

SMITHSONIAN HISTORY OF AVIATION SERIES

RUSSIA'S AIR POWER



IN CRISIS

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Russias Air Power At The Crossroads

THomas W. Zarzecki



Russias Air Power At The Crossroads:

Russia's Air Power at the Crossroads, 1996 This report is an assessment of trends and prospects in Russian military aviation It is based in large measure on the extensive reportage on air power and other military matters that has pervaded the Russian defense literature since the onset of glasnost in 1986 It also benefits from limited first hand contacts between the author and senior Russian Air Force and aviation industry leaders The roots of this undertaking go back to a Project AIR FORCE study initiated at RAND in 1987 for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Operations Headquarters United States Air Force aimed at providing a comprehensive look at how tactical aviation fitted into broader Soviet concepts for theater warfare in Europe That project entitled Soviet Tactical Air Power in Strategic Perspective sought to examine the USSR s fighter force in terms of its historical origins organizational development training and tactics operational style mission tasking and role in overall theater campaign strategy Soon after work began most of the original questions posed along with the geostrategic setting of Soviet force planning underwent a fundamental change as a result of then President Mikhail Gorbachev s doctrinal innovations and the ensuing end of the cold war At the same time Gorbachev s domestic reforms created new issues of interest with regard to Soviet military aviation They also opened up some unprecedented sources of insight into the inner workings of the Soviet defense establishment As a result the sponsoring office Project CHECKMATE agreed to Put the study on hold so that these developments might be taken into proper account

Russia's Air Power at the Crossroads Benjamin S. Lambeth, 1996 This report assesses trends and prospects in Russian military aviation drawing on the extensive reportage on air power in the Russian defense literature since the onset of glasnost in 1986

Russia's Military Modernisation: An Assessment The International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), 2020-09-29 This new IISS Strategic Dossier examines the recent development of Moscow s armed forces and military capabilities It analyses the aspirations underpinning Russia s military reform programme and its successes as well as its failures The book also provides insights into Russia s operational use of its armed forces including in the intervention in Syria the goals and results of recent state armament programmes and the trajectory of future developments This full colour volume includes more than 50 graphics maps and charts and over 70 images and contains chapters on Russia s armed forces since the end of the Cold War Strategic forces Ground forces Naval forces Aerospace forces Russia s approach to military decision making and joint operations Economics and industry At a time when Russia s relations with many of its neighbours are increasingly strained and amid renewed concern about the risk of an armed clash this dossier is essential reading for understanding the state capabilities and future of Russia s armed forces

Russia's Chechen Wars 1994-2000 Olga Oliker, 2001-09-28 An examination of the difficulties faced by the Russian military in planning and carrying out urban operations in Chechnya Russian and rebel military forces fought to control the Chechen city of Grozny in the winters of 1994 1995 and 1999 2000 as well as clashing in smaller towns and villages The author examines both Russian and rebel tactics and operations in those

battles focusing on how and why the combatants' approaches changed over time. The study concludes that while the Russian military was able to significantly improve its ability to carry out a number of key tasks in the five year interval between the wars, other important missions particularly in the urban realm were ignored largely in the belief that the urban mission could be avoided. This conscious decision not to prepare for a most stressful battlefield met with devastating results: a lesson the United States would be well served to study.

Air Power History, 1997

A History of Air Warfare John Andreas Olsen, 2010. This one volume anthology provides a comprehensive analysis of the role that air power has played in military conflicts over the past century. Comprising sixteen essays penned by a global cadre of leading military experts, *A History of Air Warfare* chronologically examines the utility of air power from the First World War to the second Lebanon war campaign by campaign. Each essay lays out the objectives, events and key players of the conflict in question, reviews the role of air power in the strategic and operational contexts and explores the interplay between the political framework and military operations.

International Warbirds John C. Fredriksen, 2001-08-01. In depth descriptions and photographs of the aircraft of 21 nations presented with a unique human dimension that goes behind the machines to the people involved. Invaluable for specialists, accessible to enthusiasts. *International Warbirds: An Illustrated Guide to World Military Aircraft 1914-2000* puts the most legendary fighter aircraft of the 20th century developed outside the United States on vivid display. It offers 336 illustrated biographies of the most significant warplanes used in squadron service from World War I to the Balkan conflict, including numerous models from Great Britain, France, Russia and Japan, as well as notable machines from Israel, Canada, China, India, Brazil and other nations. Entries span the history and scope of military aircraft from bombers and fighters to transports, trainers, reconnaissance craft, sea planes and helicopters, with each capsule history combining nuts and bolts technical data with the story of that model's evolution and use. Together, these portraits offer an exciting, well researched tribute to visionary designers and builders, as well as courageous pilots and crews across the globe, and tell a vivid tale of how air power became such a decisive factor in modern warfare.

Air power and warfare United States Air Force Academy. Library, 1978

Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, 1997-05

A Look at Tomorrow's Tactical Air Forces Lane Pierrot, Jo Ann Vines, 1997

China's Stealth Fighter Abraham Abrams, 2025-01-02. A detailed exploration of China's J 20 stealth fighter, its development, impact and role in reshaping global power dynamics. The United States and Soviet Union began a race to develop the first and most capable fifth generation stealth fighters in the late 1970s. The Cold War's end, however, was followed by both a near total collapse of Russian efforts and major cuts and delays to American programs. This provided an opening for a rising and fast modernising Chinese defense industry to kick off its own ambitious program to produce a world leading fighter jet with next generation capabilities. Once unveiled, the program came to be seen as a herald of China's rising status as a leading player in high tech and major world power. Development of the Chengdu J 20 began in the 1990s and has since consistently far exceeded expectations in both its performance and its development timeline. The fighter made its first

flight in 2011 and began deliveries to the People's Liberation Army Air Force in 2016 a small fraction of the time its American and Russian rivals would take Today it is the world's second most numerous stealth fighter outnumbered only by America's much smaller Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II with the two rivals seeing their first of many likely encounters confirmed in March 2022 As the J-20's capabilities have rapidly improved and the rate of production has significantly grown it has very conspicuously played a growing role in patrolling major hotspots in East Asia from Korea and the East China Sea to the Taiwan Strait and disputed South China Sea The J-20 program's success has been the most potent symbol of China's ascent from a minor player in combat aviation during the Cold War to the United States only peer level competitor today It has also set China on a course of pursuing multiple other fighter development efforts including a close competition with America to field the first and most capable sixth generation fighter in the 2030s The J-20 thus marks a major landmark not only in Chinese aviation history but also more broadly in the evolving balance of power between East and West as the country's technological and economic ascents allow it to successfully pursue highly ambitious weapons programs This book takes the J-20's story far back to the formation of the People's Liberation Army Air Force and its trial by fire in the Korean War tracing the rationale for developing a top end air superiority fighter It also compares its performance with rival fifth generation fighter programs in other countries and looks ahead to what the future may hold in this new arms race

Arms Diffusion

Thomas W. Zarzecki, 2018-12-20 Weapons proliferation is one of the most pressing global concerns following the end of the Cold War Despite the absence of an overarching superpower conflict armaments and related technologies have continued to spread throughout the international system This has been particularly true in areas like East Asia and the Middle East where the traditional two party arms races are not readily apparent This text addresses these concerns and shortcomings using data on fourteen specific military technological innovations that diffused throughout the international system from 1960 to 1997

Airpower Journal, 1998 *Air University Periodical Index*, 1961 *J-20 Mighty Dragon* Abraham Abrams, 2024-12-31

The J-20 fifth generation stealth fighter program has epitomised China's rise from a laggard in combat aviation into a potential world leader J-20 Mighty Dragon Asia's First Stealth Fighter in the Era of China's Military Rise details the J-20's technologies capabilities production timeline design priorities roles evolution and the formations and locations where it has been deployed the ways other countries have responded to it and how the last 30 years of China's industrial and technology sector's modernisation positioned the country to produce what may well now be the world's top air superiority fighter The J-20 program is the most high profile indicator of a turning point in the balance of power between China and the United States and has produced by far the most capable fighter that America or its allies could face in a potential conflict An assessment of the history of Chinese air superiority capabilities and how the Korean War in particular has influenced the country to place a very strong emphasis on the need to field a leading fighter for air to air combat thus provides an important deeper understanding of the program Important context to understanding the J-20's significance and its current global standing is

provided by brief assessments of the positions of the Russian and American fighter industries The parallel development of supporting assets from aerial tankers to electronic warfare planes is also explored for a better understanding of the much transformed Chinese fleet which J 20s are being inducted into The program is also shown to have had a particularly significant influence in the United States ranging from placing discourse on the F 35 s modernisation and on sixth generation fighter development in an entirely new context to stimulating the formation of new counter stealth aggressor training units development of new air to air missiles and the acquisition of E 7 flying radar aircraft among many other responses to the new challenge J 20 Mighty Dragon Asia s First Stealth Fighter in the Era of China s Military Rise is the fi rst volume in the new Technology War series and is extensively illustrated with colour photographs throughout and specially commissioned colour artworks Air University Library Index to Military Periodicals ,1999 Trends in the Global Balance of Airpower Christopher J. Bowie,1995 This document contains the supporting data for MR 478 1 AF Trends in the Global Balance of Airpower Its tables give country by country counts of military aircraft surface to air missiles and helicopters for the year 1991 It also supplies economic data GNP central government expenditure and military expenditure for the nations employed in the analysis for the years 1979 1989 **Air Defence in Northern Europe** Heikki Nikunen,1997 Analyse af fire nationers Finland Norge Sovjetunionen og Sverige luftforsvar i bred forstand dvs flyvev ben og luftv rnsartilleri Analysen d kker perioden fra 1920 erne til idag og giver i sin konklusion et bud p den fremtidige udvikling *Special Bibliography Series* ,1957 **Interflo** ,1996

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