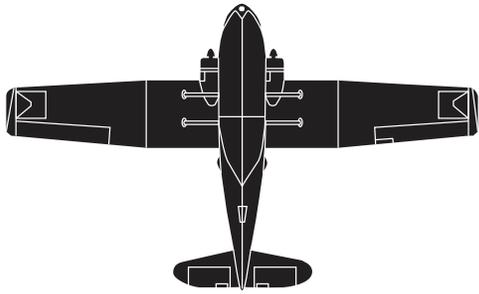
Smallish, low-wing fighter with rounded wings and tail. Pretty in profile and hugely effective in the hands of Soviet pilots.

BELL P-63A KINGCOBRA



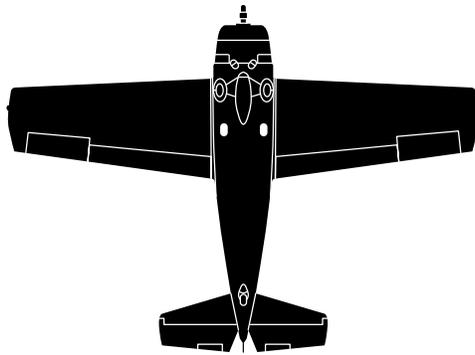
Showing the true potential of the P-39 design, this improved version could hit 410 mph at 25,000 feet. Mainly export.

CONSOLIDATED PBV CATALINA



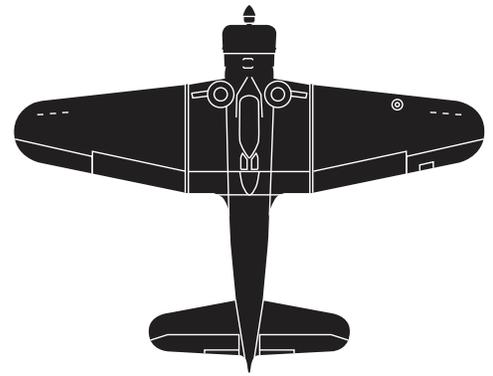
Twin-engine Navy patrol bomber amphib/flying boat that sank 40 subs. Spotted the Japanese fleet at Midway. High wing.

GRUMMAN F4F WILDCAT



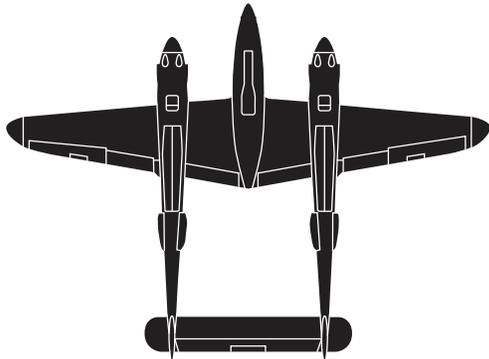
Short, stout, ship-based fighter, it was less capable than the Japanese Zero, but U.S. pilots compensated with effective tactics.

DOUGLAS SBD DAUNTLESS



The dive bomber that saved the day at the Battle of Midway by sinking four Japanese carriers. Look for perforated dive flaps.

LOCKHEED P-38 LIGHTNING



Twin booms and a central cockpit nacelle make the P-38 the most easily recognized fighter. Flown by top U.S. ace Richard Bong.



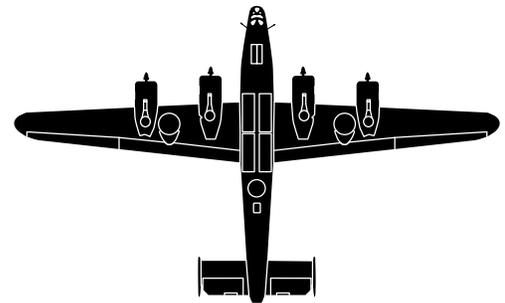
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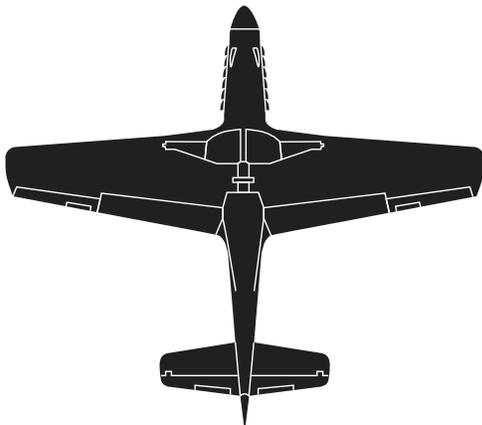
DIAGRAMS NOT TO SCALE

CONSOLIDATED B-24 LIBERATOR



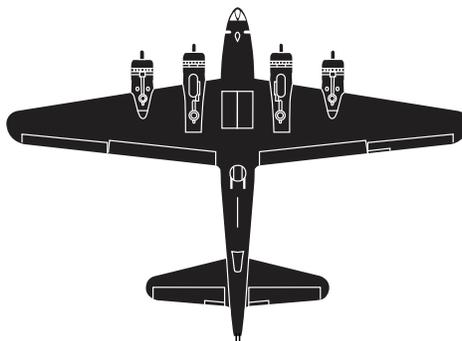
Long but portly, the B-24 looked like trouble. Four-engine, long-range bomber with horizontal tail and oval vertical stabilizers.

NORTH AMERICAN P-51 MUSTANG



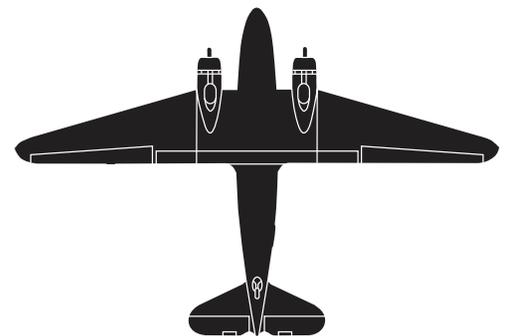
Possibly the war's best escort fighter; had a long, pointed nose, underbelly air scoop, low, squared-off wings, and dash.

BOEING B-17 FLYING FORTRESS



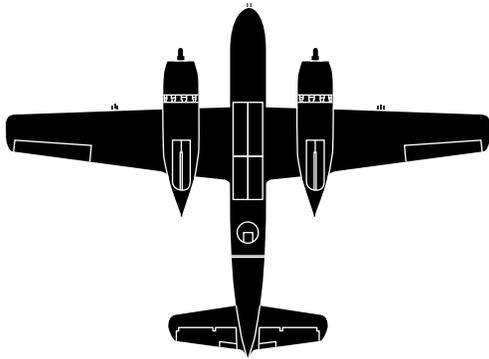
With a dorsal spine blending into a vertical tail, the four-engine B-17 was more graceful than the B-24 and almost indestructible.

DOUGLAS C-47/R4D SKYTRAIN



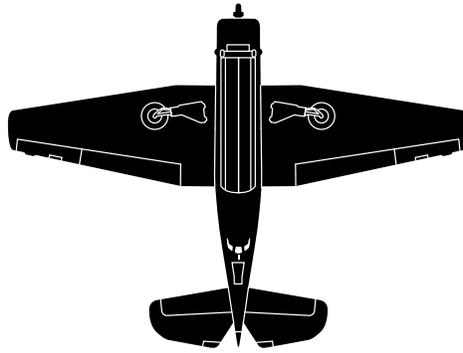
Based on the DC-3, the twin-engine C-47 carried it all: cargo, paratroops, stretchers, generals. Short, rounded nose; tail landing gear.

DOUGLAS A-26 INVADER



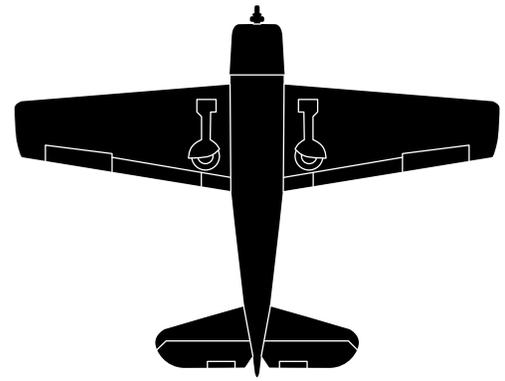
The fastest U.S. bomber of the war. Only 50 feet long with a narrow fuselage and tall, squared-off tail.

GRUMMAN TBM AVENGER



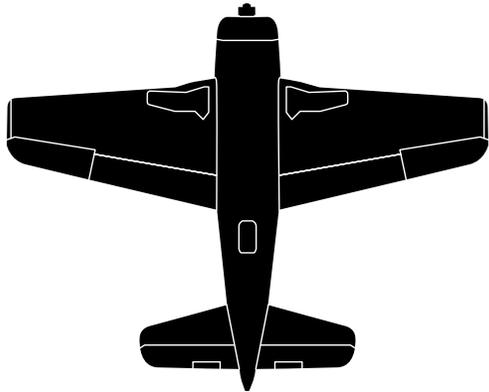
Heavy, carrier-based torpedo bomber with a round gun turret aft of the greenhouse canopy. A menace to ships and submarines.

GRUMMAN F6F HELLCAT



Five feet longer and half again as heavy, compared to the Wildcat. It destroyed more aircraft than any other Navy fighter.

GRUMMAN F8F BEARCAT



Too late for WWII combat, the Bearcat set post-war records for climbing rate, and has had an illustrious career as a raceplane.



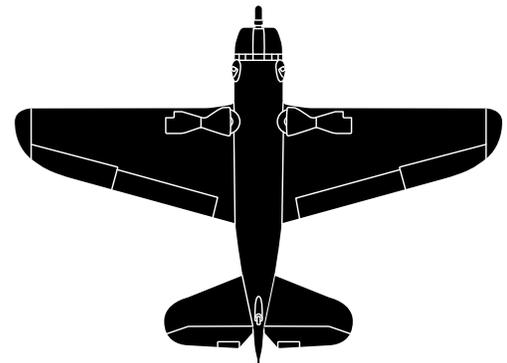
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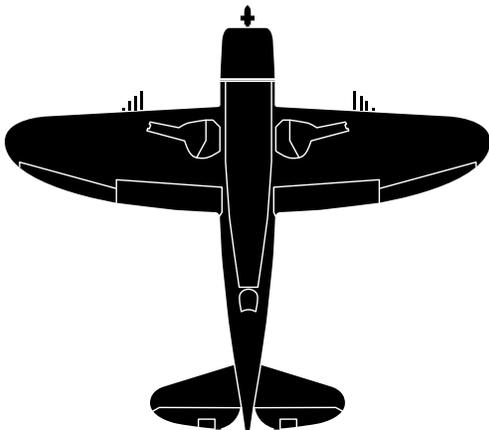
DIAGRAMS NOT TO SCALE

CURTISS SB2C HELLDIVER



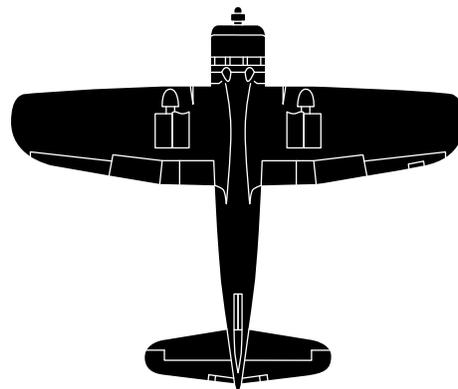
The last dive bomber operated by the Navy, it replaced the Douglas Dauntless. The canopy runs almost the full length of the fuselage.

REPUBLIC P-47 THUNDERBOLT



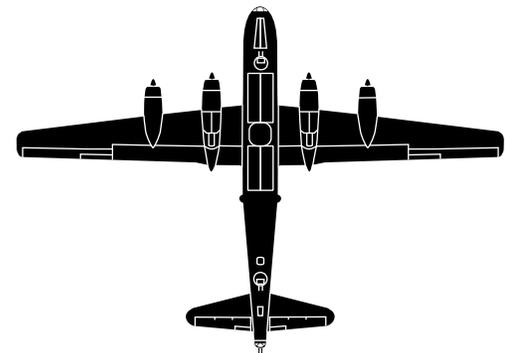
"The Jug": heaviest single-engine fighter of the war, good at ground attack. Fast, despite its hefty fuselage, heavily armed, and deadly.

VOUGHT F4U CORSAIR



Navy pilots flew it, but it will always be known as a Marine. First U.S. fighter to fly faster than 400 mph, level. Look for the dip in its wings.

BOEING B-29 SUPERFORTRESS



The bomber that ended the war; the only one ever to drop atomic bombs in combat. Long, slender fuselage; tail like a B-17's.