

They now rule the A-1, the Sky Master designed and built by Douglas, which is to be furnished to U.S. forces in South Vietnam this summer.

Variety of Models

It was produced in a variety of models for the Navy through 1951. The Navy purchased more than 3,000 of the Douglas craft—originally called the A1.

The original T-28 "Twins" first flew in September, 1943. Production started in 1943. The Air Force bought

In 1942, the Navy ordered T-28s in a new "B" model with a more powerful 140 h.p. engine. These are the models used in Vietnam.

After the Air Force began buying Beach T-28 trainers most T-28s found their way in the army heap. When the late President Kennedy needed increased emphasis on counter-insurgency tactics, however, a few T-28B types, single-engine, were developed for the Air Force's own special warfare teams.

Pushing Development

The Air Force now is pushing development of a T-28 with basically the same structure but powered by a turbo-prop 450 h.p. Whether the basic structure can be adapted to the more powerful engine without other performance penalties remains unclear.

The B-28 Douglas "Seabee" lumber first flew in July, 1943, as the A-28. The Air Force's 1948 step in dropping the "A" designation—the "attack" craft—has led in recognition of the Douglas craft with an earlier World War II Marine-made B-28, a greatly different combat bomber and used since wartime.

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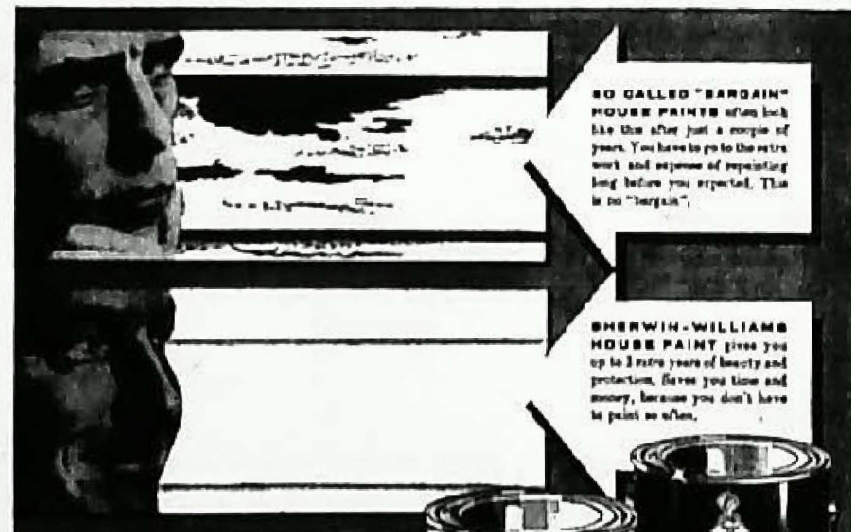
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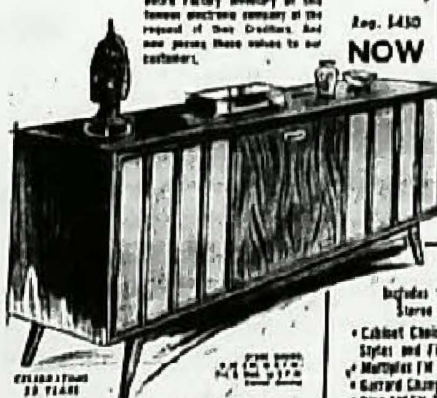
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