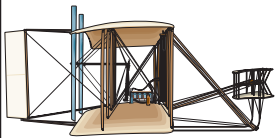


A CENTURY OF POWERED FLIGHT

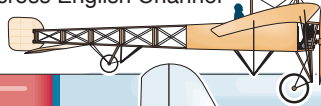
1903-2003



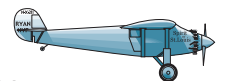
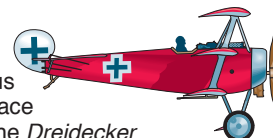
1903: Wright Brothers' Flyer. Wilbur and Orville Wright make world's first powered, controlled airplane flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, on Dec 17. The 120-foot flight lasts 12 seconds



1909: Blériot XI. French aviator Louis Blériot becomes first to fly across English Channel



1917: Fokker Dr. 1. Famous as red plane of World War I ace Manfred von Richthofen, the Dreidecker (3 wings) incorporates engine interruptor to allow twin machine guns to fire forward without hitting propeller

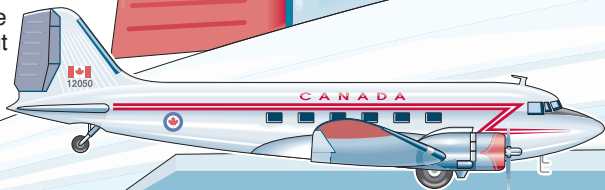


1927: Spirit of St. Louis. Charles Lindbergh's solo transatlantic flight from New York to Paris is considered second in significance only to Wright Brothers' first flight



1928: Graf Zeppelin. Takes four days to make its first transatlantic flight from Germany to Lakehurst, New Jersey, in October. In 1929 the 775ft-long dirigible embarks on round-world flight taking 21 days, 7 hours, 34 minutes. During nine-year operating life *Graf Zeppelin* makes 590 flights, covers more than one million miles and carries total of 13,100 passengers

1935: Douglas DC-3 Dakota. Not only sets standard in intense competition between airlines, but becomes most used military transport plane of all time. Hundreds continue in civil and military service to this day

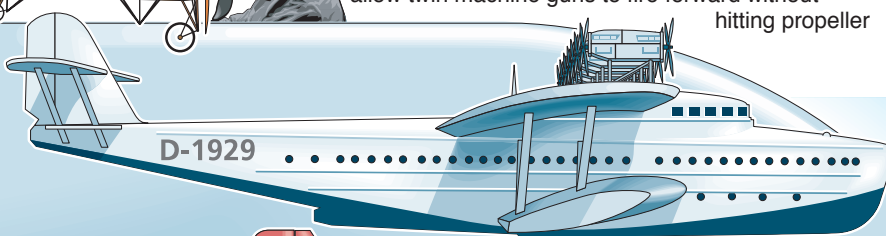


1936: Supermarine Spitfire. Designed by Reginald Mitchell, some 23,000 are built during World War II. Its role in the *Battle of Britain* makes it arguably the most famous combat aircraft in history

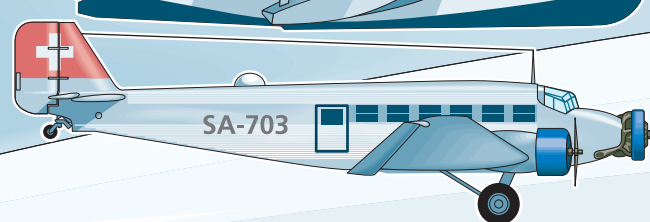


1936: Focke Wulf Fw 61. First practical helicopter flies in Germany, reaching 76mph

1929: Dornier Do. X. German Claudius Dornier's flying boat is world's largest, heaviest and most powerful airplane



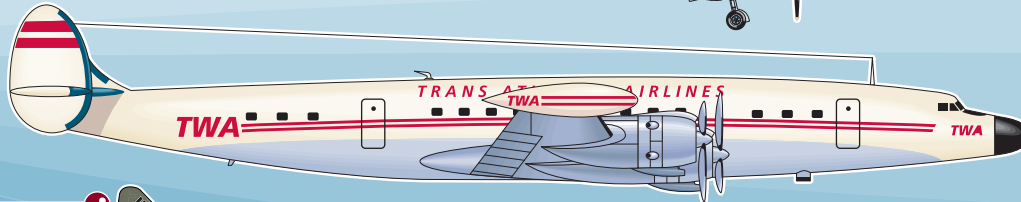
1931: Junkers 52/3. German three-engine transport. Almost 500 Ju-52s participate in airborne assault of Crete in 1941. *Hugo Junkers'* aircraft remains in service for 50 years in various parts of world



1944: Messerschmitt Me 262. First turbojet sees military action. Fighter bomber has maximum speed of 540mph – Germany builds 1,433 Me 262s by end of World War II



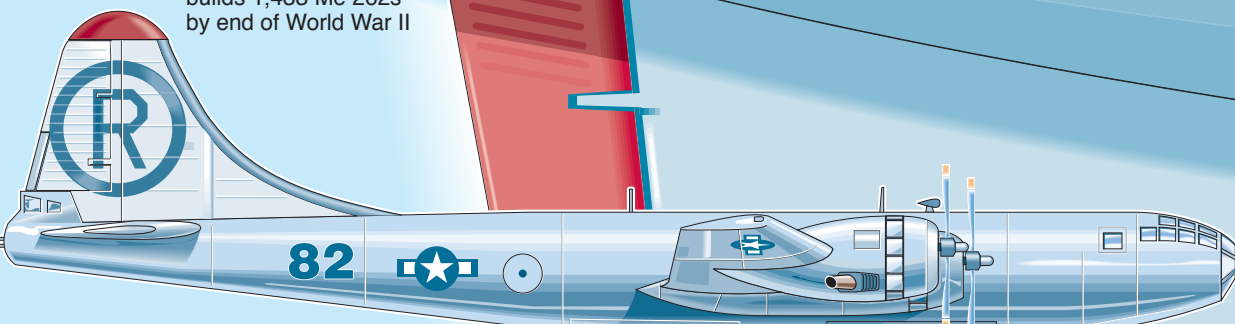
1943: Lockheed L-049 Constellation. Designed to meet TWA's specifications for long-range commercial transport. *Connie* carries 20 passengers in sleeping berths – and 6,000lbs of cargo – at speeds of 250-300mph and altitude of 20,000 feet



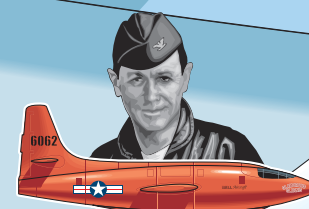
1944: Messerschmitt Me 163 Komet. First rocket plane – hydrogen peroxide/hydrazine-powered fighter widely held to have best handling characteristics of any Luftwaffe warplane. Top speed: 597mph



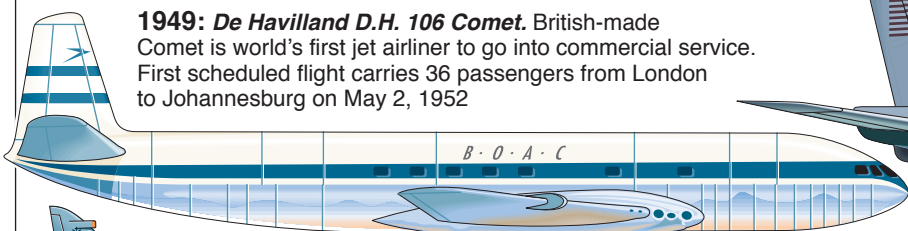
1945: Boeing B-29 Superfortress bomber. Single most complicated and expensive weapon produced by U.S. during World War II. Nearly 4,000 B-29s are built for combat in Pacific, including *Enola Gay* – plane that dropped first atomic bomb over Hiroshima



1947: Bell XS-1. Piloted by Chuck Yeager, and named in honour of his wife, *Glamorous Glennis* is first aircraft to fly faster than speed of sound. On October 14, XS-1 reaches Mach 1.06 – 700mph – at altitude of 43,000 feet above Mojave Desert in California



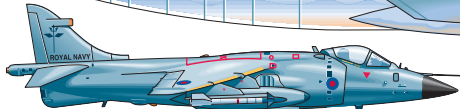
1949: De Havilland D.H. 106 Comet. British-made Comet is world's first jet airliner to go into commercial service. First scheduled flight carries 36 passengers from London to Johannesburg on May 2, 1952



1954: Boeing 707. First U.S. jet airliner – in production until 1977. First aircraft to have call-sign *Air Force One* carries John F. Kennedy on fateful trip to Dallas on November 22, 1963. Lyndon B. Johnson sworn in as President on return flight

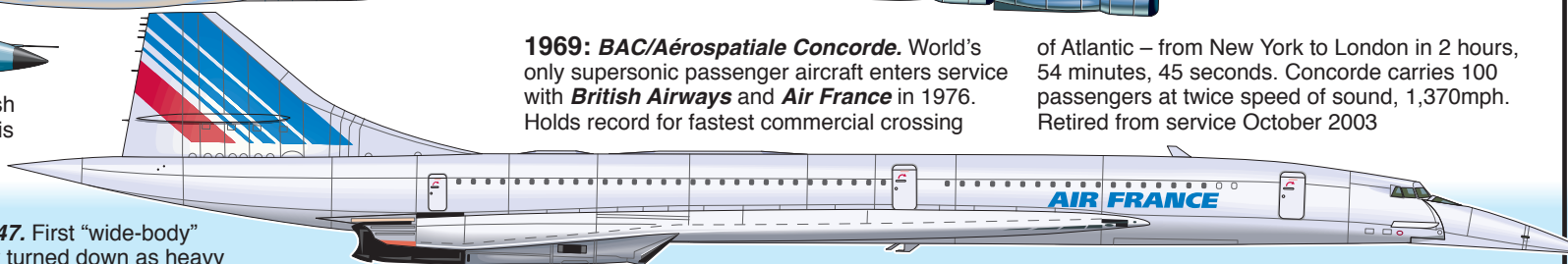


1966: Hawker Siddeley Harrier. British vertical take off and landing jet (VTOL) is world's first *jump-jet* to enter service



1969: BAC/Aérospatiale Concorde. World's only supersonic passenger aircraft enters service with *British Airways* and *Air France* in 1976. Holds record for fastest commercial crossing

of Atlantic – from New York to London in 2 hours, 54 minutes, 45 seconds. Concorde carries 100 passengers at twice speed of sound, 1,370mph. Retired from service October 2003



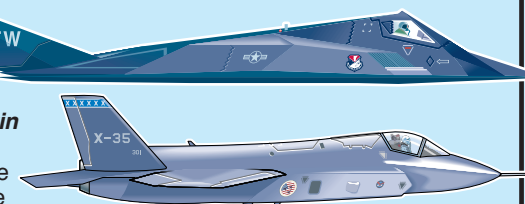
1970: Boeing 747. First "wide-body" aircraft. Originally turned down as heavy cargo transport for U.S. Air Force, *Boeing* develops commercial version. Although *Jumbo Jet* can carry up to 524 passengers, an Israeli 747 airlifts a record 1,087 refugees from Ethiopia in 1991

1978: Lockheed F-177A Stealth fighter. Kept secret until 1988. First used in combat during 1989 invasion of Panama. On radar it appears no larger than a hummingbird



1994: Eurofighter Typhoon. Developed jointly by Britain, Germany, Italy and Spain

2003: Lockheed Martin Joint Strike Fighter. Biggest, most expensive warplane project to date



All aircraft drawn to scale