



N696WM
North American SNJ-3 Texan
BuNo 01902

Fleet Aircraft Pool
U.S. Naval Air Station, Pearl Harbor
Station 128

Fourteenth Naval District
Pacific Fleet, Central Pacific Area
Ford Island, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii

August 14th, 1945





N696WM

North American SNJ-3 Texan

By the end of the year that N696WM (BuNo 01902) was built , 1941, there were 353 SNJs in the U.S. Naval inventory. 287 of these were assigned to Naval Air Station training bases as advanced trainers : 96 at NAS Miami, 90 at NAS Jacksonville, 62 at NAS Pensacola and 39 at NAS Corpus Christi. Based on the above, though unlikely, there is a possibility that N696WM did not serve as an advanced trainer during WWII.

In any case, toward the end of the war the number of trained naval aviators was deemed sufficient and this made it possible for the U.S. Navy to re-deploy many of its advanced trainers as utility aircraft at numerous Naval Air and Naval Air Auxiliary Stations.

Note the difference in the aircraft markings on the operational airplanes in this photograph vs. markings seen on advanced trainers (as N696MW is currently painted).

N696WM

1941 North American SNJ-3 Texan

1941 USAAF Serial Numbers (41-13297 to 41-24339)

Last revised December 28, 2012

41-15824/17033	North American AT-6A-NT Texan
Initially ordered by USAAF as AT-6A-NT Texan - but diverted to US Navy as SNJ-3.*	16654/16692 (c/n 78-7032/7070) diverted to US Navy as SNJ-3 BuNo 01889/01927 16662 to Navy as BuNo 01897. To Paraguay as FAP 0102. Now flying as VH-MDP in Australia 16667 to Navy as BuNo 01902. Acquired by South African Air force in 1952, retired in 1995. Acquired by National Warplane Museum, Horseheads, NY as N696WM.

* USAAF responsible for ordering all AT-6, SNJ and Harvards for U.S. and British Commonwealth.

http://www.joebaugher.com/usaf_serials/1941_3.html

US Navy and US Marine Corps BuNos Third Series (00001 to 10316)

Last revised December 18, 2012

01771/01976	North American SNJ-3 Texan
SOC 1945 indicates aircraft Struck Off Charge as war surplus in 1945 (see next page).	01771/01800 (c/n 78-6607/6636) ex USAAF 41-16229/16258 01788 (c/n 78-6624) became NC657567. Later to French Navy 01801/01835 (c/n 78-6782/6816) ex USAAF 41-16404/16438 01809 (c/n 78-6790) to Thai AF as F8-10/91 01831 (c/n 78-6812) to Thai AF as 78-70/93 01836/01851 (c/n 78-6836/6851) ex USAAF 41-16458/16473 01852/01888 (c/n 78-6957/6993) ex USAAF 41-16579/16615 01863 (c/n 78-6968) to Thai AF as F8-38/93 01889/01927 (c/n 78-7032/7070) ex USAAF 41-16654/16692 01897 ex USAAF 41-16662. To Paraguay as FAP0102. Now flying in Australia as VH-MDP 01902 (c/n 78-7045) ex USAAF 41-16667. SOC 1945 Acquired by South African Air Force in 1952 and operated until 1995. Now with National Warplane Museum, Horseheads, NY. as N696WM. Reported Jan 2007 at Wings of Eagles Museum, Elmira, NY

http://www.joebaugher.com/navy_serials/thirdseries1.html

N696WM at Naval Air Station, Pearl Harbor (Ford Island)

List of aircraft *Struck Off Charge (SOC)* from aircraft pool in August 1945

N696WM

DATE	TYPE	BUNO	SQDN	FROM	DOWN	AREA
8/4/1945	J4F-2	32944	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/4/1945	AE-1	30241	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/14/1945	FM-2	74222	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/7/1945	SB2C-3	18971	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	SBD-5	28110	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/13/1945	SC-1	35432	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/4/1945	SNB-2C	23817	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/14/1945	SNJ-3	1901 *	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/14/1945	SNJ-3	1902	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/14/1945	SNJ-4	5666	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBF-1	6370	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/7/1945	TBF-1C	48120	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	45937	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	16907	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	45594	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	73184	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	46228	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	46006	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	45968	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	45543	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	17034	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	17037	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/9/1945	TBM-1C	16893	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/11/1945	TBM-3	23268	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC
8/7/1945	TBM-3E	85965	POOL	PEARL	HAWAII	ECENPAC

During WWII, an aircraft pool was established at NAS Pearl Harbor (Ford Island) as a reserve supply from which aircraft carriers, naval air groups and naval air squadrons could replace lost aircraft. This pool was considered one of the most important functions of NAS Pearl Harbor during WWII.

At war's end, in August 1945, rather than due to accident or enemy action, these 25 aircraft from the pool at NAS Pearl Harbor were no longer needed to meet Naval war requirements and were consequently *Struck Off Charge* as surplus to be sold or otherwise disposed. This list indicates that BuNo 01902 (N696WM) ended the war serving at NAS Pearl Harbor; *though it's not clear in what capacity or for how long she had served at this station.*

* Sister ship (BuNo 01901) of N696WM (BuNo 01902). These two aircraft rolled off the production line sequentially and appear to have served together throughout the war.

U.S. Naval Air Station, Pearl Harbor - October 1941

335 acres at the center of Pearl Harbor



U.S. Naval Air Station, Pearl Harbor
Declared a National Historic Landmark in 1964





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