

# ARCHIVED REPORT

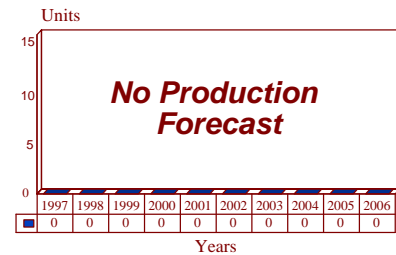
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## Grumman A-6 Intruder - Archived 3/98

### Outlook

- All to be phased out by 1998
- Re-winging, other mods canceled

10 Year Unit Production Forecast  
1997 - 2006



### Orientation

**Description.** Twin-engine, all-weather carrier-based attack aircraft.

**Sponsor.** US Navy Naval Air Systems Command, Washington, DC, USA.

**Contractors.** Grumman Aerospace Corp, Bethpage, NY (Northrop Grumman from 1994).

**Status.** Production of A-6E completed in 1991; all USN A-6s to be retired by 1998.

**Total Produced.** Through 1991, Grumman produced 704 A-6 series, including 205 A-6Es and three A-6Fs.

**Application.** All-weather ground, defense suppression, and anti-ship attack from aircraft carriers.

**Price Range.** FY88 unit flyaway cost of A-6E, \$55.5 million.

### Technical Data

**Design Features.** Conventional, semi-monocoque fuselage carrying a cantilevered, mid-wing monoplane wing set with 25 percent sweep-back at the quarter-chord

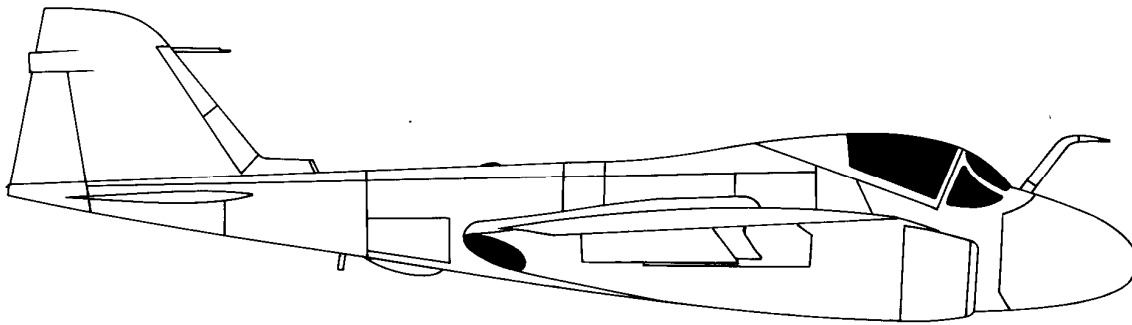
station; hydraulically operated nearly full-span trailing-edge and leading-edge flaps; pilot and bombardier navigator positions. All-moving tailplane (stabilator).

Dimensions	<u>Metric</u>	<u>US</u>
Length overall	16.69 m	54.760 ft
Height overall	4.93 m	16.176 ft
Wingspan	16.15 m	52.989 ft
Wing area, gross	49.1 sq m	528.56 sq ft
<b>Weight</b>		
Weight, empty	12,132 kg	26,747 lb
Internal fuel load	7,230 kg	15,940 lb

Max external load	8,165 kg	18,001 lb
Max T-O weight		
Carrier	26,580 kg	58,599 lb
Land	27,397 kg	60,400 lb
<b>Performance</b>		
Max level speed, S/L	1,297 km/h	541 kt
Service ceiling	12,925 m	42,407 ft
Combat range	5,222 km	2,818 nm
Ferry range	4,410 km	2,380 nm
<b>Propulsion</b>		
A-6E	(2)	UTC/Pratt & Whitney J52-P-8B twin-spool, non-augmented turbojets rated 41.36 kN (9,300 lbst) each.
A-6F	(2)	GE Aircraft Engines F404-GE-400D advanced technology non-augmented turbofans rated 48.93-53.38 kN (11,000-12,000 lbst) each.

**Armament.** A-6E has one underfuselage and four underwing points each accommodating 1,633 kg (3,600 lb).

**Crew.** A-6 series, pilot and weapons officer in tandem.



Grumman A-6

Source: Forecast International

## Variants/Upgrades

A-6A. Initial version, first flown in April 1960. Total of 482 built.

A-6B. Converted A model, provides Standard ARM capability. Nineteen A-6As modified to B standard.

A-6C. Converted A model with underfuselage turret housing FLIR sensors and LLLTV camera. Twelve A-6As modified to C standard.

KA-6D. Aerial tanker version, converted from A-6A and E model. Total of 85 modifications performed.

A-6E. Advanced variant of A-6A with Norden APQ-148 multi-mode radar.

## Program Review

**Background.** Grumman was selected as the finalist in the USN's A2F-1 competition in December 1957. The first A-6A flew in April 1960, and the type entered service in

early 1963. The A-6E made its appearance in February 1970 and began deliveries in late 1972.

## Recent Contracts

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None noted.

## Timetable

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May-Dec	1957	Competition for A2F-1 development contract
Dec	1957	Grumman design selected as finalist
Apr	1960	A-6A first flight
Feb	1963	A-6A entered service
Feb	1970	A-6E first flight
Sep	1972	A-6E entered service
Late	1987	A-6F prototype deliveries begun
Sep	1988	Last metal-wing A-6E delivered to USN
	1991	A-6E deliveries completed
Sep	1993	Contracts for composite wings canceled
	1998	Planned retirement of last A-6Es

## Worldwide Distribution

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(As of December 1, 1996)

US Navy 125

## Forecast Rationale

The US Navy has canceled all A-6E modernization/upgrade programs, and these aircraft are all to be retired from service by 1998. This program review is included here for informational purposes only.

## Ten-Year Outlook

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No production forecast.

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