

Hunter celebrates 60th anniversary of first flight

Flightglobal

Barbara Cockburn

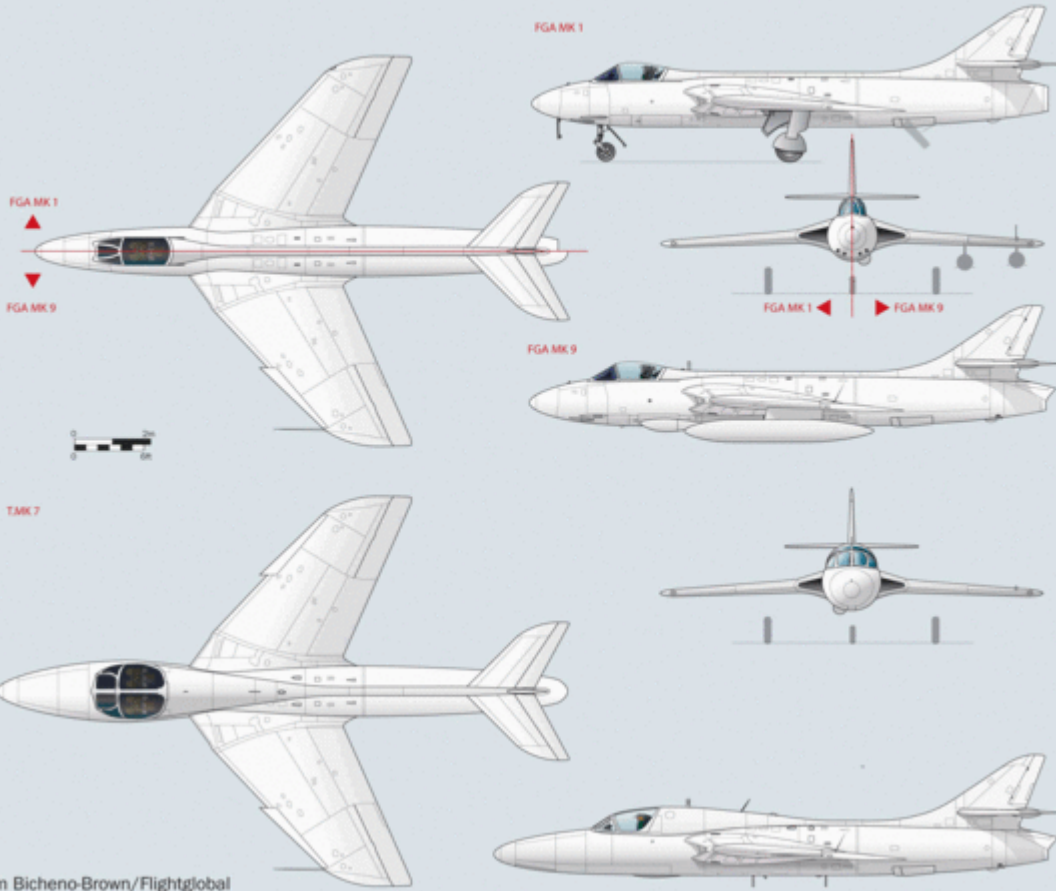


The Hawker Hunter (Mk. 3) celebrated its 60th anniversary since the first flight on 20 July. The painting above by Flight Artist Tim Bicheno-Brown, depicts Hunter WB188, piloted by Neville Duke, establishing the world airspeed record on 7 Sept 1953, who achieved a speed of 727.63mph (1,171.01km/h) in level flight, over a set distance along the south coast of England.

This aircraft is now displayed at the Tangmere Military Aviation Museum, West Sussex. Flightglobal may well have reported about the first flight of the Hawker Hunter in the magazine at the time but I've not been able to find it in any of the pages. Any help in finding the link to the article where Flight recorded the first flight of the Hawker Hunter will be welcomed.

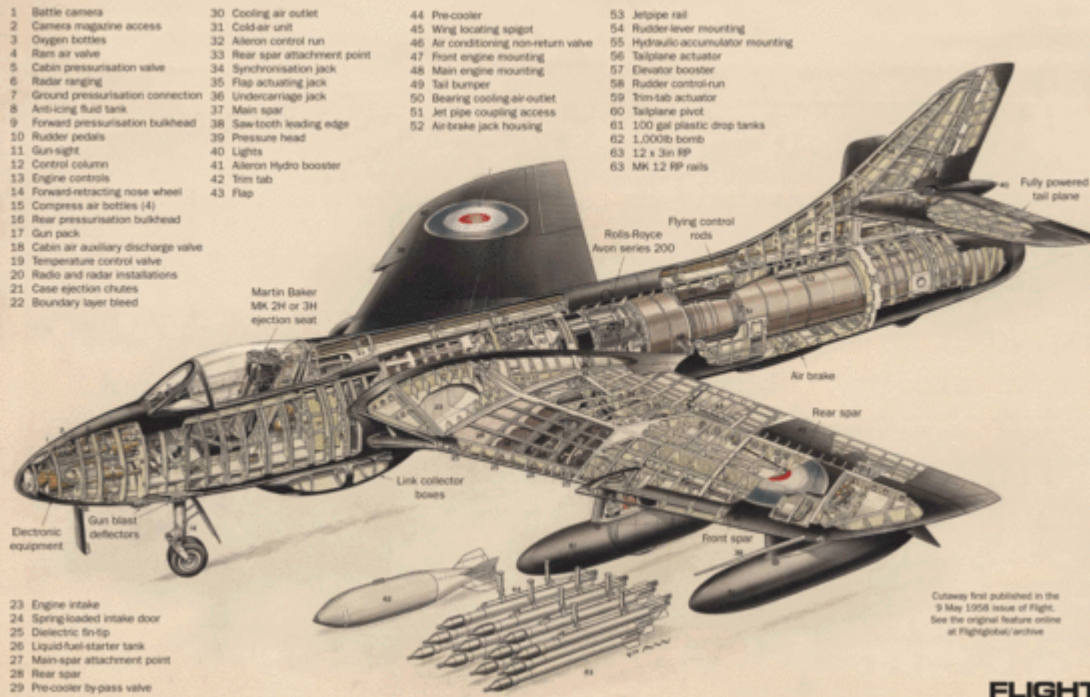
General arrangement diagram:

HAWKER HUNTER



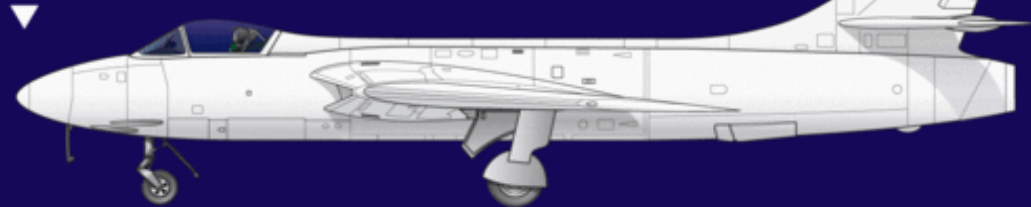
Tim Bicheno-Brown/Flightglobal

HAWKER HUNTER F 6



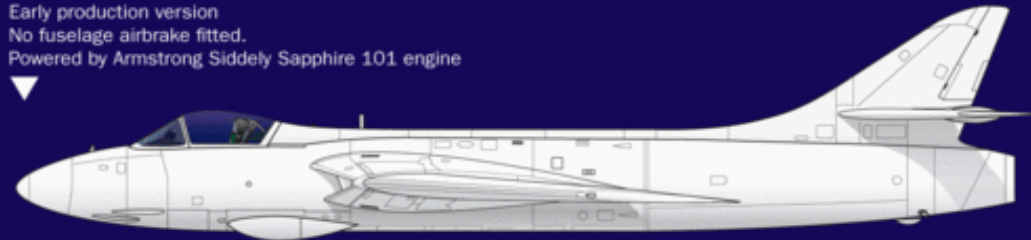
HAWKER HUNTER FAMILY

Hunter F.MK. 1 (UK)



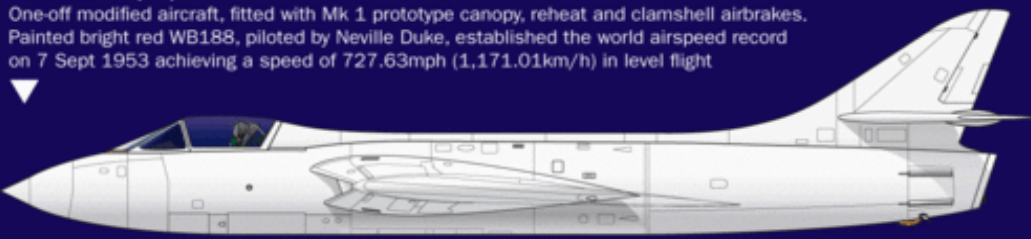
Hunter MK. 2 (UK)

Early production version
No fuselage airbrake fitted.
Powered by Armstrong Siddely Sapphire 101 engine



Hunter MK. 3 (UK)

One-off modified aircraft, fitted with Mk 1 prototype canopy, reheat and clamshell airbrakes.
Painted bright red WB188, piloted by Neville Duke, established the world airspeed record
on 7 Sept 1953 achieving a speed of 727.63mph (1,171.01km/h) in level flight



Hunter F.MK. 4 (UK)/MK. 50 (Sweden) MK. 51 (Denmark) MK. 52 (Peru)

R-R Avon engine
Hunter F.MK. 5
AS Sapphire engine



Hunter F.MK. 6 (UK)/MK. 56 (India) MK. 58 (Switzerland) MK. 60 (Saudi Arabia)

Modified with leading-edge extensions
and variable incidence tailplane



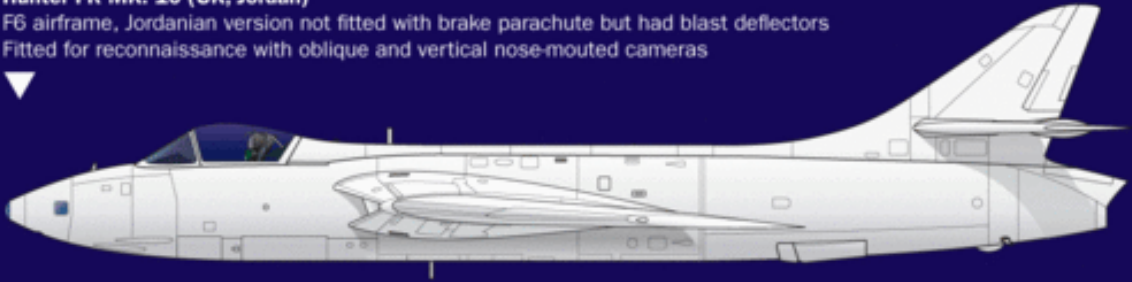
Hunter FGA MK. 9 (UK)/FGA 56A (India) FGA 57 (Kuwait) MK. 59 (Switzerland) MK. 59A/B (Iraq) FGA.78 (Qatar)

Mk. 6 airframe, some aircraft fitted with blast deflectors
Upper wing fairings fitted later



Hunter FR MK. 10 (UK, Jordan)

F6 airframe, Jordanian version not fitted with brake parachute but had blast deflectors
Fitted for reconnaissance with oblique and vertical nose-mounted cameras



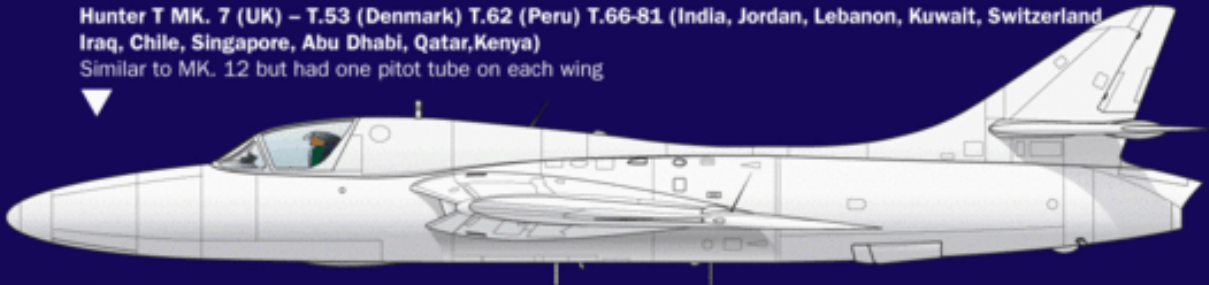
Hunter FGA MK. 11 (UK)

Mk. 4 airframe, tail hook fitted but had no armament.
Used by the Royal Navy



**Hunter T MK. 7 (UK) – T.53 (Denmark) T.62 (Peru) T.66-81 (India, Jordan, Lebanon, Kuwait, Switzerland
Iraq, Chile, Singapore, Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Kenya)**

Similar to MK. 12 but had one pitot tube on each wing



Hunter T MK. 8/10 (UK)

Royal navy fitted with tail hook and offset tail bumper



Hunter T MK. 12 (UK)

One-off aircraft, converted from a MK 6 airframe for test aircraft
at Royal Aircraft Establishment Farnborough

