FLYING AND POPULAR AVIATION

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10 AIR POWER LESSONS FOR AMERICA

by

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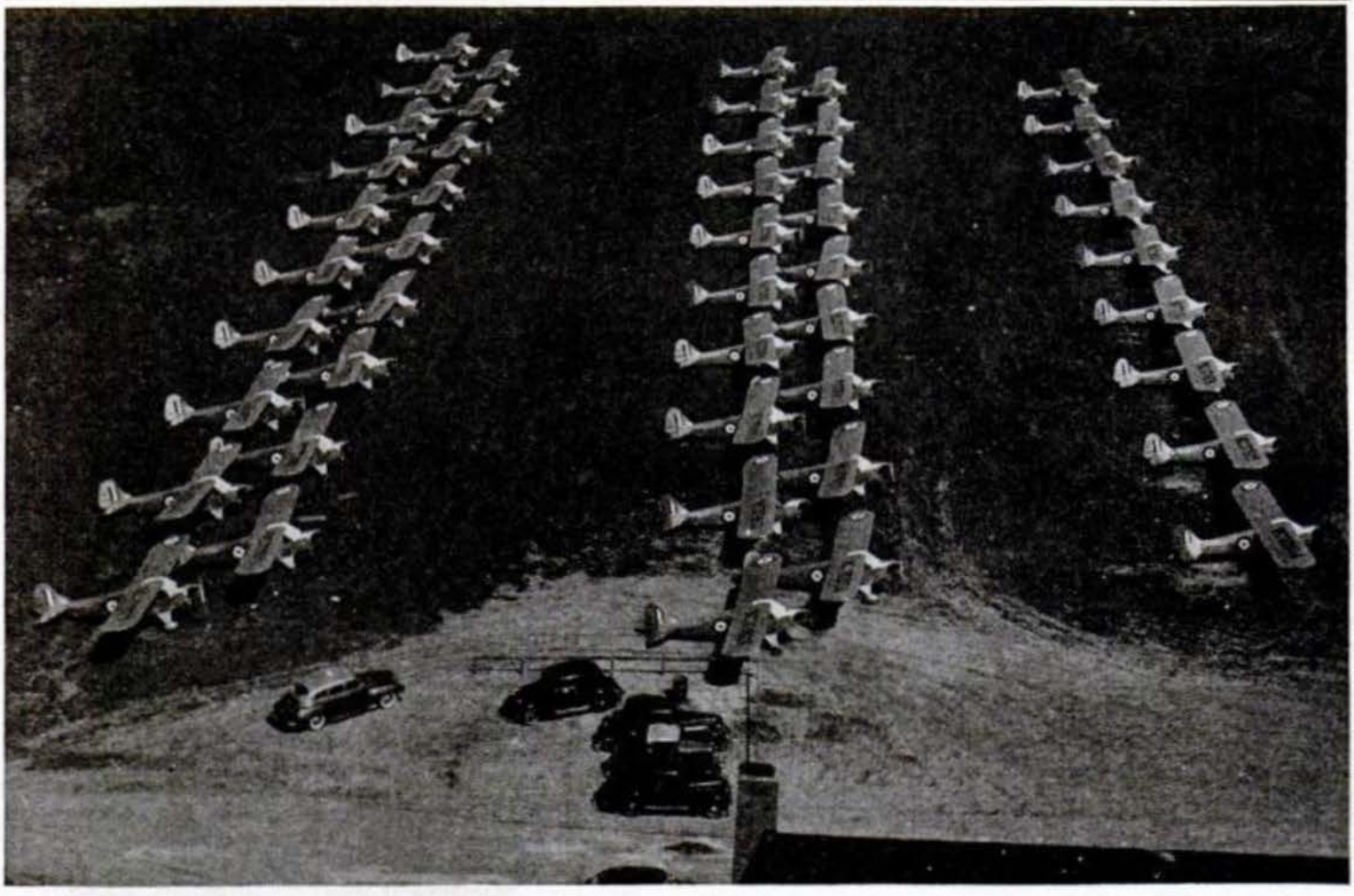
The Plane on the Cover



Fleet of 48 Piper "Cub" Trainers being christened at La Guardia Field, New York.

A FLEET of 48 Piper *Cub* Trainers, in precise squadron formation, was drawn up on the reviewing apron at La Guardia Field a short time ago to receive a unique honor.

Christened *Flitfires* because of the lack of similarity to the famed RAF pursuit plane, they were painted all silver—wings, fuselage and tail. Official RAF insignia completed the color scheme.

The *Flitfire* brigade was the outgrowth of an original donation of one Piper *Cub* by W. T. Piper to the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund. In making this donation, Piper set aside 20 minutes' manufacturing time in the plant, which was sufficient to build one ship. Aircooled Motors Corp., of Schenectady, N. Y., donated a Franklin 65 h.p. engine.

Piper distributors, interested in the cause, assisted in raising funds from all the 48 states to provide one *Flitfire* as a donation from each state. Beautiful advertising models performed the christening ceremony. Lear Avia, Inc., loaned radio receivers for each plane to allow pilots to receive landing instructions from the field traffic-control tower.

After the ceremonies, the planes left La Guardia Field to make fund-raising tours in the states for which they were named.