

NEWPORT AIRBASE

1942 THRU 1946

USAAF

USMC

US NAVY

BASE OPEN 1942

CLOSED 1946

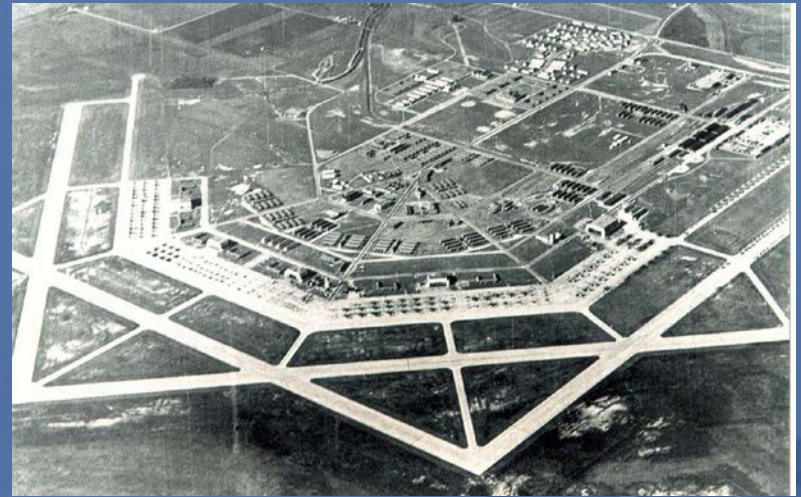


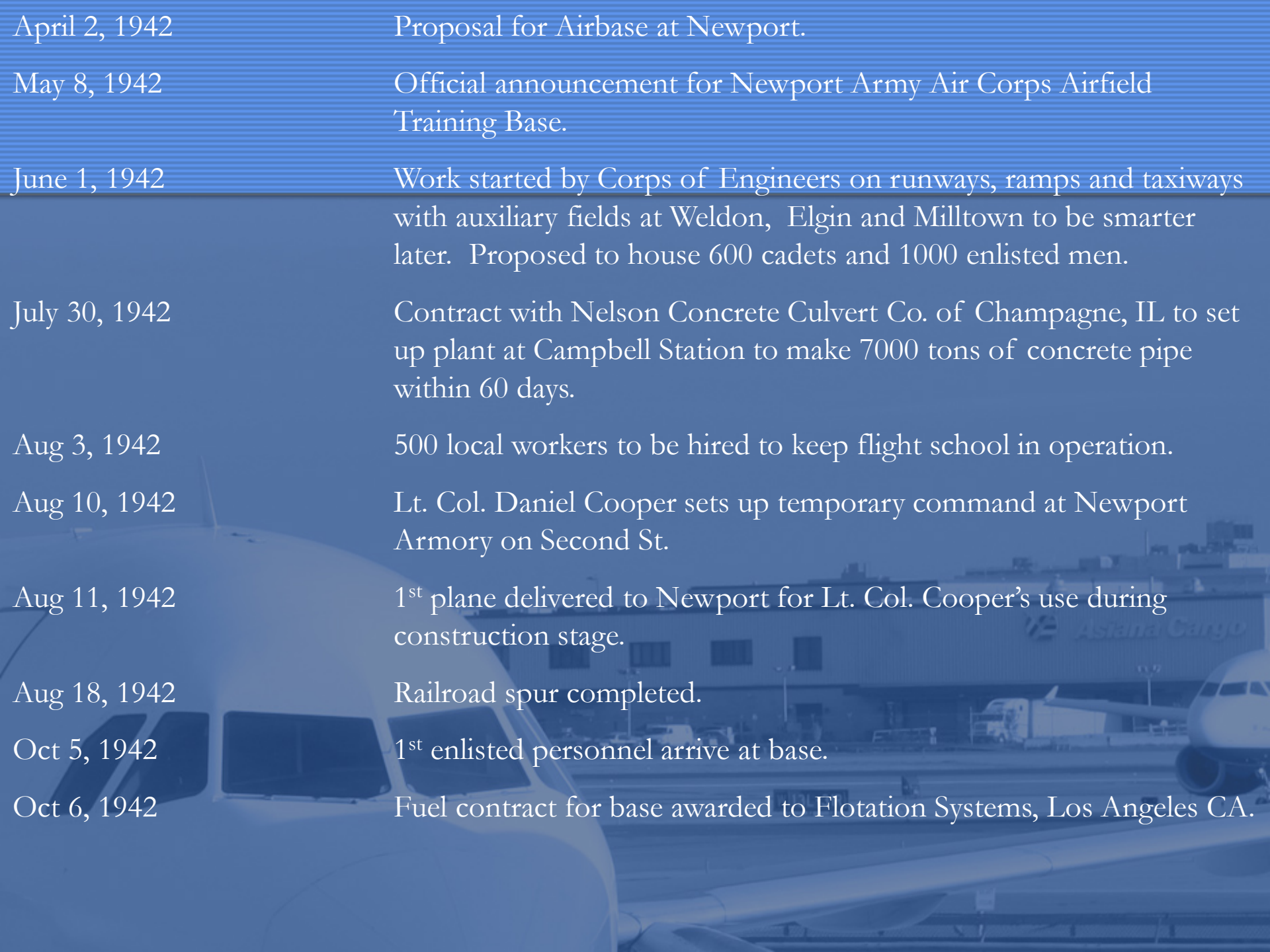
MAIN GATE OPENS

Newport Army Airfield

Construction Costs

\$2,500,000	Runways, Taxiways and Ramps
\$2,500,000	Base Buildings
\$1,000,000	Railroad Spur
\$660,000	Auxiliary Air Fields
	Erwin's Switch
	Weldon
	Amagon
	Milltown
	Elgin
\$500,000	Electrical Distribution System
\$275,000	Fuel delivery systems, Airfield drainage, Communication and navigation systems, Airfield lighting, Fire control and safety, Base infrastructure
\$200,000	Water system
\$160,000	Sewer system
\$25,000	Security Fencing
\$8,000,000	Total Base Contract





April 2, 1942

Proposal for Airbase at Newport.

May 8, 1942

Official announcement for Newport Army Air Corps Airfield Training Base.

June 1, 1942

Work started by Corps of Engineers on runways, ramps and taxiways with auxiliary fields at Weldon, Elgin and Milltown to be smarter later. Proposed to house 600 cadets and 1000 enlisted men.

July 30, 1942

Contract with Nelson Concrete Culvert Co. of Champagne, IL to set up plant at Campbell Station to make 7000 tons of concrete pipe within 60 days.

Aug 3, 1942

500 local workers to be hired to keep flight school in operation.

Aug 10, 1942

Lt. Col. Daniel Cooper sets up temporary command at Newport Armory on Second St.

Aug 11, 1942

1st plane delivered to Newport for Lt. Col. Cooper's use during construction stage.

Aug 18, 1942

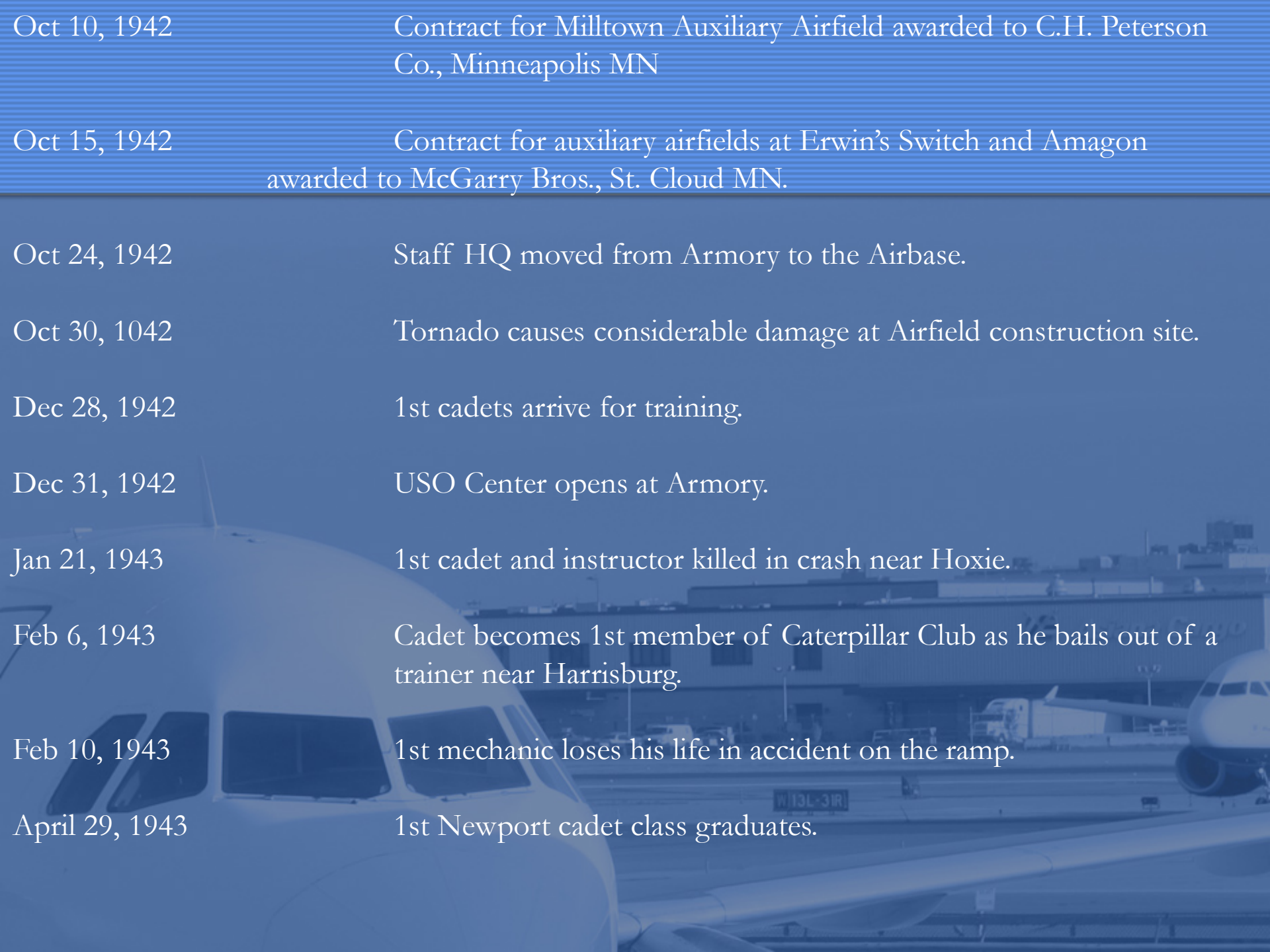
Railroad spur completed.

Oct 5, 1942

1st enlisted personnel arrive at base.

Oct 6, 1942

Fuel contract for base awarded to Flotation Systems, Los Angeles CA.



Oct 10, 1942	Contract for Milltown Auxiliary Airfield awarded to C.H. Peterson Co., Minneapolis MN
Oct 15, 1942	Contract for auxiliary airfields at Erwin's Switch and Amagon awarded to McGarry Bros., St. Cloud MN.
Oct 24, 1942	Staff HQ moved from Armory to the Airbase.
Oct 30, 1942	Tornado causes considerable damage at Airfield construction site.
Dec 28, 1942	1st cadets arrive for training.
Dec 31, 1942	USO Center opens at Armory.
Jan 21, 1943	1st cadet and instructor killed in crash near Hoxie.
Feb 6, 1943	Cadet becomes 1st member of Caterpillar Club as he bails out of a trainer near Harrisburg.
Feb 10, 1943	1st mechanic loses his life in accident on the ramp.
April 29, 1943	1st Newport cadet class graduates.



The following aircraft were used for primary flight training prior to coming to Newport for intermediate flight training.





Picture above: Stearman PT-17, used after the war for many years as crop dusters.



Civilian Fairchild PT-19



Fairchild PT-23 was PT-19 equipped with Pratt and Whitney 450 HP radial engine

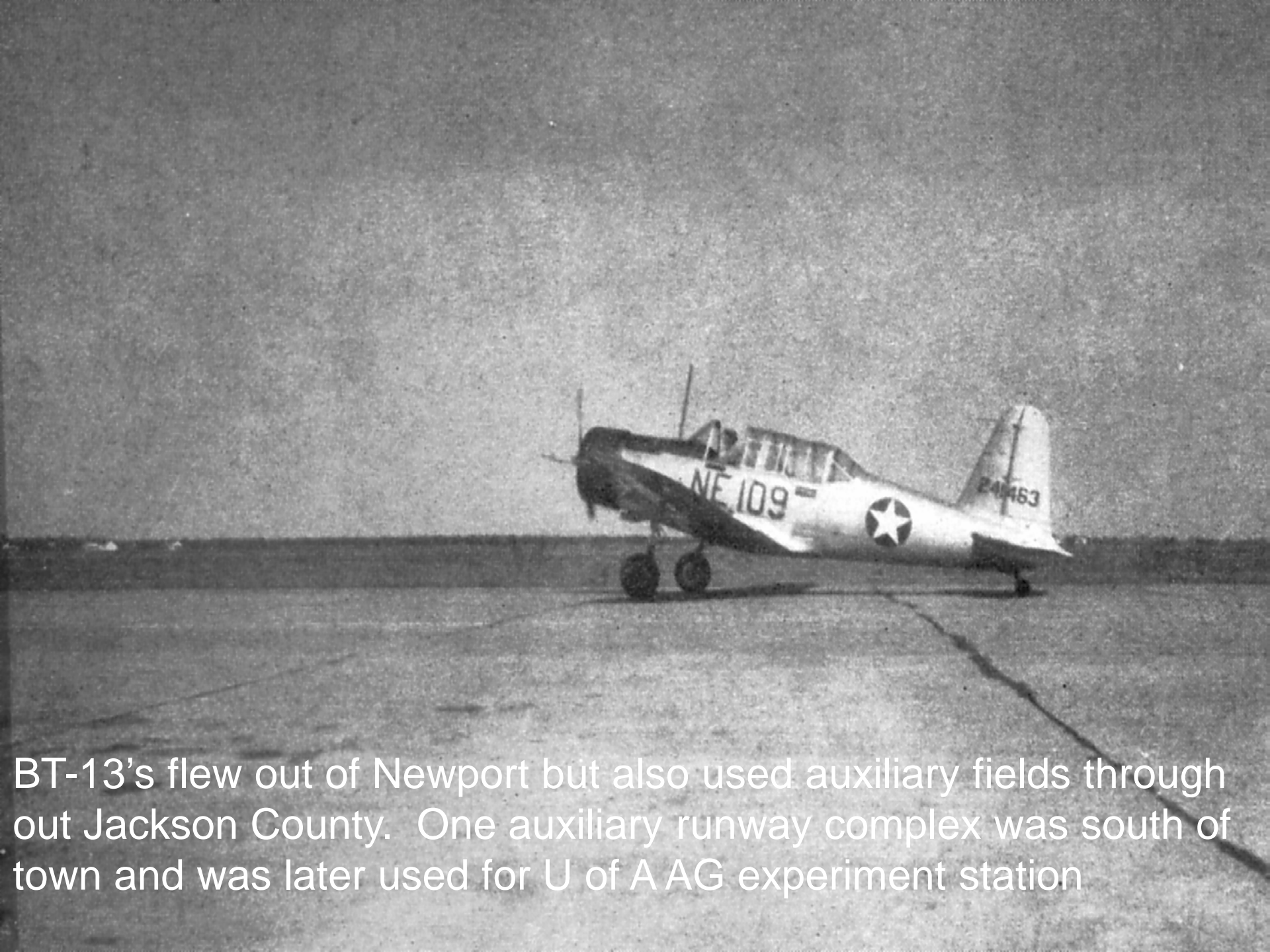


The Fairchild PT-26 is a PT-19 with enclosed canopy



Vultee BT-13 “vibrator”

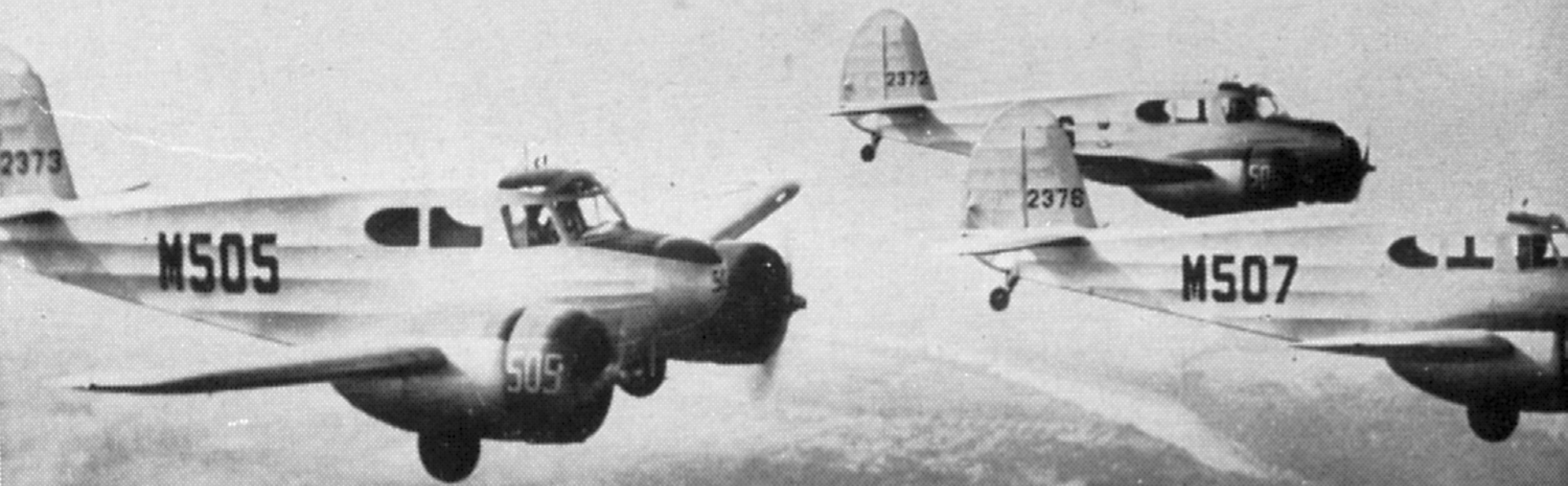
This was Newport’s training aircraft
Notice the NE designation for Newport



BT-13's flew out of Newport but also used auxiliary fields throughout Jackson County. One auxiliary runway complex was south of town and was later used for U of A AG experiment station

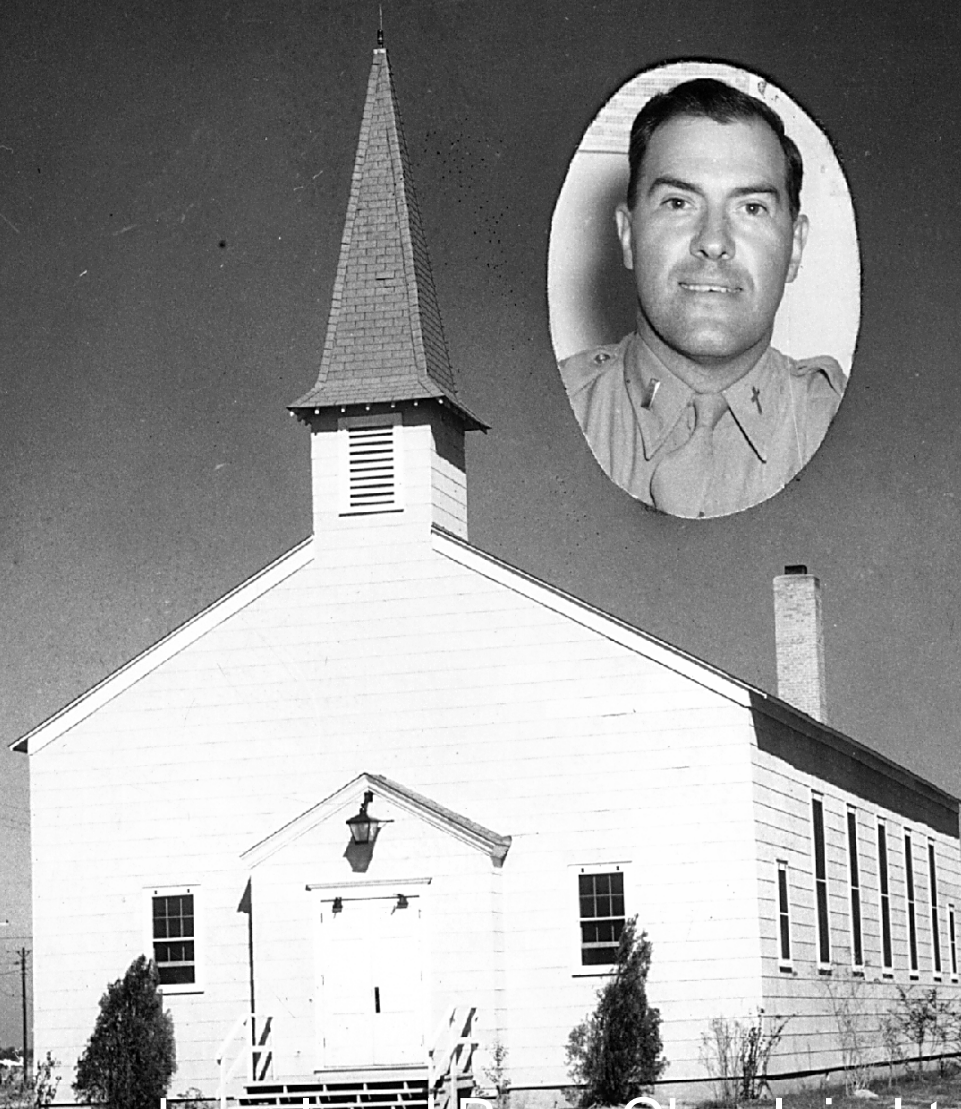


The North American AT-6 "Texan" was used at other bases and had larger engines and retractable landing gear



The Cessna T-50 "Bobcat" was nicknamed the "Bamboo Bomber" because it was made primarily out of wood. They were used at other bases to train bomber pilots.

This aircraft was seen on early TV at the plane of "Sky King"



Newport base chapel and Base Chaplain Lt. Edward Merrill



Newport troops just received shots and appear to be checking shot records



Ditching practice for pilots in Newport Base swimming pool



Troops in front of Newport base theater



Wiley Albright readies for a mission off the aircraft carrier Antietam in his FG-F Hellcat navy fighter

Newport's own Cullus Walker

as operations officer
and instructor pilot for
the 1068th flying training
squadron



WILLIAM W. EVANS, JR.
Captain
Commanding

HAROLD W. HENKE
First Lieutenant
Adjutant

CULLUS Z. WALKER
Captain
Operations Officer

1068TH BASIC FLYING TRAINING SQUADRON

(Reading from Left to Right)

First Row: Master Sergeants
Brieger, Edwin M.; Reese, Leo E.;
Strunk, George W.; Technical Ser-
geants DeBree, John T.; Giardina,
Frank A.; Nuss, Kenneth E.

Second Row: Technical Sergeants
Richmond, Walter K.; Tomlin, Robert
H.; Travis, Lee S.; Tully, John F.;
Staff Sergeants Barton, Joe T.; Bell,
Clarence A.

Third Row: Staff Sergeants Boggs,
Dick; Bookout, John H.; Connolly,
James S.; Hoffman, John D.; Justice,
James N.; Kensinger, Fred D.

Fourth Row: Staff Sergeants King,
Harvey L.; Lindauer, Phillip; McGov-
ern, Frederick; McIntyre, James J.;
Montano, Guadalupe; Papai, William
J.

Fifth Row: Staff Sergeants
Rodgers, Clayton C.; Schendei, Bur-
ton C.; Sommer, Albert R.; Swafford,
Porter B.; Sergeants Antonelli, Jo-
seph C.; Caloia, Amadeo J.

Sixth Row: Sergeants DeVault, Roy
E.; Ewell, George R.; Free, Miles K.;
Higginbotham, Ralph S.; James, C.
E.; Jordan, Lewis E.

Seventh Row: Sergeants Joy, Har-
old F.; Kaplan, Jack S.; Larrance,
John A.; Manevitch, Harold; Morgan,
M. C.





Capt. Walker in front
of a Newport BT-13
with all his winter
flying gear on



FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS



ROY T. FLING
Captain
Commanding Flight Instructors



HERBERT J. WAGNER
First Lieutenant
Commanding Flight Instructors



JOHN A. MARCACCII
First Lieutenant
Commanding Flight Instructors



STANLEY B. BALBACH
First Lieutenant



DONALD E. ADAMS
Second Lieutenant



GLEN V. BLOOM
Second Lieutenant



JOSEPH M. BOYER
Second Lieutenant



WENDELL D. BYRD
Second Lieutenant



REUBEN V. CHANDLER
Second Lieutenant



DAN M. COATS
Second Lieutenant



EDWARD E. CONNER
Second Lieutenant



JOHN W. CORBIN
Second Lieutenant



FRED M. COX
Second Lieutenant



SAM DEINES
Second Lieutenant



FRANCIS A. DELLORTO
Second Lieutenant



GARTH B. DETTINGER
Second Lieutenant



ALLEN F. EASTHAM
Second Lieutenant



JOHN D. ENFINGER
Second Lieutenant



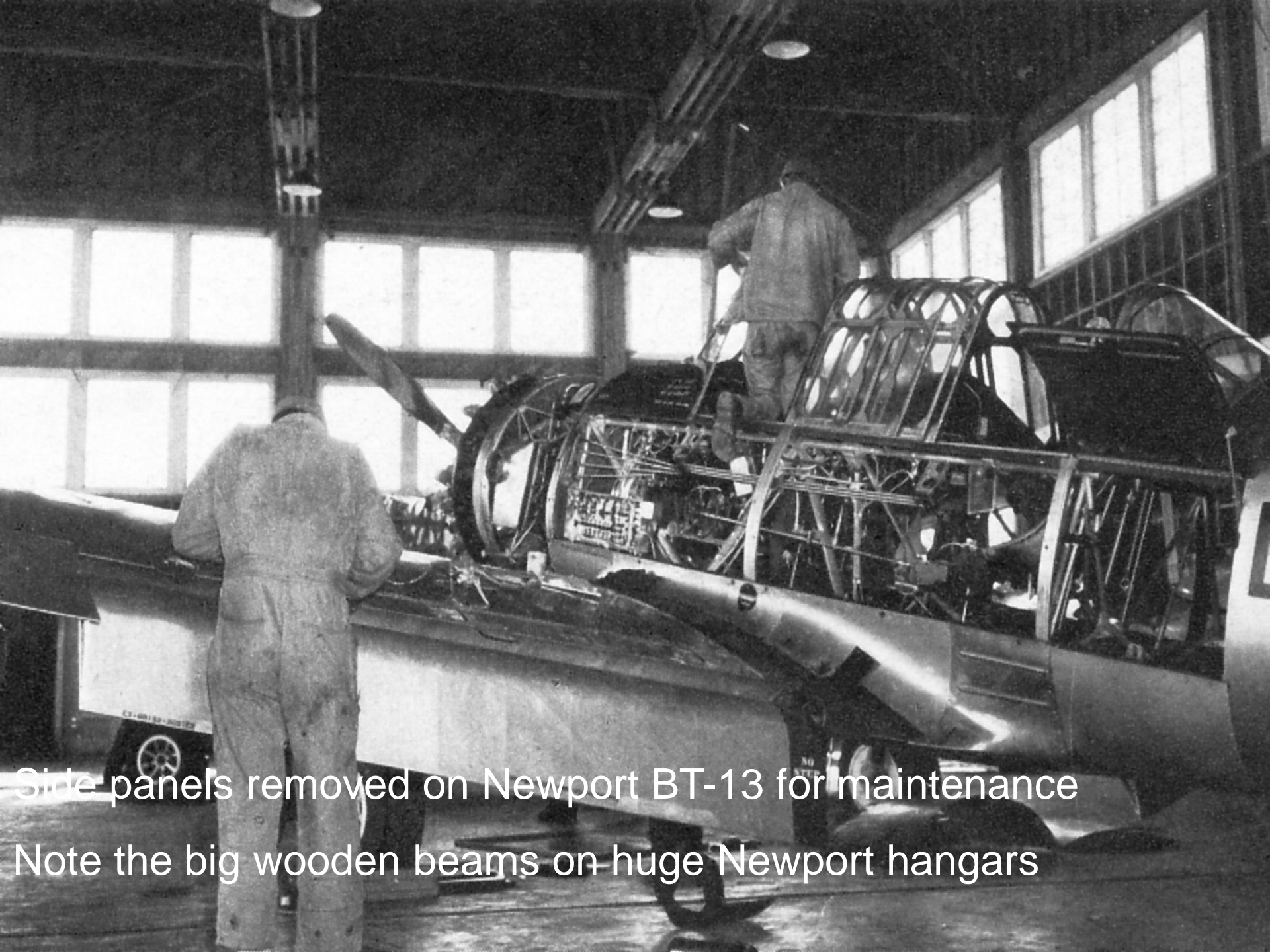
ARNOLD B. FELLOWS
Second Lieutenant



EDWIN E. FORT
Second Lieutenant

Another Newport Flight Instructor Arnold B. "Buzz" Fellows

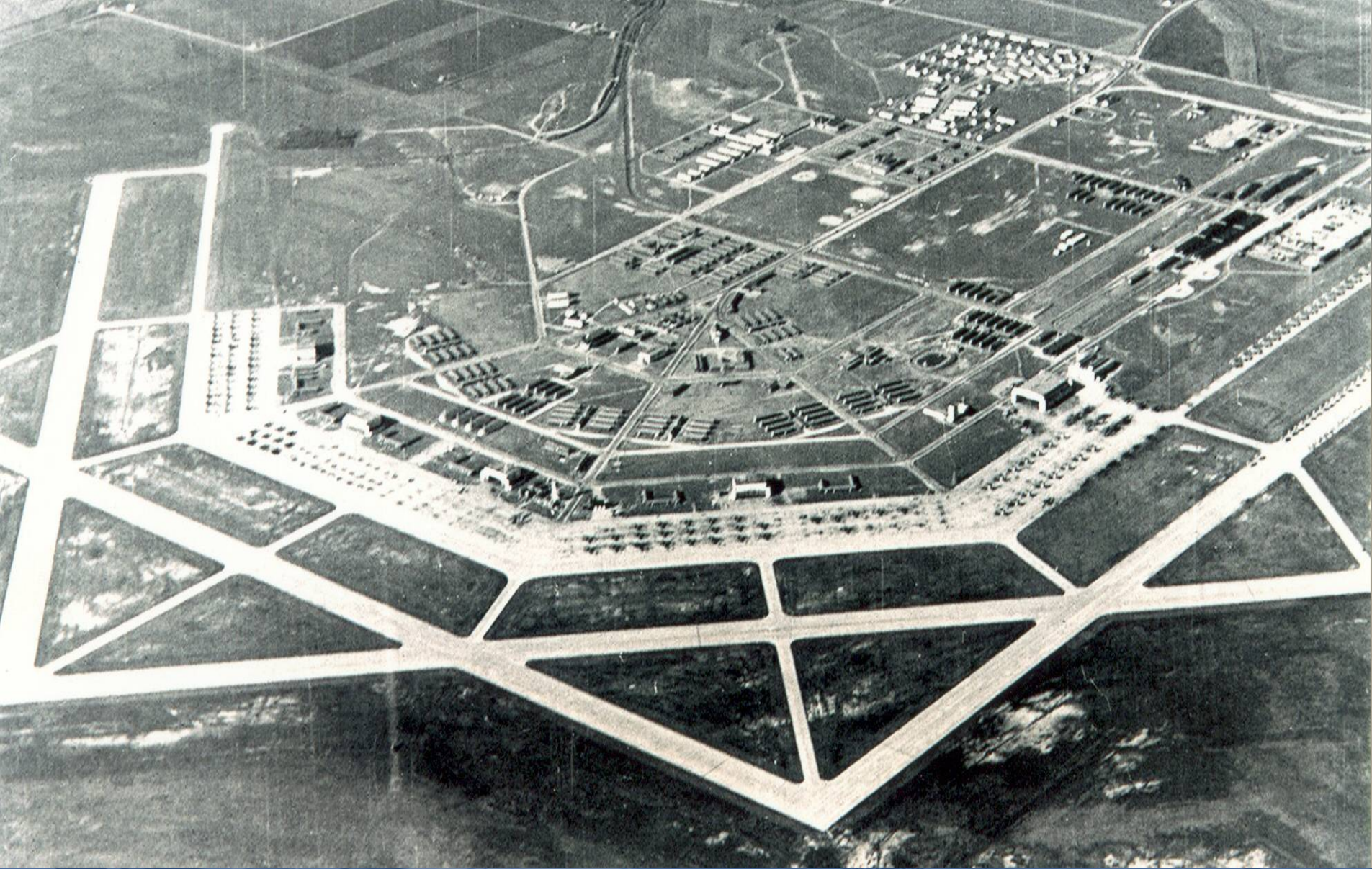




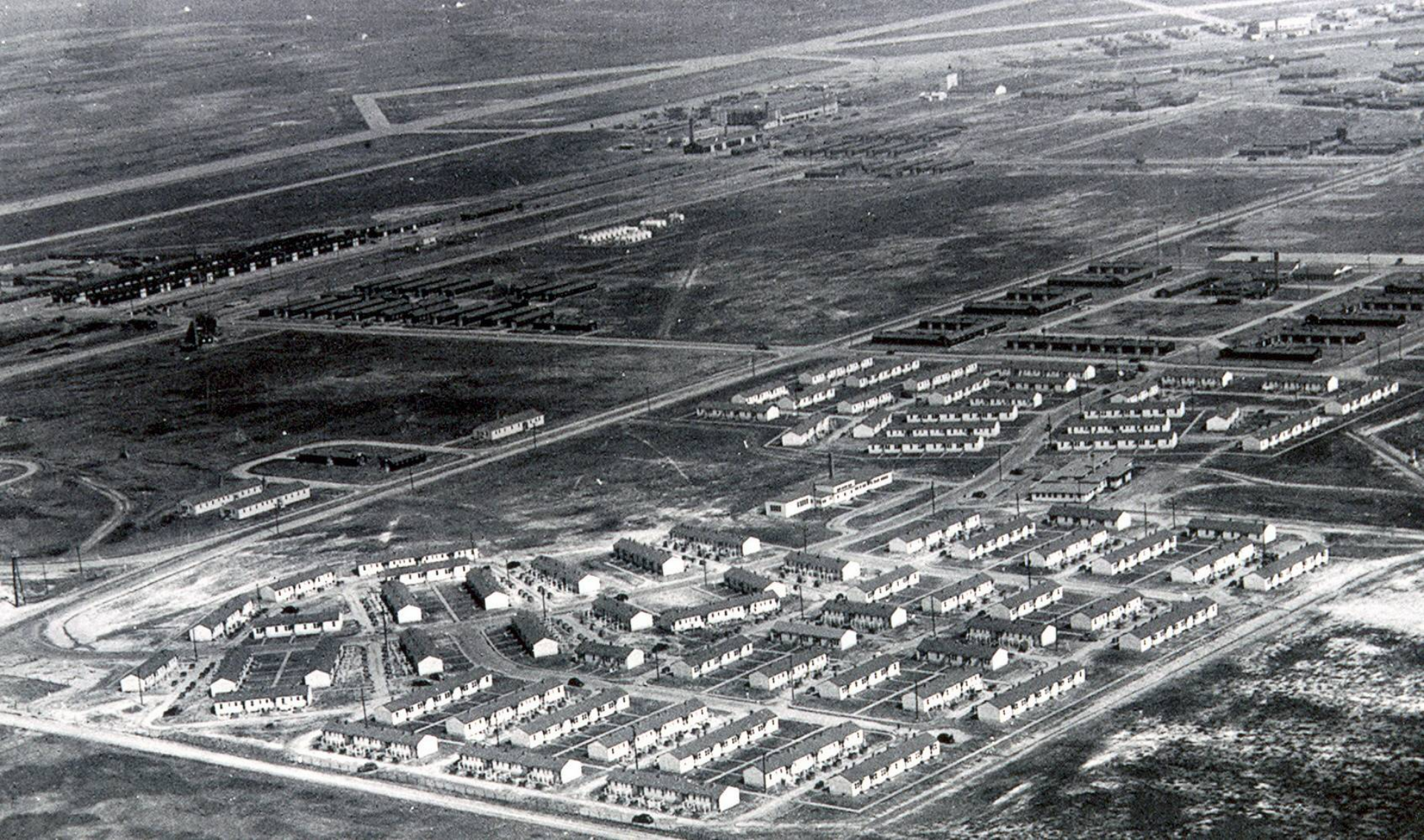
Side panels removed on Newport BT-13 for maintenance
Note the big wooden beams on huge Newport hangars



Newport cadet in Dec. 1943 Notice the Mae West life vest, I guess in case they went down in White River



Newport Air Base 1942



Newport Air Base nears completion in late 1942



Mid 1950's Last of the original hangars burn. Mack Bro's Piper Cub and Lovell James's Stearman crop duster were removed from the hangar, but not in time.



Victory Parade, V-E Day 1945
Dyersburg, TN Army Air Force Base

The VETERANS' MUSEUM





Newport Municipal Airport as it is today



Wiley Allbright, Jr.
Aug. 22, 1923-Dec. 17, 1999

Wiley Allbright, Jr. Air Terminal Newport, Arkansas

This terminal is dedicated to the memory of
Wiley Allbright, Jr.

for his devotion to his country through active military service
as a Navy carrier pilot on the U.S.S. Antietam from November
1942 to January 1, 1946, and active Navy Reserve duty from
1946 to 1963.

Also, for serving on the Newport Airport Commission from
September 26, 1977 to December 17, 1999
Commission Chairman, January 1985 to December 17, 1999.



U.S.S. ANTIETAM

Dedicated Aug. 19, 2000
by the Newport Airport
Commission:
Burton Ford, Chairman
Joe Taylor, Jr.
Jim McCartney
Randy Ramsey
Ernest Evans
Dorsey Block, Airport Manager



WILEY ALLBRIGHT "The Kid Wheels"

Dedication of Newport Airport Terminal to Wiley Albright Jr.

August 19, 2000

Newport Terminal



NEWPORT AIRPORT



A.S.U. Newport Aviation Program
Cessna 172

NEWPORT AIRPORT

AVIATION PROGRAM
ASU
ARIZONA STATE
UNIVERSITY
NEWPORT





Newport Municipal Airport
Jet A Fuel Truck



Batesville Airport



Hope Airport



Newport Airport



Searcy Airport



Stuttgart Airport



Walnut Ridge Airport

	Stuttgart	Walnut Ridge	Newport
Total Acres	2600	2350	441
Farmland Acres	1800	1750	337
Airport Acres	800	600	104
Full Time Employees	4	3	3
Part Time Employees	2	3	0
	Stuttgart	Walnut Ridge	Newport
City Funding for Airport	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$56,842.00
Non City Funding for Airport	\$430,640.00	\$401,415.00	\$167,078.00
Total Operation Budget 2003	\$430,640.00	\$401,415.00	\$223,920.00

AWSS













