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Subject: Department of Defense cancels the Commanche

Posted by [DragonFg](#) on Tue, 24 Feb 2004 18:41:18 GMT

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DBB I am pretty impressed by the knowledge you have, as well as many other people here.

I am a fighter airplane nut so if you don't want to hear a bunch of jibber jabber you might as well stop reading now.

I hate to see the Commanche go, but it is done. I don't know very much about it except it has greater flying capabilities than the Apache or Cobra, and it incorporates stealth. Of course you might consider the UAVs being made that can be used for recon the same way. Plus, the Apache has superior firepower, not limited by the useage of internal weapons bay. So I understand why the RAH-66 is being cancelled.

If I recall correctly, the original plan was to build 700+ F-22s to be put into service sometime in 2002. Well after a couple of cutback we're at somewhere around 400 planes for service entry in 2005. But the F-22 won't be cancelled, we need it to maintain air superiority. The F-15s of today's battle are still very capable, and our pilots are the best trained in the world. However, Russian fighters of today can perform manuevers that far exceed what the F-15 can do. That's one reason we need the F-22.

In comparing the F-15 and the F-22 we find than the F-15 has a greater top speed (Mach 2.5) than the F-22 (Mach 1.78). However, if you're talking about cruising speed the F-15 is sub-Mach 1, while the F-22 can cuise at Mach 1.58. But there is one big advantage the F-22 has that no other country emulate, stealth. The F-22 is the only true sleath fighter. It can shoot down enemy planes without the enemy knowing they are there.

The X-35 JSF will be the strike aircraft of tomorrow. The F-22 is more capable than the JSF in almost every way, except the JSF has a MUCH lower price tag. It will be used by the the Air Force, the Marines, and the Navy.

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