

Gun Turrets

The A-26 has an upper and a lower turret. Each mounts two .50-cal. machine guns and ammunition boxes for 500 rounds per gun. Both these turrets are fired remotely by the rear gunner, who has a 70° field of vision through either the upper or lower periscope head. Both turrets are moved and fired electrically by the gunner at his sighting station. A self-replenishing air bottle charges the guns automatically if they jam.

Upper Turret

The guns in the upper turret have unlimited azimuth rotation and operate between straight up and as low as 5° below horizontal.

Lower Turret

The guns in the lower turret have unlimited azimuth rotation and operate from straight

down to as high as 5° above horizontal. This permits 10° crossfire between the guns in the upper turret and the guns in the lower turret.

Contour Followers

Both turrets have contour followers which limit the zone of fire. The upper turret is prevented from firing lower than 5° broadside or lower than horizontal while the turret is in the forward and aft positions.

The lower turret guns are forced to point 25° below horizontal when the turret is swung directly forward. The guns are limited to 5° above horizontal in the broadside position.

Automatic Fire Interrupters

Automatic fire interrupters shut off gun fire when either turret is aimed at wingtips, propeller arcs, or tail surfaces.

The upper turret may be locked forward and fired by the pilot with the fixed-gun group.

