

German Guided Missiles of World War II: The Ultimate Guide

During World War II, the German military developed and deployed a range of guided missiles that revolutionized aerial warfare. These missiles, known as Vergeltungswaffen (retribution weapons), included the infamous V-1 and V-2 rockets, as well as the Henschel Hs 293 and Fritz X anti-ship missiles.



German Guided Missiles of World War II: Fritz-X to Wasserfall and X4 (New Vanguard Book 276)

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In this comprehensive guide, we will explore the history, development, and impact of German guided missiles in World War II.

The V-1 Flying Bomb

The V-1 flying bomb was a pulsejet-powered aircraft that was launched from a ramp using a catapult. It was designed to carry a 2,200-pound warhead over a distance of 150 miles.

The V-1 was first used in combat in June 1944 against targets in England. It proved to be a formidable weapon, causing widespread damage and killing thousands of people.



The V-2 Rocket

The V-2 rocket was a liquid-fueled ballistic missile that was capable of carrying a 2,000-pound warhead over a distance of 200 miles.

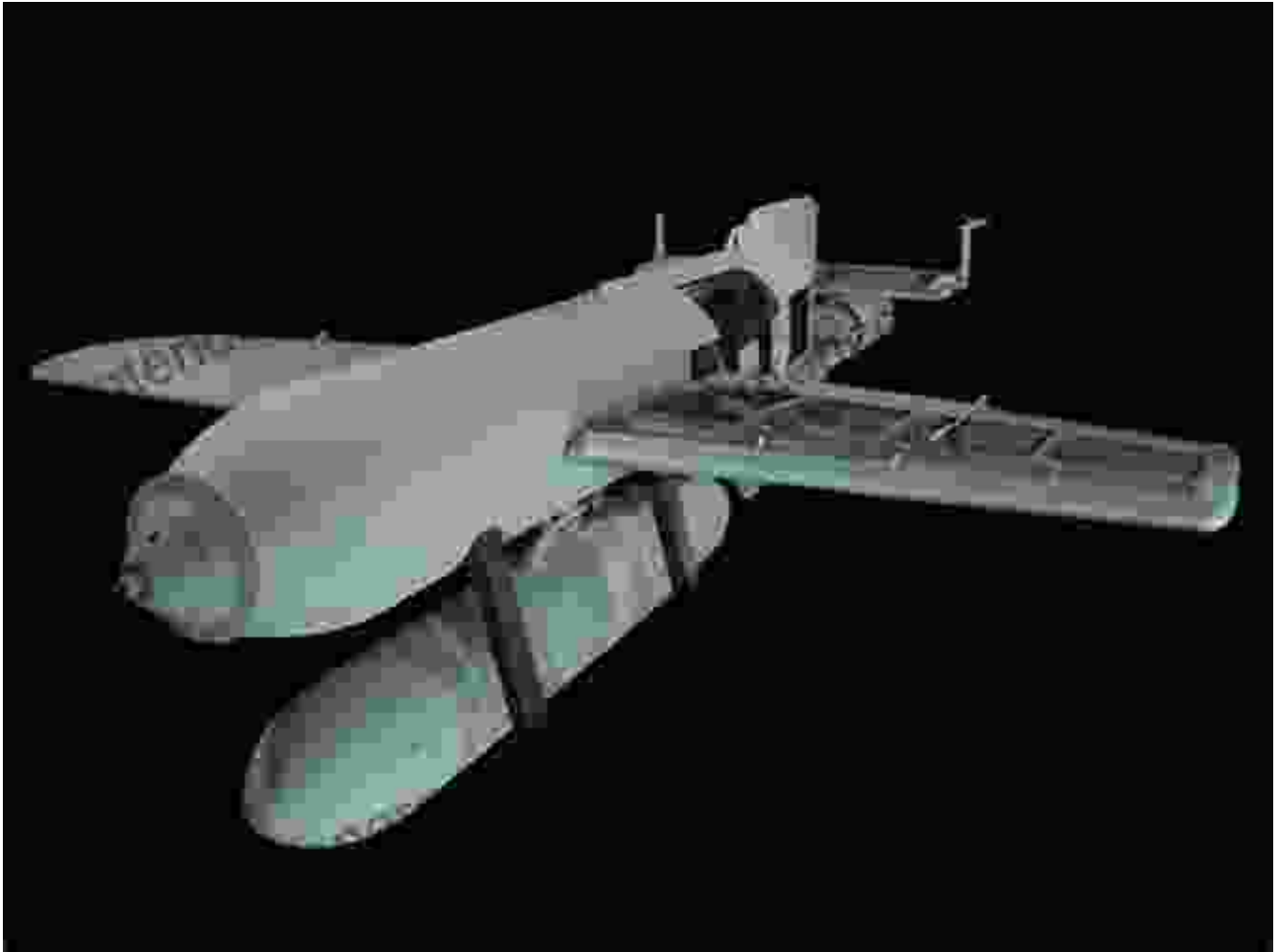
The V-2 was the first successful long-range ballistic missile, and it had a significant impact on the war effort. It was used to attack targets in England, France, and Belgium, causing widespread panic and destruction.



The Henschel Hs 293

The Henschel Hs 293 was an air-to-ship missile that was designed to be carried by bombers. It was powered by a rocket motor and could be guided to its target using a radio control system.

The Hs 293 was first used in combat in August 1943 against Allied shipping in the Mediterranean Sea. It proved to be a highly effective weapon, sinking a number of ships and causing significant damage to others.



The Fritz X

The Fritz X was an air-to-ship missile that was designed to be carried by bombers. It was powered by a rocket motor and could be guided to its target using a radio control system.

The Fritz X was first used in combat in September 1943 against Allied shipping in the Mediterranean Sea. It proved to be a highly effective weapon, sinking a number of ships, including the Italian battleship Roma.



The Impact of German Guided Missiles

German guided missiles had a significant impact on the course of World War II. They caused widespread damage and panic, and they forced the Allies to develop new countermeasures.

The V-2 rocket was particularly significant, as it was the first successful long-range ballistic missile. It paved the way for the development of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), which would become a major factor in the Cold War.

The development and deployment of German guided missiles represented a major technological breakthrough. They revolutionized aerial warfare and

laid the foundation for the modern era of guided weapons.

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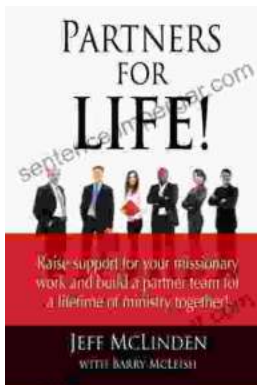
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