

HIGH-FLYING BLACKBIRD -- Powered by two turbo-ramjet engines with afterburners, this needle-nosed American "Blackbird," capable of reaching altitudes from 70,000 to 100,000 feet (20,000 to 30,000 meters) and a sustained triple-sonic speed (above Mach 3), soars above the Mojave desert in California during a test flight. It will be one of the U. S. Air Force's best aircraft to stop enemy bombers. Photo from IPS. (70-771. Accompanies Feature M/70-F-74.)