VULTEE SNV-2/BT-13 'VALIANT'

NAAS Kingsville 1943-1945

The aircraft that came to be known as the "Valiant" had the distinction of being produced in greater numbers than all other basic trainers produced in the USA during World War I.

In fact, over 11,000 Valiants would be produced for the USAAF and USN from 1940 to 1944. Initially referred to as the V-74, the first version for the USAAF was given the designation BT-13, while a later version with a different engine was referred to as the BT-15.

The Valiants built for the Navy were the equivalent of the BT-13, and were called SNV by the Navy. The SNV / BT-13 Valiant served almost exclusively as the basic type for all aircrews trained in the U.S. during World War II. By 1945, the aircraft was being replaced with other advanced models and after the war the aircraft was retired.

At NAAS Kingsville, the SNV-2 and SNV-3 served as a primary fighter jet trainer from late 1943 to early 1945. The aircraft was flown by three of the four training squadrons on board the air station at the time, Training Squadron 14-A, Training Squadron 15-A, and Training Squadron 14-B.

Aircraft Specifications:

Type: two-seat basic trainer
Crew: 2
Armament: none

Specifications:
- Length: 28 ft. 10 in/.
- Height: 11 ft. 6 in.
- Wingspan: 42 ft.
- Wing area: 239 sq. ft.
- Empty Weight: 3375 lbs.
- Max Weight: 4496 lbs. / takeoff

Propulsion (SNV/BT-13):
- No. of Engines: 1
- Powerplant: Pratt & Whitney R-985-AN-1 Junior Wasp radial
- Horsepower: 450 hp.

Performance:
- Range: 725 miles
- Cruise Speed: N/A
- Max Speed: 180 mph
- Ceiling: 21,650 ft.