

1: F Thunderchief MiG Killers of the Vietnam War by Peter E. Davies

The F Thunderchief was the workhorse fighter-bomber for the USAF over North Vietnam in the '60s. Along the way, the F's had more than a few encounters with MiG's flown by the North Vietnamese Air Force.

Design phase[edit] Republic Aviation started the Thunderchief as an internal project to replace the RF-4C Thunderflash , which first used the characteristic wing-root air intakes to make room for cameras in the nose section. The emphasis was placed on low-altitude speed and flight characteristics, range, and payload. The aircraft would be fitted with a large engine, and a relatively small wing with a high wing loading for a stable ride at low altitudes, and less drag at supersonic speeds. Near the end of , the entire program was canceled by the USAF due to a number of delays and uncertainties regarding the aircraft. The RF reconnaissance variant was canceled in July . The USAF made the name official a month later. In the cockpit, the FD featured vertical-tape instrument displays for adverse weather operation. The ability to carry the TX nuclear weapon was also added. The RF reconnaissance development was also restarted, now based on the FD. The first D-model took its maiden flight on 9 June . In response to the surface-to-air missile SAM threat experienced in the skies above Vietnam, dozens of FFs were converted into anti-radar " Wild Weasel " aircraft, culminating with the FG. The single engine was fed by two intakes in the wing roots, leaving the nose free for a radome housing the multi-mode radar. Two outer dry stations were wired for missiles or bombs. A short-range AIM-9 Sidewinder air-to-air missile could be carried on each of the outer wing pylons. The F managed . The F had a spacious cockpit with good visibility and layout particularly after introduction of "tape" instruments ; the advanced electronics were easy to learn and operate. The spoilers provided good roll control at all speeds and the distinctive four-petal airbrakes which also opened slightly when the afterburner was engaged to allow for the larger flow of exhaust gases were highly effective even at supersonic speeds. Loss of control due to a spin or complications of adverse yaw required deliberate effort from the pilot and spontaneous spin recovery was rapid. Between its massive dimensions and troubled early service life, the F had garnered a number of uncomplimentary nicknames. According to F pilots and crews, the "Thud" nickname was inspired by the character "Chief Thunderthud" from the Howdy Doody television series. The North Vietnamese interceptor force followed Soviet air-defense doctrine, with pilots under rigid direction of ground controllers over radio links. However, the first time the Combat Martin was used, the US National Security Agency NSA , in charge of US strategic signals intelligence , ordered the Air Force to cease and desist immediately, since the NSA believed that the intelligence obtained by monitoring the channels outweighed the benefits of jamming them. The additional avionics were housed in a long, raised dorsal spine. Although the first Thunderstick II aircraft flew in , they were not used in Vietnam. A total of 30 FDs received this modification. Nicknamed the Wild Weasel, these aircraft achieved a number of victories against North Vietnamese surface-to-air missile radars. The second crew member was a Navigator trained as an Electronic Warfare Officer EWO to decipher sensor information and guide the pilot towards the targets. While this strategy was effective in reducing FD losses, the Weasel aircraft suffered heavy casualties with five of the first 11 lost in July and August . Attacks into high-risk environments saw the Weasels operating in "Iron Hand" Hunter-Killer flights of mixed single-seat and two-seat Thunderchiefs, suppressing sites during attacks by the strike force and attacking others en route. Thirty aircraft were fitted with pylons to carry the AGM Standard anti-radiation missile.

2: www.enganchecubano.com:Customer reviews: F Thunderchief MiG Killers of the Vietnam War (Combat)

Despite its 'F-for-fighter' designation, the F was designed and purchased to give the USAF an aircraft capable of the delivery of nuclear weapons at very high speed, long range and below-the-radar altitudes.

3: Republic F Thunderchief - Wikipedia

From to it flew the majority of bombing missions against North Vietnam, performing an effectively "strategic" role in

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assaulting North Vietnam's industrial and military heartland. Thunderchief crews faced North Vietnamese MiGs and MiGs more often than any other US flyers.

4: F Thunderchief MiG Killers of the Vietnam War (Combat Aircraft) | eBay

A main player over Viet Nam. The book is a timeless contribution to the history of F Thunderchief jet fighters carrying the war over North Viet Nam in the mid-late 's.

5: F Thunderchief MiG Killers of the Vietnam War by Peter Davies | Book

F Thunderchief MiG Killers of the Vietnam War. [Peter E Davies; Jim Laurier] -- Despite its 'F-for-fighter' designation, the F was designed and purchased to give the USAF an aircraft capable of the delivery of nuclear weapons at very high speed, long range and.

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