

CURTISS SB2C HELLDIVER

HELLDIVER SERVICE

Manufacturers: The Curtiss-Wright Corp., Airplane Division, Buffalo, N.Y., USA
Fairchild Aircraft Ltd., Longueuil, P.Q., Quebec, Canada
Canadian Car & Foundry Co. Ltd., Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Model: Model 84
(Developed from the 1933 Curtiss SBC Helldiver biplane)

Designations: SB2C; A-25, SBF, SBW

Names: Helldiver; Shrike (A-25A)

First official flight: XSB2C-1 18/12/1940
Factory production period: 1940 – 1945
Primary service period: 1943 – 1946
Last official flight: RA-25A 04/1949

HELLDIVER VARIANTS

1940	Model 84	XSB2C-1	1	
1942	Model 84	SB2C-1	200	
-	Model 84	A-25A	900	
-	Model 84	SB2C-1C	778	
1944	Model 84	SB2C-3	1112	
-	Model 84	SB2C-4	2045	
-	Model 84	SB2C-5	970	Total: 6006

Foreign built – Canada:

1943	Model 84	SBF-1	50	
-	Model 84	SBF-3	150	
-	Model 84	SBF-4E	100	Total: 0300

1943	Model 84	SBW-1	38	
1943	Model 84	SBW-1B	28	
-	Model 84	SBW-3	413	
-	Model 84	SBW-4E	270	
-	Model 84	SBW-5	85	Total: 0834

Total: 7140

HELLDIVER PRODUCTION

XSB2C-1

*Prototype single-engined, 2-seater Scout Bomber.
produced
Curtiss Columbus, Ohio (C)
BuNo. 1758 -*

1 Total: 0001

SB2C-1

*As XSB2C-1, design and armament upgrade.
produced*

Curtiss Columbus, Ohio (C)

BuNo. 00001 / 00200 -

200 **Total: 0200**

A-25A Shrike

*As SB2C-1, version for USAAF, carrier features deleted.
Redesignated as **RA-25A** in 1943 for target tow
and trainer duties.*

produced

Curtiss St. Louis, Missouri (CS)

41-18774 / 41-18873 -

42-79663 / 42-80462 -

- 10 to RAAF as A69-1 / A69-10.

- 270 diverted to USN as **SB2C-1A**.

- 410 diverted later as **SB2C-1A** to USMC:

BuNo. 75218 / 75588

BuNo. 76780 / 76818

2200 additional airframes cancelled.

900 **Total: 0900**

SB2C-1C

As SB2C-1, four wing cannons, redesigned flaps.

produced

Curtiss Columbus, Ohio (C)

BuNo. 00201 / 00370 -

BuNo. 01008 / 01208 -

BuNo. 18192 / 18598 -

7 additional airframes cancelled.

778 **Total: 0778**

*SB2C-2 – Floatplane based on the XSB2C-2 conversion,
production for 287 cancelled.*

SB2C-3

As SB2C-1, engine upgrade, 4-bladed prop.

produced

Curtiss Columbus, Ohio (C)

BuNo. 18599 / 19710 -

1112 **Total: 1112**

SB2C-4

As SB2C-3, wing mounted rockets / bombs.

produced

Curtiss Columbus, Ohio (C)

BuNo. 19711 / 21191 -

BuNo. 64993 / 65286 -

BuNo. 82858 / 83127 -

110 additional aircraft cancelled.

2045 **Total: 2045**

SB2C-5

As SB2C-4, greater fuel capacity, minor changes.

produced

Curtiss Columbus, Ohio (C)

BuNo. 83128 / 83751 -

BuNo. 89120 / 89465 -

2500 additional airframes cancelled.

970 **Total: 0970**

Foreign built – Canada:

SBF-1

*Fairchild-Canada version of the **SB2C-1**.
produced*

Fairchild Aircraft Ltd., Longueuil, P.Q.,
Quebec, Canada (F)
BuNo. 31636 / 31685 -

50 **Total: 0050**

SBF-2 – Not used.

SBF-3

*Fairchild-Canada version of the **SB2C-3**.
produced*

Fairchild Aircraft Ltd., Longueuil, P.Q.,
Quebec, Canada (F)
BuNo. 31686 / 31835 -

150 **Total: 0150**

SBF-4 – Not used.

SBF-4E

*Fairchild-Canada version of the **SB2C-4E**.
produced*

Fairchild Aircraft Ltd., Longueuil, P.Q.,
Quebec, Canada (F)
BuNo. 31836 / 31935 -

100 **Total: 0100**

SBW-1

*CCF version of the SB2C-1.
BuNo. 21198 later converted to an **SBW-3**.
produced*

Canadian Car & Foundry Co. (CCF),
Fort William, Ontario, Canada (W)
BuNo. 21192 / 21200 -
BuNo. 21203 / 21231 -

38 **Total: 0038**

1 (21232), additional airframe cancelled.

SBW-1B

*As **SB2C-1C**, for Lend-Lease to the Royal Navy.
produced 1943 – 1944*

Canadian Car & Foundry Co. (CCF),
Fort William, Ontario, Canada (W)
BuNo. 60011, 60012 -

*26 delivered as **Helldiver DB.Mk. I** to the Royal Navy:*

BuNo. 21201, 21202 -
(RN) JW101, JW102

BuNo. 60010 -
(RN) JW100

BuNo. 60013 / 60035 -
(RN) JW103 / JW125

28 **Total: 0028**

SBW-2 – Not used.

SBW-3

*CCF version of the **SB2C-3**.*

produced
Canadian Car & Foundry Co. (CCF),
Fort William, Ontario, Canada (W)
BuNo. 21233 / 21645 -

413 **Total: 0413**

SBW-4 – Not used.

SBW-4E

CCF version of the SB2C-4E.
produced
Canadian Car & Foundry Co. (CCF),
Fort William, Ontario, Canada (W)
BuNo. 21646 / 21741 -
BuNo. 60036 / 60209 -

270 **Total: 0270**

SBW-5

CCF version of the SB2C-5.
produced
Canadian Car & Foundry Co. (CCF),
Fort William, Ontario, Canada (W)
BuNo. 60211 / 60295 -
165 additional airframes cancelled.

85 **Total: 0085**

Total: 7140

HELLDIVER CONVERSIONS

US Navy

XSB2C-2	1	SB2C-1(00005), 1942, prototype floatplane conversion.
XSB2C-3	1	SB2C-1(00008), engine upgrade.
SB2C-3E	1+	SB2C-3, APS-4 radar pod fitted.
SB2C-4E	1+	SB2C-4, APS-4 radar pod fitted.
XSB2C-5	3	2 SB2C-4(65286, 83127) / 1 SB2C-1C(18308), prototype to SB2C-5.
XSB2C-6	2	SB2C-3(18620, 18621), engine upgrade, higher fuel load.
XSBF-1	1	SBF-1, conversion for development tests.

FOREIGN MILITARY SERVICE

- Surplus Helldivers in service post WW2 with Australia, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Thailand.