

P-2H (P2V-7) Neptune - 1977, 16x

Argentina

Type: Maritime Patrol Aircraft (MPA)

Min Speed: 160 kt

Max Speed: 310 kt

Commissioned: 1977

Length: 27.9 m

Wingspan: 31.7 m

Height: 8.9 m

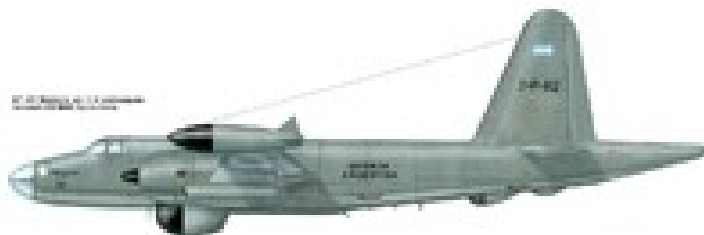
Crew: 7

Empty Weight: 22650 kg

Max Weight: 35240 kg

Max Payload: 0 kg

Propulsion: 2x R-3350-32W Cyclone



Sensors / EW: - Generic ESM [Simple] - (1970s) ESM, ELINT, Max range: 926 km

- AN/APS-20 - (1970s) Radar, Radar, Surface Search, Long-Range, Max range: 370.4 km

- Generic MAD - (1970s) MAD, MAD, Max range: 1.9 km

- AN/ALD-2 DF - (1970s) ESM, HF/DF, Max range: 926 km

Weapons / Loadouts:

- A.244 - (1976) Torpedo. Subsurface Max: 5.6 km.

- AN/SSQ-41B Jezebel LOFAR - (1978, A-Size, 31 Chn, 18/304m, Most Widely Used) Sonobuoy.

- AN/SSQ-47 Julie Active Range-Only - (1967-1995, SSQ-522, SSQ-947, HQS-31, A-Size, 12 Chn, 18/243m, 30min, Ranger Buoy, Exported) Sonobuoy.

- Mk13 1000lb GPB - (RAF, Low Drag) Bomb. Surface Max: 1.9 km. Land Max: 1.9 km.

- ZUNI 127mm HVAR Rocket - Rocket. Surface Max: 3.7 km. Land Max: 3.7 km.

- Depth Charge [Aerial] - (Aerial) Depth Charge. Subsurface Max: 0.9 km.

The Lockheed P-2 Neptune (originally designated P2V until September 1962) was a Maritime patrol and ASW aircraft. It was developed for the United States Navy by Lockheed to replace the Lockheed PV-1 Ventura and PV-2 Harpoon, and being replaced in turn with the Lockheed P-3 Orion. Designed as a land-based aircraft, the Neptune never made a carrier landing, although a small number of aircraft were converted and deployed as carrier launched stop-gap nuclear bombers which would have to ditch or recover at land bases. The type was successful in export and saw service with several armed forces.

The Argentine Naval Aviation had received at least 16 Neptunes in different variants since 1958 including eight former RAF examples for use in the Escuadrilla Aeronaval de Exploración (Naval exploration squadron). They were intensively used in 1978 during the Operation Soberania against Chile including over the Pacific Ocean.

During the Falklands War (Spanish: Guerra de las Malvinas) in 1982, the last two airframes in service (2-P-111 and

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2-P-112) played a key role of reconnaissance and aiding Dassault Super Étendards, particularly on 4 May attack against HMS Sheffield. The lack of spare parts, caused by the U.S. having enacted an arms embargo in 1977 due to the Dirty War, led to the type being retired before the end of the war; Argentine Air Force Lockheed C-130 Hercules took over the task of searching for targets for strike aircraft.

In 1983, the unit was reformed with Lockheed L-188 Electras modified for maritime surveillance; in 1994 these were replaced with P-3B Orions.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lockheed_P-2_Neptune