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(Cold War - Aircraft Identification) Yak-8 Night Silhouettes

Stock#: 96408
Map Maker: Ministry of Supply, UK
Date: 1949
Place: London
Color: Color
Condition: VG+
Size: 14 x 19 inches (including text)
Price: \$ 245.00



Description:

Yak-8 Night Silhouettes, a poster prepared by the Ministry of Supply in June 1949, provides detailed specifications of the Yakovlev-designed transport aircraft from the U.S.S.R. Labeled as "RESTRICTED", this poster served as a means of communication between crucial British defense departments, including the Admiralty, War Office, and Air Ministry, as evidenced by its promulgation details.

The post-war period of the late 1940s was marked by increasing tensions between the West and the Soviet Union. As the Cold War intensified, understanding and documenting the military capabilities of the opposing side became imperative. The Yakovlev Yak-8, designed primarily as a transport aircraft, represents the Soviet aviation industry's response to the military and civil transport needs of the time.

The technical aspects of the aircraft, as highlighted in the document, shed light on the advanced design considerations of the era. Spanning 48 feet 7 inches and with a length of 37 feet 2 inches, the Yak-8,



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equipped with two M-11 aero-engines, was a product of the design expertise of Yakovlev, a revered figure in Soviet aviation history. The details such as the armament, intriguingly mentioned as "Not known", underscore the secretive nature of military hardware and the challenges faced by foreign intelligence in ascertaining complete information.

The very existence of *Yak-8 Night Silhouettes* demonstrates the meticulous surveillance and intelligence-gathering mechanisms established by the British defense apparatus. It provides a unique glimpse into the complexities of Cold War geopolitics, where every piece of information, no matter how minute, played a role in shaping strategic decisions and policies.

Detailed Condition: