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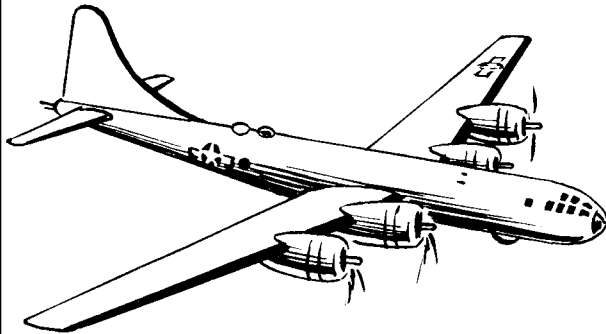
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WW II Aircraft

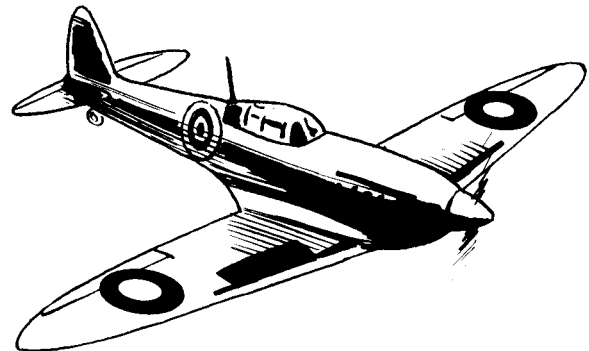
Although aircraft were used to fight World War I, new technology and new flight tactics were employed heavily during World War II. Some of the innovative types of aircraft used in World War II are shown below.

B-29 Super Fortress



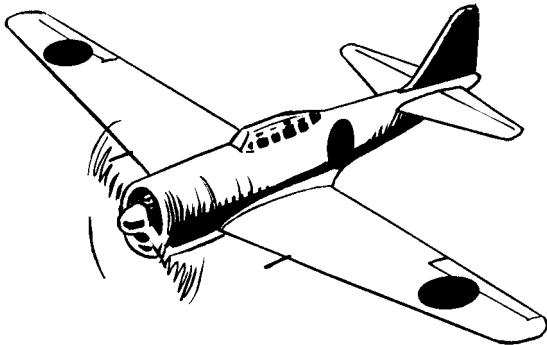
1. *American* This heavy-duty bomber of WWII, carried eight tons of bombs, and could fly 360 miles per hour.

Spitfire



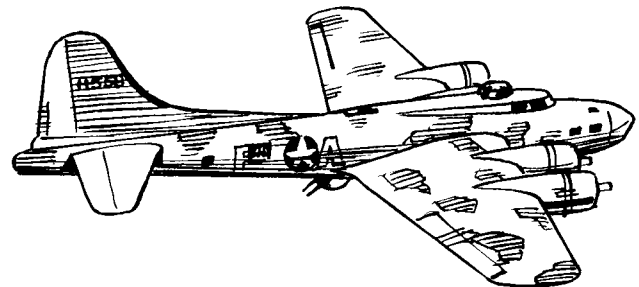
2. *English* It could fire numerous rounds each minute and was known for its elegant design.

Zero Fighter



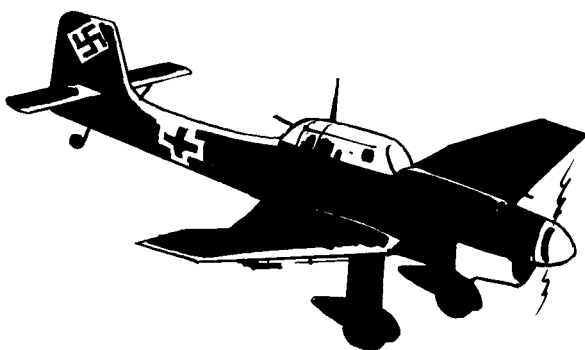
3. *Japanese* A model of efficiency, it was used in the kamikaze attacks (suicide attacks).

B-17



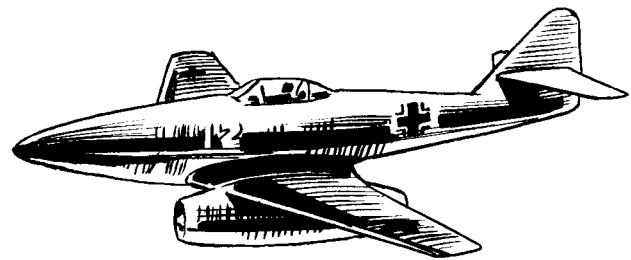
4. *American* The Boeing Flying Fortress was the world's first operational four-engine bomber and was the standard bomber used by the Army.

Stuka



5. *German* It was capable of dropping 1,100-pound bombs with deadly accuracy.

Messerschmitt



6. *German* It was the first jet plane to engage in battle.

The Birth of Israel

Following World War II, the United Nations was founded to prevent future wars and settle disagreements between nations (for more on the United Nations see page 17 of this book). Three years after it was established, the UN faced one of its first tests.

Both Jews and Arabs claimed that Palestine, in the Middle East, was their homeland. Britain occupied the territory in 1917 and began to rule it as a mandate in 1922. As part of a compromise with the Arabs in 1939, Britain promised Palestinian independence as an Arab state and moved to limit Jewish immigration. Events in Europe caused more Jews to move to Palestine. Unable to resolve the issue, Britain turned the matter over to the United Nations in 1947. The UN came up with what they considered an equitable solution, voting to create a new Jewish state, Israel. It was not a popular decision, however, and violence between Arabs and Israelis has continued into the end of the twentieth century.

Learn an important fact about Israel by using the code at the bottom of this page.

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Israel was the first new nation created after World War II.