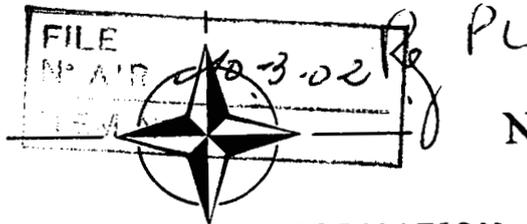


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### NATO MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT

As part of the mutual aid programme and in order to meet a NATO military requirement, the United States supplied many European countries with P2V Neptune aircraft for maritime reconnaissance missions and anti-submarine warfare.

To meet such a requirement for a successor aircraft, certain NATO nations have decided to combine their efforts to produce one. To this end, a group of experts appointed by the various governments concerned held several meetings in 1958 under the auspices of the NATO Armaments Committee to establish the technical specification of the new aircraft and to examine the design studies submitted by the industrial firms of the various countries. The Bréguet 1150 project proposed by the "Société Anonyme des Ateliers d'Aviation Louis Bréguet" was selected.

Responsibility for the supervision and financing of the programme has been jointly assumed by the five governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Kingdom of Belgium, the French Republic, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the United States of America, the latter under the auspices of its mutual weapons development programme. For the management of the project, these governments have delegated their authority to a Steering Committee, the aircraft construction work being carried out under the executive supervision of the French "Direction Technique et Industrielle de l'Eéronautique".

This aircraft, both at the prototype and at the quantity production phases, will be constructed under an arrangement whereby the firm of Bréguet has formed a consortium with Dornier in Germany, ABAP in Belgium, Fokker in the Netherlands and Sud Aviation in France. For the prototypes, the engines are being supplied by Rolls Royce in the United Kingdom and much of the electronic equipment is being supplied by the United States. For production aircraft, broader arrangements not only for the airframe, but also for engines and equipment are to be discussed.

The aircraft, named "Atlantic", is a mid-wing land plane equipped with two Rolls Royce Tync 20 turbo-prop engines developing an equivalent power output of over 6,000 H.P. per engine.

The following are the main characteristics of the aircraft;

- Span	124 ft.
- Length	90 ft.
- Height	35 ft.
- Wing Area	1,292 sq. ft.
- Total weight	86,000 lbs.

The "Atlantic" is fitted with the most advanced equipment and operational facilities and will constitute one of the key anti-submarine defence weapons of the NATO countries.

Prototype construction is proceeding very satisfactorily and it may be expected that all interested members of NATO will shortly be invited to give their views as to the extent to which they intend to adopt this plane in order that the production arrangements may be set in motion.

The launching of this programme is a further implementation of the 1957 Heads of Governments' decision to promote co-operation in the co-ordinated research, development and production of modern weapons, and illustrates the support being given thereto by both Governments and Industry.

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