



R-975-46A Whirlwind

This engine, sometimes referred to as the J-6-9, was one of the Wright J-6 engines produced by Wright Aeronautical. Powered by 9 cylinders, this 300-450 horsepower engine was the largest Whirlwind style engine produced commercially.

During WWII, this engine was manufactured for a variety of military vehicles, but they were not all planes. The R-975 was used in armored vehicles and medium sized tanks, including M2, M3, and M4 tanks. Continental Motors had the license to build R-975 during the war, and they continued to produce them into peacetime. After World War II, these engines were also used to power helicopters.



Kaman HOK-1.
Courtesy of New England Air Museum.



Parade of M-4 and M-3 tanks
during maneuvers, Fort Knox, KY.
Courtesy of the Library of Congress.