

J 26 - NORTH AMERICAN P-51 MUSTANG FIGHTER

The P-51 Mustang was one of the most legendary aircraft of the Second World War. It was highly successful and was regarded as the best long-range fighter aircraft. More than 15 500 Mustangs were built and towards the end of the war it became possible for Sweden to purchase the P-51 second-hand. The Mustang was given the designation J 26 in the Swedish Air Force.

MISSION

The arrival of the J 26 meant that the air force had a much faster aircraft compared to those already in use. A total of 161 served with the Swedish Air Force and its primary roles were to force down or deter potential intruders. The J 26 was based at F 16 and at the officer cadet school, F 20, in Uppsala as well as at F 4, Frösön. Twelve Mustangs were converted to reconnaissance aircraft and based at F 21 in Luleå.

During the Mustang's final two years of service, some of them were used for the transportation and training of Air staff officers.

ARMAMENT

The J 26 had six 12.7 mm automatic can- non. The S 26 reconnaissance version carried a vertical photography camera in the rear fuselage.

THIS AIRCRAFT

Here we have the last remaining S 26 in the world.