

Item Summary

Aircraft: Lockheed RB-34 Lexington

Military Serial Number: AJ311

Manufacturer Construction Number: 237-449

NMUSAF Accession Number: 1979-834

Current Location: National Museum of the United States Air Force, Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433

- Note: Aircraft is located on a restricted area of WPAFB and is not publicly accessible.

Historical Information

The RB-34 Lexington (RAF Ventura Mk II and US Navy PV-1 Ventura) is a twin-engine (R-2800s) aircraft based on the Lockheed Model 18 Lodestar.

During World War II, the US Army Air Forces, Royal Air Force, and US Navy used the aircraft for bombing and for maritime patrol. Initial military acceptance occurred in 1941. The US Army Air Forces acquired this aircraft as a result of a cancelled Lend Lease contract and after active service it was used for civilian research and test purposes. It was transferred to the NMUSAF inventory in 1970. This example was an ex-RAF Lockheed Ventura Mk.II. A World War II Lend Lease aircraft, it was repossessed from the RAF and placed on loan with the Lightning & Transients Research Institute. There, the aircraft was used for scientific research studying lightning strikes on aircraft. During World War II the aircraft was painted with Disney inspired nose art.

Physical Information

Dimensions:

- Length: 51 feet, 5 inches
- Wingspan: 65 feet, 6 inches
- Height: 11 feet, 10 inches

Weight: 20,197 pounds (empty)

Condition: Displayable with restoration. Images below.

- External: Complete but disassembled; engines uninstalled
- Internal: Incomplete; no internal components and equipment installed



RB-34, Serial Number AJ311

