

## Forgotten Bomber



*Overshadowed by the B-17, B-24, and B-29, the Consolidated B-32 Dominator nevertheless had an important part in World War II combat aviation history. Other than the B-29 Superfortress, it was the only very heavy bomber produced during the war. It also had innovative, reversible inboard propellers that could be used for braking on landing. Few in numbers—AAF took delivery of*

*115 production aircraft—the B-32 was pressed into service by Far East Air Forces at the urging of Lt. Gen. George C. Kenney. In the closing days of World War II, B-32s claimed the distinction of fighting what is cited as the final aerial combat action, on Aug. 18, 1945. By mid-September 1945, just three years after the first XB-32 prototype had rolled off the company's San Diego assembly*

*line, the B-32 program was canceled. The last six bombers went directly to disposal centers.*