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# RESEARCH MEMORANDUM

LARGE-SCALE FLIGHT MEASUREMENTS OF ZERO-LIFT DRAG AT  
MACH NUMBERS FROM 0.90 TO 1.95 OF AN ARROW WING  
IN COMBINATION WITH A SMALL BODY

By Warren Gillespie, Jr. and Richard G. Arbic

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Langley Field, Va.

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## NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR AERONAUTICS

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SUMMARY

A flight investigation was made at high subsonic, transonic, and supersonic speeds and at high Reynolds numbers to determine the zero-lift drag of an arrow wing-body combination and of the body without the wing. The wing had  $67\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  leading-edge sweep,  $15^{\circ}$  trailing-edge sweep, and modified NACA 0004 sections. The body-wing area ratio was 0.0127.

The force-break Mach number of the wing-body combination was 0.98. A maximum drag coefficient of 0.0125 occurred at Mach number 1.03. The drag coefficient decreased from the maximum value almost linearly to a value of 0.0096 at Mach number 1.95.

INTRODUCTION

The Langley Pilotless Aircraft Research Division is investigating the aerodynamic characteristics of wing-body configurations suitable for supersonic flight through the use of rocket-propelled models. Continuous data are obtained from high subsonic to supersonic speeds at high Reynolds numbers.

This paper presents zero-lift drag data for an arrow wing-body combination and the body alone. The Mach number range was 0.90 to 1.95. Reynolds number, based on the wing mean aerodynamic chord of 2.31 feet, varied from  $8.5 \times 10^6$  to  $29.0 \times 10^6$ .

## SYMBOLS

$C_D$	drag coefficient (Drag/qS)
$C_N$	normal-force coefficient (Normal force/qS)
q	dynamic pressure, pounds per square foot
S	wing plan-form area (including area within body)
M	Mach number
R	Reynolds number

## MODELS AND TESTS

The body and wing profile coordinates and the general arrangement of the two test configurations are presented in table I and figure 1, respectively. Photographs of the models and model-booster combinations are shown as figures 2 and 3, respectively. The body had a fineness ratio of 15.6. The frontal area of the body was 1.27 percent of the total wing area which was 5.61 square feet. The arrow wing had  $67\frac{1}{2}^\circ$  leading-edge sweep,  $15^\circ$  trailing-edge sweep and modified NACA 0004 airfoil sections in the streamwise direction. The vertical tail of each model had  $0^\circ$  sweep at the 50-percent-chord line and a taper ratio of 0.23. Horizontal fins were used on the wingless model for stability.

The models were of composite wood-metal construction. The winged model was instrumented with a two-channel telemeter incorporating two accelerometers. The accelerometers were mounted to measure normal and longitudinal forces. The wingless model carried no instrumentation.

Figure 3 shows the models and external boosters in the launching position. An ABL Deacon rocket motor was used to propel the winged model. This rocket motor delivers approximately 6200 pounds thrust for 3.2 seconds. A smaller 5-inch HVAR rocket motor served to boost the wingless model.

Velocity was obtained from the CW Doppler radar and by integration of the data from the longitudinal accelerometer. Drag was obtained directly from the longitudinal accelerometer data and by differentiation of the Doppler determined velocity-time curve. Normal force was obtained from the normal accelerometer. Trajectory and atmospheric data were obtained from the radar tracking unit and by radiosonde observations, respectively.

The accuracy of the results is estimated to be:

Mach number . . . . .	±0.010
$C_D$ at Mach number 0.90 . . . . .	±0.0010
$C_D$ at Mach number 1.90 . . . . .	±0.0005
$C_N$ at Mach number 0.90 . . . . .	±0.016
$C_N$ at Mach number 1.90 . . . . .	±0.002

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Curves of drag coefficient, Reynolds number, and normal-force coefficient against Mach number are presented in figure 4(a) for the wing-body combination. It is seen from the curve of normal-force coefficient against Mach number that the drag data were obtained near the zero-lift trim condition. The curve of drag coefficient against Mach number of figure 4(a) shows that this configuration has a low supersonic drag coefficient. From a peak value of 0.0125 at Mach number 1.03, the drag coefficient decreased almost linearly to a value of 0.0096 at Mach number 1.95. The force-break occurred at Mach number 0.98. The drag coefficient of the model without the wing is shown in figure 4(b). The drag of the two horizontal fins has been subtracted. The drag of these fins was determined from tests in which four of these fins were mounted as wings on a fin-stabilized body for which basic drag values were known. The wing with interference drag, obtained by subtracting the corrected drag of the wingless model from the drag of the wing-body combination, is also shown in figure 4(b). The wing with interference drag was approximately 70 percent of the drag of the wing-body combination.

The drag coefficient of the wing-body combination tested is compared in figure 5 with minimum drag coefficients of two similar configurations at high values of Reynolds number ( $R \geq 5 \times 10^6$ ). The model of reference 1, which had a body of fineness ratio 10, body-wing area ratio 0.0306, and a  $60^\circ$  delta wing with NACA 65A003 airfoil sections, had a lower subsonic drag coefficient than the model of the present test. At supersonic Mach numbers, this large delta-wing model of reference 1 and the arrow wing-body combination of the present test have very nearly equal values of minimum drag coefficient. The  $63.43^\circ$  delta-wing model of reference 2 with 5-percent-thick double-wedge airfoil sections, had very nearly the same drag coefficient at Mach number 0.9 as the wing-body combination of the present test.



## CONCLUSIONS

The results of flight measurements of zero-lift drag of an arrow wing with small body and of the body without the wing have been presented. Data obtained from a range of Mach numbers from 0.90 to 1.95 showed the following:

1. The force-break Mach number of the wing-body combination was 0.98. A maximum drag coefficient of 0.0125 occurred at Mach number 1.03. The drag coefficient decreased from the maximum value almost linearly to a value of 0.0096 at Mach number 1.95.

2. The wing with interference drag was approximately 70 percent of the drag of the wing-body model.

3. The zero-lift drag of the wing-body model was low throughout the Mach number range of the test.

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National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics  
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## REFERENCES

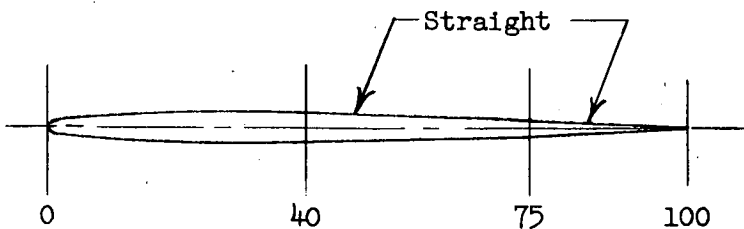
1. Schult, Eugene D.: Comparison of Large-Scale Flight Measurements of Zero-Lift Drag at Mach Numbers from 0.9 to 1.7 of Two Wing-Body Combinations Having Similar  $60^\circ$  Triangular Wings with NACA 65A003 Sections. NACA RM L50I22, 1950.
2. Edwards, George G., and Stephenson, Jack D.: Tests of a Triangular Wing of Aspect Ratio 2 in the Ames 12-Foot Pressure Wind Tunnel. I - The Effect of Reynolds Number and Mach Number on the Aerodynamic Characteristics of the Wing with Flap Undelected. NACA RM A7K05, 1947.

TABLE I

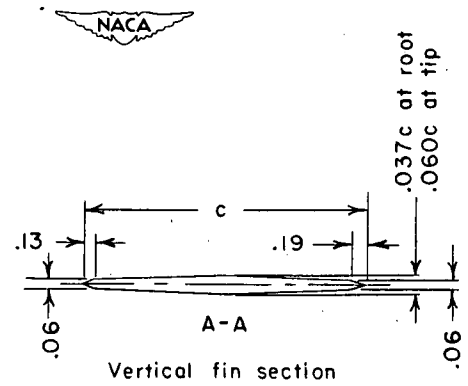
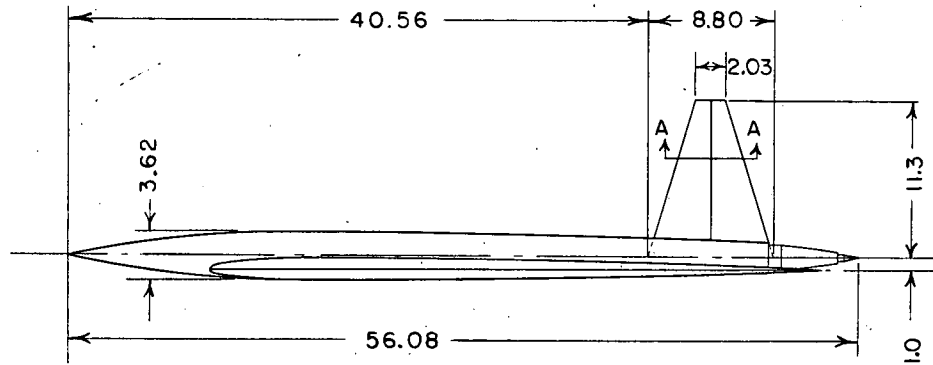
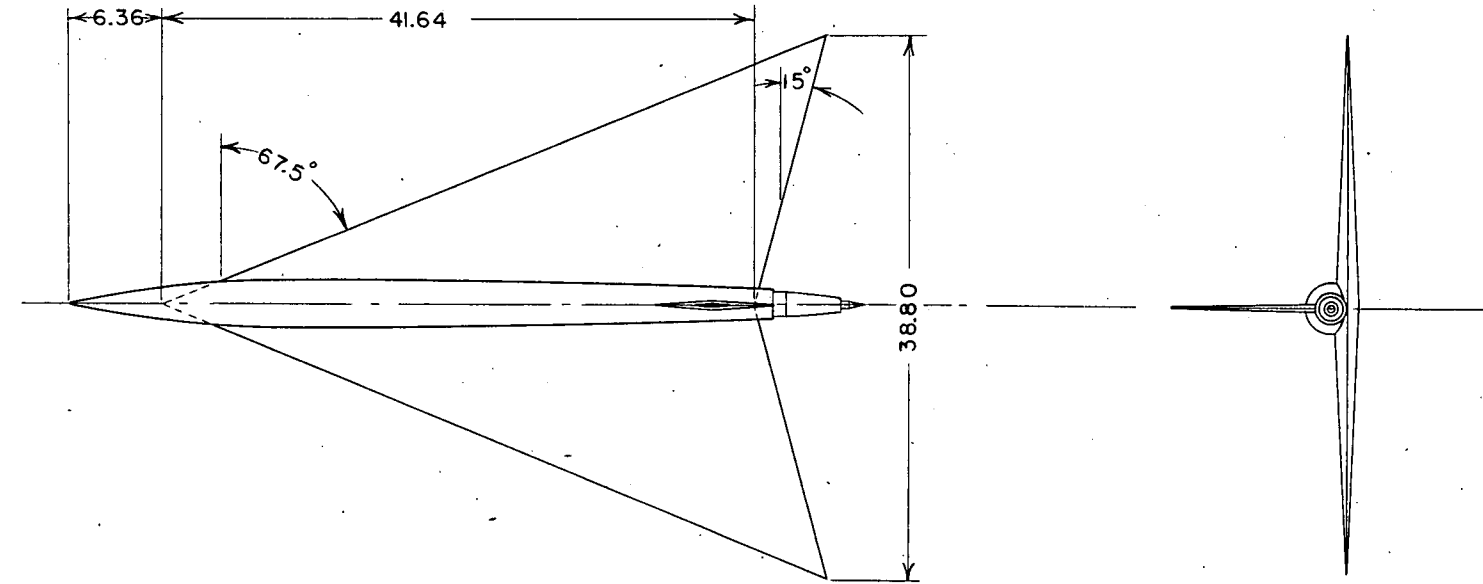
## BODY AND WING AIRFOIL-SECTION ORDINATES

Airfoil section modified NACA 0004	
Station (percent chord)	Upper and lower ordinates (percent chord)
0	0
1.25	.6325
2.50	.8660
5.00	1.1900
7.50	1.4000
10.00	1.5550
15.00	1.7780
20.00	1.9100
25.00	1.9780
30.00	2.0000
40.00	1.9310
Straight line	Straight line
75.00	1.0420
Straight line	Straight line
100.00	0
L.E. radius: 0.178	

Body ordinates	
Station (in. from nose)	Radius (in.)
0	0
1.000	.259
2.000	.491
3.000	.703
4.000	.893
7.375	1.386
10.375	1.654
13.375	1.785
15.375	1.808
18.375	1.808
20.000	1.806
23.000	1.787
26.000	1.748
29.000	1.690
32.000	1.615
35.000	1.526
38.500	1.406
42.500	1.251
46.500	1.082
49.078	.965
50.078	.909
51.078	.837
52.078	.742
53.078	.618
54.078	.457
55.078	.253
56.078	0



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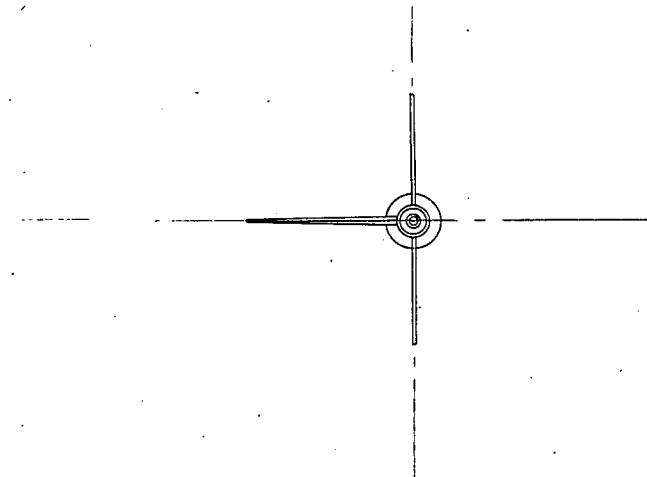
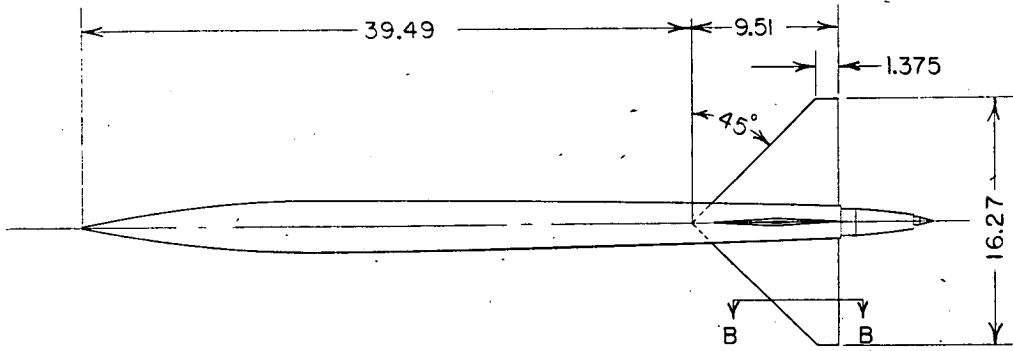


(a) Arrow wing-body combination.

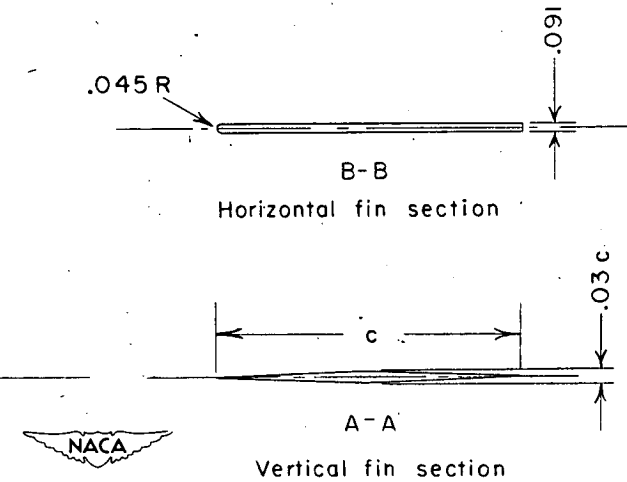
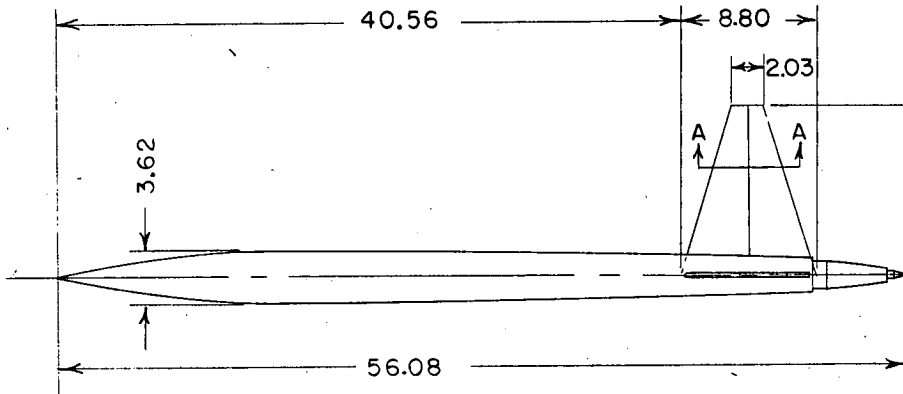
Figure 1.- General arrangement of test models. All dimensions are in inches.

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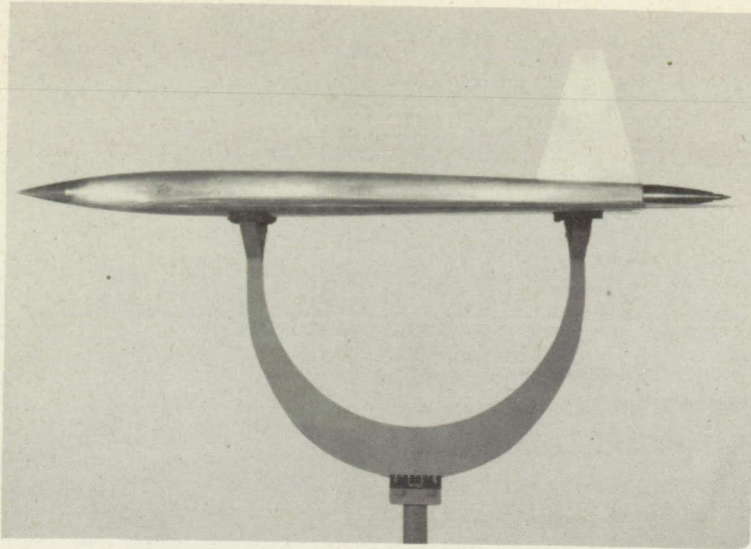
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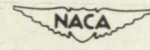
(b) Wingless model.

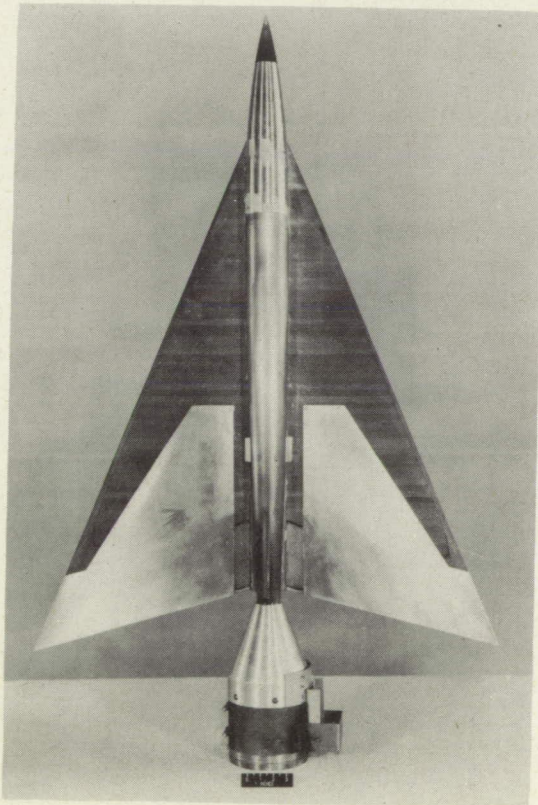
Figure 1.- Concluded.





(a) Side view.

  
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(b) Bottom view.

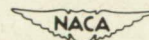
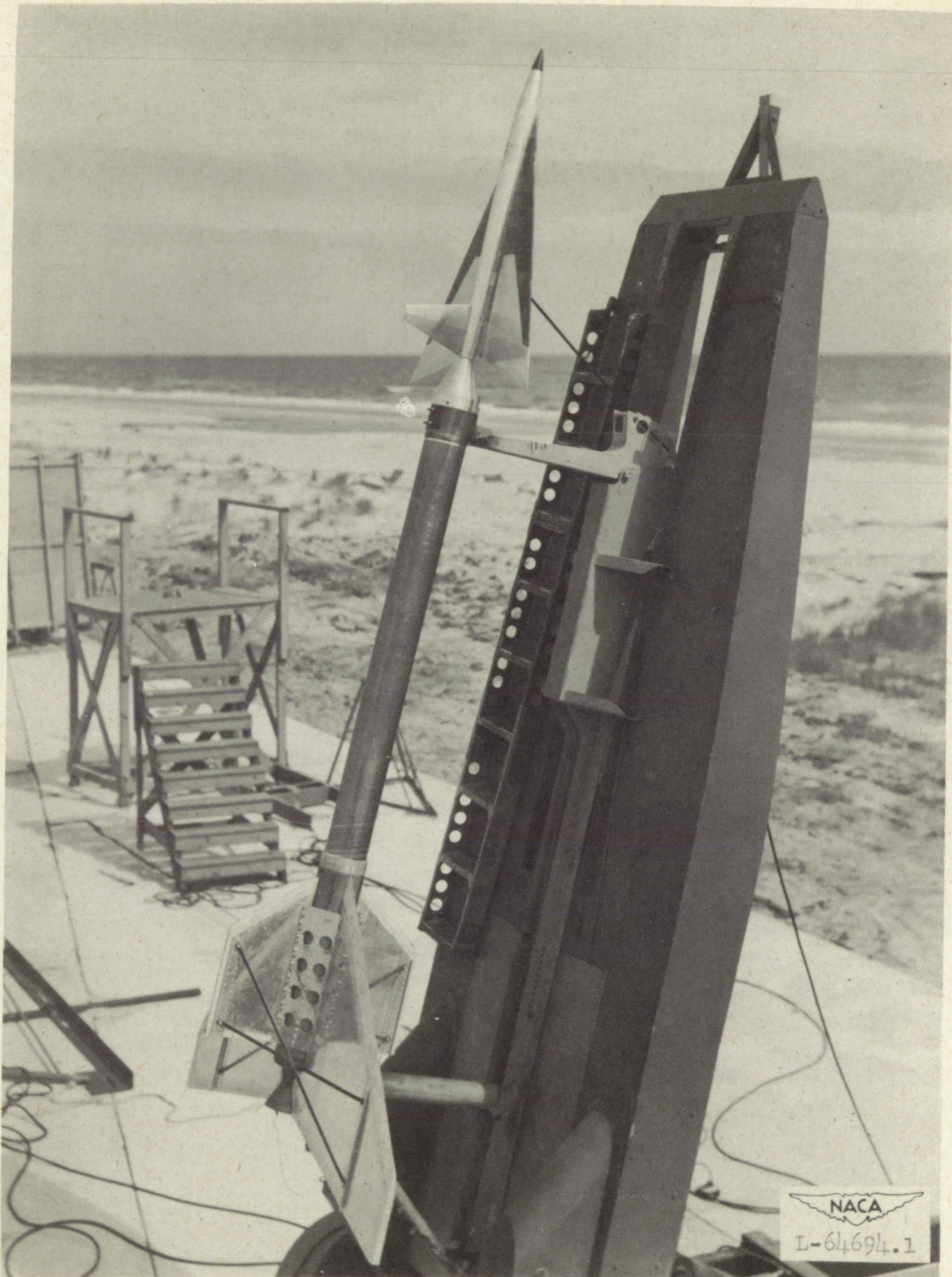
  
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Figure 2.- Photographs of arrow wing-body model.

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(a) Wing-body model and booster.

Figure 3.- Model-booster combinations in launching attitude.

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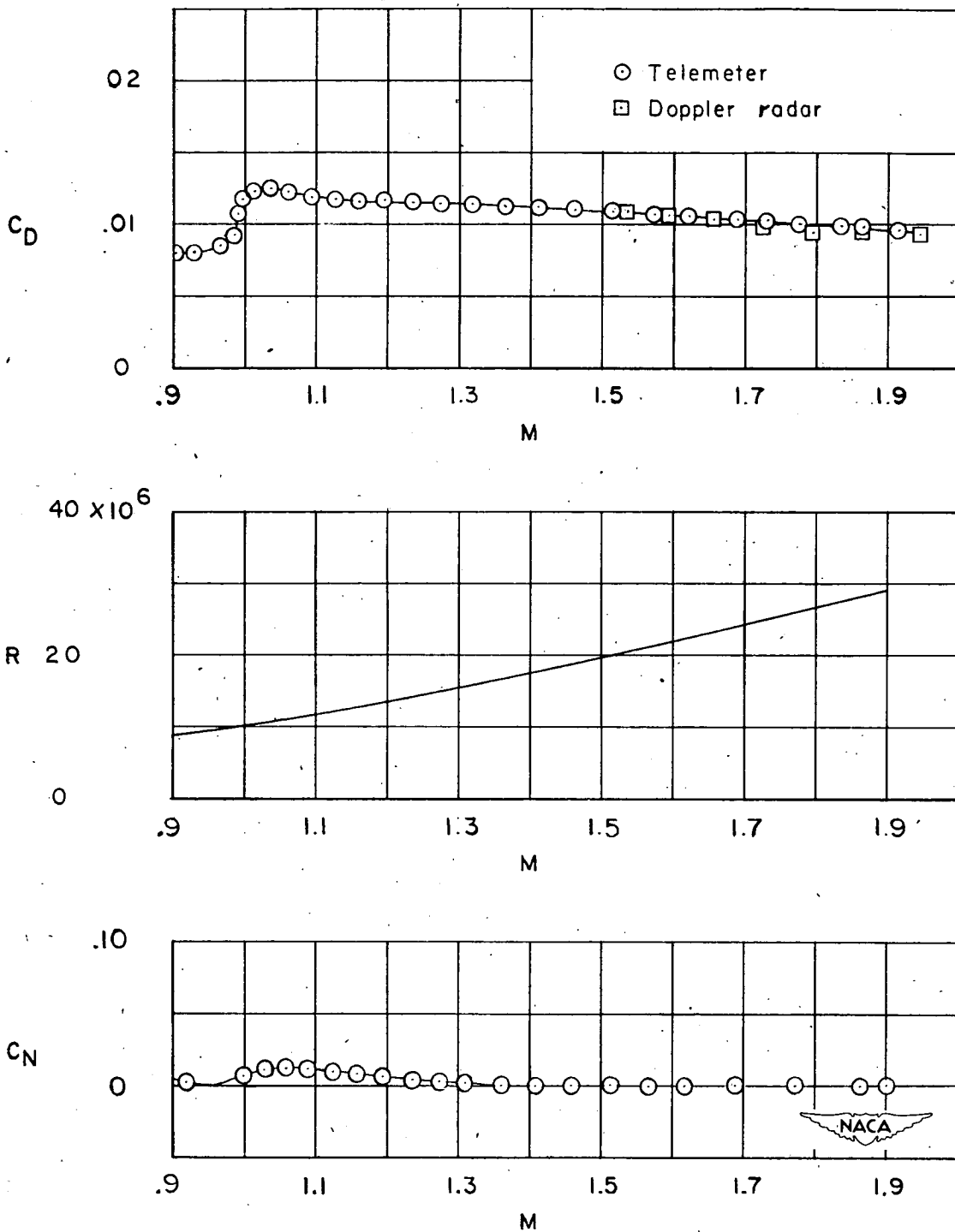


(b) Wingless model and booster.

Figure 3.- Concluded.

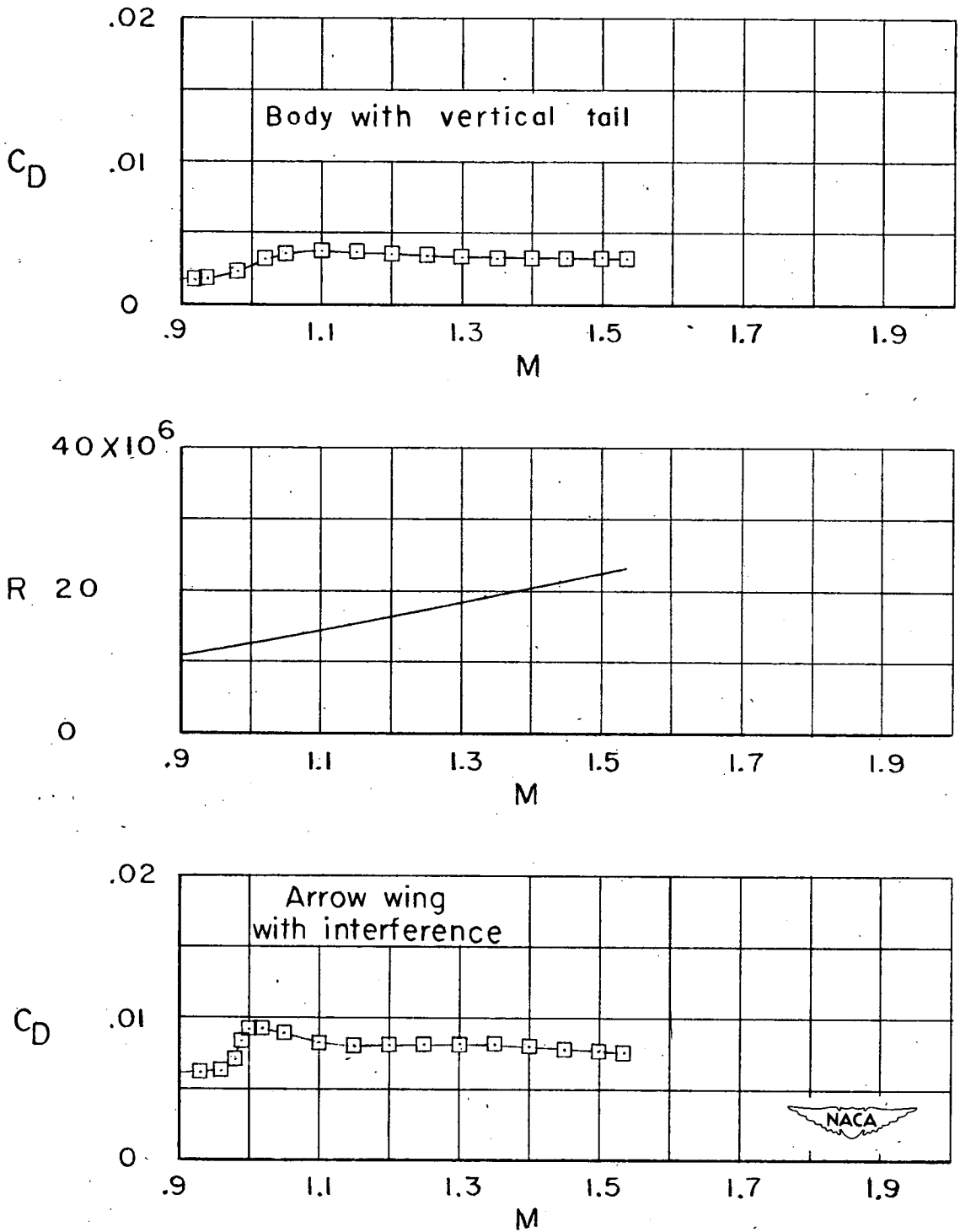


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(a)  $C_D$ ,  $R$ , and  $C_N$  against  $M$  for arrow wing-body model.

Figure 4.- Data from coasting flight of models.



(b)  $C_D$  and  $R$  against  $M$  from wingless model.

Figure 4.- Concluded.

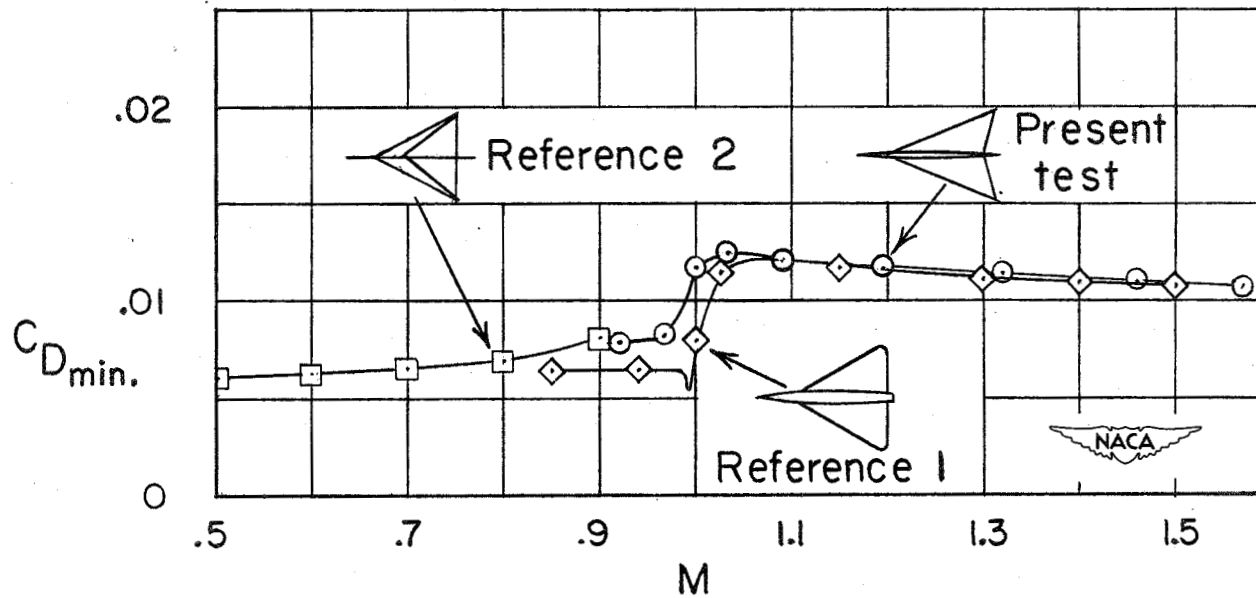


Figure 5.- Variation of minimum drag coefficients of similar wing-body combinations at high Reynolds number with Mach number.