

Air Warriors (Series 6)

6 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. MiG-15

When the Soviet-built MiG-15 first screamed over the battlegrounds of the Korean War, America is horrified at what this new enemy fighter could do. Nimble, jet-powered, and capable of diving at supersonic speed, it outperforms any machine in the sky. Its sole purpose: ambush and bring down the B-29s bombers that are decimating the North Korean infrastructure. As it accomplished its mission time and again, the MiG-15 achieves the impossible – it steals air supremacy from the Americans. In the episode of AIR WARRIORS, we profile the MiG 15, the grandfather of the MiG fighter jet & the evolution of this infamous plane.

2. F22 Raptor & Stealth

It is supposed to be the jet for the 21st century—a combination of super-cruise, supermanueverability, sensor fusion and stealth all in one package. Through a combination of delays, cost-overruns, wide dispersement of manufacturers and a changing combat landscape, it never really took off....both literally and metaphorically. While many stood by its creation for years, it finally fell victim to its own hype. This episode of AIR WARRIORS profiles the F-22 Raptor, the history of stealth fighters and where fighter jets are heading next.

3. F6F Hellcat

It is the aircraft that secured victory for the Allies during World War II. It is a custom-built fighter plane, designed during wartime to go head-to-head with the Japanese A6M Zero. And it's the weapon the U.S. Navy used to win control in the Pacific and ultimately, the war itself. Meet the F6F Hellcat—the fighter plane that turned the tide for the Allies.

4. F-4 Phantom

The McDonnell F-4 Phantom II – otherwise known as the Bent Wing Wonder, Old Smokey, Rhino, Elephant, Double Ugly, and other nicknames not fit for print – is arguably one of the finest combat fighters of the 20th Century. It was produced in larger numbers than any other Western fighter of the time, and served with the U.S. Air Force, the Navy, and Marine Corps, and with 11 other nations around the world. In this episode of AIR WARRIORS, we profile one of the most effective combat jets in US combat: the Phantom II.

5. AC-130 Spectre

Take the versatile design of the storied C-130 Hercules transport model, add a lethal number of miniguns, cannons and howitzers, and you get one of the most fabled and feared assets in the USAF inventory – the AC-130 flying gunship. This plane does not drop bombs or break speed records. Flying night or day, loitering at low altitude, it fires shells you'd expect to find on a tank or a battleship. In this episode of AIR WARRIORS, we're profiling one of the deadliest combat weapons on the planet, the indomitable AC-130.

6. Dassault Rafale

Versatility. Interoperability. Flexibility. Survivability. The Dassault Rafale is an aircraft capable of performing both air-to-air and air-to-ground strikes as well as interceptions simultaneously. Outfitted with 14 hardpoints suitable for carrying nine tons of weaponry and ordnance such as a 30mm cannon, laser-guided bombs and ground-attack munitions, this twin-engine aircraft certainly deserves the name "burst of fire." In this episode of AIR WARRIORS, we profile the "force multiplier" Dassault Rafale, the French Air Force and Navy prime combat omni-role dogfighter.