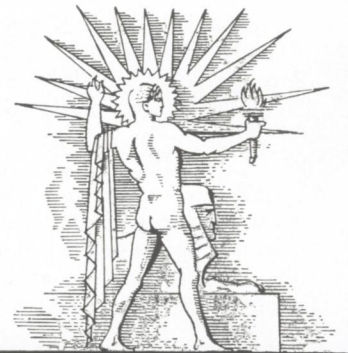


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SCIENCE NEWS LETTER

THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF CURRENT SCIENCE ●



March 28, 1942

For Victory

See Page 198

A SCIENCE SERVICE PUBLICATION

Do You Know?

Most of the *sand* on our beaches comes from eroded sandstone on the ocean floor.

Early Roman aristocrats set up salt-water tanks in their villas to keep *oysters* fresh.

Niacin is now the official name for the pellagra-preventing vitamin once known as nicotinic acid.

The *Diesel-electric* locomotives can start a long train in half the time a steam locomotive requires.

The *mourning dove*, sometimes called turtle dove, is the only game bird that breeds in every State.

More than three million cotton undergarments treated to protect the body against *gas* have been ordered by the U. S. Army.

Up to 1942 the war effort cost this country over six billion feet of *wood*—a need of twelve to fifteen billion feet is estimated for 1942.

The older Gullah Negroes of the Sea Islands of the South Carolina and Georgia coasts still believe that a child born with a *caul* has a gift for seeing ghosts.

Wrestlers of certain African tribes wear iron bracelets equipped with cutting edges or spikes—a bad blow often puts the loser to bed for as long as three months.

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QUESTIONS DISCUSSED IN THIS ISSUE

Most articles which appear in SCIENCE NEWS LETTER are based on communications to Science Service, or on papers before meetings. Where published sources are used they are referred to in the article

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Enough *lumber* is used in crating a bomber to build a five-room house.

The *hourglass* is said to have been originally used to limit the length of sermons.

Wild roses are found in every section of North America from the Arctic circle to Mexico, a Department of Agriculture scientist states.

Soybean oil is proving very satisfactory for paint making in place of linseed oil in tests conducted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Wealthy women of ancient Greece dressed before silver *mirrors*.

The common Virginia *opossum* differs little from the 'possums of sixty million years ago.

A *cannon* big enough to stop a tank has no more kick than a 3,000-pound tractor when it pulls a plowshare against a buried rock.

In *Navy plane* designations, "V" means heavier-than-air type; "X", indicates experimental design; "Z", lighter than air (balloons, blimps, dirigibles).

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The Science Observer, established by the American Institute of the City of New York, is now included in the SCIENCE NEWS LETTER.

The New York Museum of Science and Industry has elected SCIENCE NEWS LETTER as its official publication to be received by its members.

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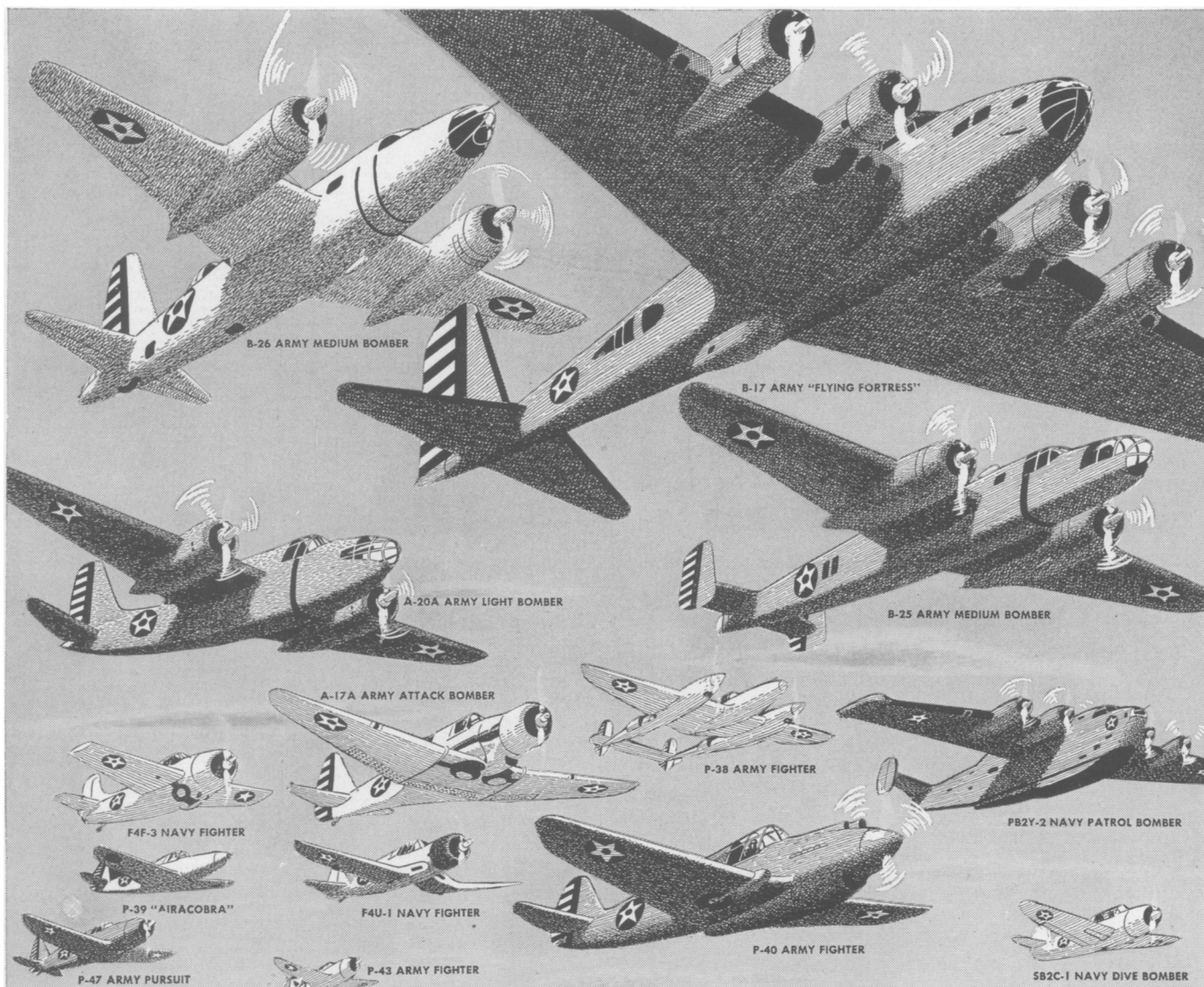
In ONE way all these American war planes are alike

★ All American fighting planes have one important feature in common: their engines are designed for high-octane gasoline. That's the basic reason why they have more power than similar enemy planes. And because they have more power, they will—plane for plane—outfly and outfight our enemies'.

We alone have *all three* things needed to produce high-octane gasoline—and plenty of it: *one*—vast resources of high quality crude oil; *two*—superior re-

fining processes, developed by America's petroleum industry; *three*—adequate production of anti-knock fluid to improve octane ratings of military gasolines.

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