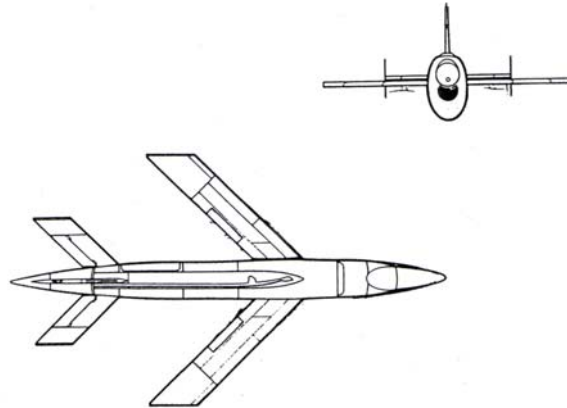


## AQM-34 Lightning Bug

**Users:** U.S. Air Force

**Manufacturer:** Teledyne Ryan

**Inventory:** 1000+ Delivered/1000+ Planned



**Background.** The first unmanned reconnaissance aircraft to be employed in war, the Ryan AQM-34 served in many variants during the Vietnam Conflict. It was essentially a BQM-34 Firebee target drone modified by the addition of cameras and other payloads later. Between Aug 1964 and Jun 1975, 1016 AQM-34s flew 3435 combat sorties over Vietnam and China during which 544 were lost; one aircraft flew 68 missions. Variants of it were used to dispense chaff, jam enemy radars, listen in on enemy radios, and dispense leaflets. It was the first UA to transmit live video and even tested launching Maverick and Hobo missiles against ground targets in Dec 1971. It was controlled from the DC-130 after being launched from one of its pylons and recovered by a helicopter snagging its parachute in midair.

### Characteristics:

	AQM-34L		AQM-34L
Length	29 ft	Wing Span	13 ft
Gross Weight	3,065 lb	Payload Capacity	965 lb
Fuel Capacity	600 lb	Fuel Type	JP
Engine Make	1xTeledyne CAE J69	Power	1,920 lb
Data Link(s)	C2	Frequency	

### Performance:

Endurance	1.25 hr	Max/Loiter Speeds	560 kt
Ceiling	60,000 ft	Radius	350 nm
Takeoff Means	Airdrop	Landing Means	Parachute/midair
Sensor	Film camera	Sensor Make	Acton KA-85