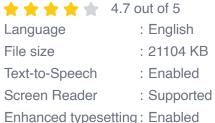
EB-66 Destroyer Units in Combat: An In-Depth Examination of the Combat Aircraft



B/EB-66 Destroyer Units in Combat (Combat Aircraft

Book 137) by Peter E. Davies



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The EB-66 Destroyer was a highly specialized electronic warfare aircraft that served in the United States Air Force from the 1950s to the 1980s. Developed as a replacement for the aging EB-47 Stratojet, the EB-66 was designed to provide electronic warfare support for strike and reconnaissance aircraft. The aircraft was equipped with a variety of electronic warfare systems, including radar jammers, chaff dispensers, and electronic countermeasures (ECM). The EB-66 also had a powerful radar system that allowed it to detect and track enemy aircraft and missiles.

The EB-66 first saw combat in the Vietnam War, where it played a vital role in suppressing enemy air defenses. The aircraft also participated in the 1973 Yom Kippur War and the 1982 Lebanon War. In addition to its combat operations, the EB-66 was also used for training and research purposes.

The aircraft was retired from service in 1985, but it remains an important part of the history of electronic warfare.

Design and Development

The EB-66 Destroyer was developed by Grumman Aircraft Engineering Corporation. The aircraft was based on the B-66 Destroyer, a light bomber that was in service with the United States Air Force at the time. The EB-66 was designed to be a more capable electronic warfare aircraft than the EB-47 Stratojet, which it was replacing. The aircraft was equipped with a variety of electronic warfare systems, including radar jammers, chaff dispensers, and electronic countermeasures (ECM). The EB-66 also had a powerful radar system that allowed it to detect and track enemy aircraft and missiles.

The EB-66 was a large aircraft, with a wingspan of 103 feet and a length of 75 feet. The aircraft was powered by two Pratt & Whitney J75 turbojet engines, which gave it a top speed of 630 miles per hour. The EB-66 had a crew of four: a pilot, a co-pilot, a navigator, and an electronic warfare officer. The aircraft was also equipped with a variety of defensive systems, including chaff dispensers and flares.

Combat Operations

The EB-66 Destroyer first saw combat in the Vietnam War, where it played a vital role in suppressing enemy air defenses. The aircraft was used to jam enemy radar systems and to decoy enemy missiles. The EB-66 also provided electronic warfare support for strike and reconnaissance aircraft. The aircraft was credited with saving the lives of many American pilots and aircrew.

The EB-66 also participated in the 1973 Yom Kippur War and the 1982 Lebanon War. In the Yom Kippur War, the EB-66 was used to jam Egyptian and Syrian air defenses. The aircraft also provided electronic warfare support for Israeli strike and reconnaissance aircraft. In the Lebanon War, the EB-66 was used to jam Syrian air defenses and to decoy Syrian missiles. The aircraft also provided electronic warfare support for American and Israeli strike and reconnaissance aircraft.

In addition to its combat operations, the EB-66 was also used for training and research purposes. The aircraft was used to train electronic warfare officers and to develop new electronic warfare techniques. The EB-66 was also used to test new electronic warfare systems.

Retirement

The EB-66 Destroyer was retired from service in 1985. The aircraft was replaced by the EA-6B Prowler, a more capable electronic warfare aircraft. The EA-6B Prowler is still in service with the United States Navy today.

Legacy

The EB-66 Destroyer was a highly successful electronic warfare aircraft. The aircraft played a vital role in suppressing enemy air defenses and in providing electronic warfare support for strike and reconnaissance aircraft. The EB-66 also helped to develop new electronic warfare techniques and systems. The aircraft is an important part of the history of electronic warfare.

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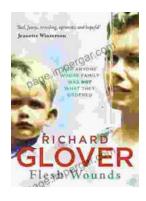
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