

Lockheed P2V Neptune

The Lockheed P2V Neptune is a multiple-engined maritime patrol and anti-submarine aircraft. Early versions had two rotary engines, but later versions added two auxiliary jet engines. In 1962, it was redesignated as the P-2.

In 1954, Lockheed converted five P2V-7s into P2V-7U electronic intelligence (ELINT) aircraft for the CIA. Armament was removed and in its place a wide and variable range of ELINT equipment was installed.

There were nominally assigned to the USAF and designated RB-69A. From 1957 to 1959, they were used by CIA crews for missions in Europe. From 1957 to 1966, they were flown by ROCAF crews from the 34th "Black Bats" Squadron on ELINT missions over mainland China. Five were lost, with at least three being shot down.

The normal load for an RB-69A would be two 200 gal (760L) FTs on the wing tips. From 1964, AIM-9B IRMs could be carried, but the low speed of the aircraft reduced the chance of a successful launch.

An ADC is provided for the:

- P2V-7U

P2V-7U Neptune								Crew: Pilot, Co-Pilot, Third Pilot, Flight Engineer, Navigator, Navigator, Radar Navigator, Radar Navigator, ECM Officer, ECM Officer, Radio Operator, Observer, and Observer					
								Maneuver HFPs/DPs:					
Power APs/DPs: ○○ ○○								LR/DR	—	—			
CL 1/2 DT Fuel FT 1.5 1.5 1.0 2.0 HT 1.0 1.0 0.5 1.0 N 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.2 I 1.0 1.0 1.0 0.0 SPBR — — — —								VR	—	—			
Cruise Spd. CL: 2.5 Restr. Arcs: 60– Climb Spd.: 2.0 Blind Arcs: 30L Visibility: 9 Internal Fuel: 940 Size: -2 AtA Refuel: No Vulnerability: +1 Ejection Seat: None								Turn DPs:					
								CL	1/2	DT			
								TT	0.0	0.0	0.5		
								HT	1.0	1.0	1.0		
								BT	2.0	—	—		
								ET	—	—	—		
								No rolling maneuvers allowed.					
If speed ≥ 3.0, reduce power by 0.5.													
Speeds and Ceilings								Climb Capabilities					
Alt. Band	Conf. Ceil.	CL	1/2	DT	Dive Speed	CL AB	1/2 AB	DT AB	DT Oth	Alt.	Conf.		
		22	18	12		Oth	Oth	Oth	Oth				
EH+	46+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	EH+			
VH	36–45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	VH			
HI	26–35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	HI			
MH	17–25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	MH			
ML	8–16	—	—	1.5 – 3.5	4.0	—	—	—	—	0.25	ML		
LO	0–7	—	—	1.5 – 3.0	4.0	—	—	—	—	0.25	LO		
Radar: APQ-24				ECM: IFF	Weapon Stations Diagram:								
ECCM:	1			RWR: C									
Arcs:	180+			DDS: A									
Search:	Gr. Nav. (180)			DJM: B4									
Track:	Gr. Attack (120)			AJM: B4									
Lock-On:	0			BJM: B3									
Guns: —				Technology: TFR-A	Load Point Limits:								
To Hit:	—			CL : 0–0 1/2: 1–1									
Ammunition:	—			Weight Limit: 10,600							DT : 2+		
Gunsight:	—			Station							Allowed Loads		
Ranging:	—			1 and 7	1,300	FT							
AtA/AtG:	—			2–3 and 5–6	150	IRM							
Bomb System: Manual				4	8,000		Load Notes:						
Notes:				1. The Lockheed P2V-7U Neptune is an electronic intelligence (ELINT) aircraft. It is a specialized adaptation of the P2V-7. It was formally assigned to the USAF and designated the RB-69A. 2. Low roll rate (LRR). 3. Flight Restrictions. VD, VC, and unloading are forbidden. 4. The aircraft has two propeller engines and two jet engines. HT uses the propeller engines. FT uses both the propeller and jet engines. When the power setting is HT or less, reduce the maximum speed by 1.0. 5. DDS is available from 1959 and can dispense CH only. 6. BJM is available from 1959. 7. AJM is available from 1962. 8. TFR-A is available from 1964.								1. Stations 1 and 7 are the wing-tip stations. They always carry 400 gal (760L) FTs. 2. May use AIM-9B IRMs from 1964. Apply a launch modifier of +1 for each 0.5 speed below 3.0. 3. Station 4 is the internal bomb bay. It can carry a supply pod or a leaflet dispenser. 4. The weight of the internal ELINT equipment is sufficient that the aircraft is always considered to be DT.	
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