

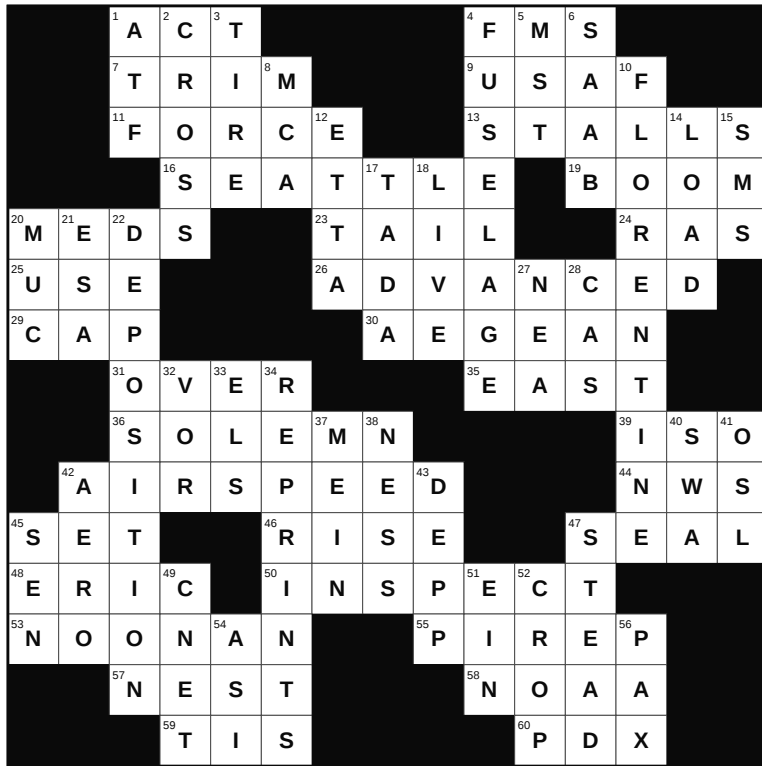


THE DAILY BRIEFING

CROSSWORD · SUDOKU · TRIVIA · ANSWER KEY

AUGUST 4, 2026
THEECAMS.COM

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. U.S. law that helped establish federal regulation of civil aviation
4. Flight management system, briefly
7. Adjust control pressure for steady flight
9. U.S. Air Force
11. Push or pull acting on an aircraft
13. Loss of lift
16. Home of Sea-Tac, colloquially
19. Sound heard when a jet breaks the sound barrier
20. Master's degree in education
23. Rear part of an aircraft that provides stability
24. Alerting system in the brain
25. Employ
26. Promoted or brought forward
29. Protective cover on a fuel or oil opening
30. Greek airline named for the surrounding sea
31. Radio word meaning the speaker awaits a reply
35. Direction where the sun rises
36. Dignified and somber in manner
39. Prefix associated with lines of equal weather value
42. Rate of an aircraft's progress through the air
44. U.S. National Weather Service, briefly
45. Adjust, as an altimeter
46. Gain altitude
47. Part that prevents an aircraft-fluid leak
48. Monty Python's Idle
50. Examine a plane for safety
53. Navigator who vanished with Amelia Earhart
55. Weather report from a pilot
57. Cosy or secluded retreat
58. U.S. oceanic and atmospheric agency, briefly
59. Legacy Mode S traffic-display service, briefly
60. Three-letter code for Portland International Airport

DOWN

1. Law enforcement agency for firearms
2. First half of an instrument pilot's "___-check"
3. Part of a wheel that grips the runway
4. Main body of an aircraft
5. Mountain Standard Time, briefly
6. Swedish maker of the J 35 fighter
8. Minimum crossing altitude, briefly
10. Native or resident of Florence
12. Blues singer James
14. Place passengers or cargo aboard
15. Safety Management System
17. Magician's flourish
18. Active, as an electrical circuit
20. Three-letter code for Munich Airport
21. European Space Agency, briefly
22. Change from water vapour directly to ice
27. National Endowment for the Arts, briefly
28. Calibrated airspeed, briefly
32. VHF omnidirectional range, briefly
33. Angular distance above the horizon
34. Publication reprinted without changes
37. My, in German
38. Strip of land projecting into water
40. ICAO designator for Southwest Airlines
41. Three-letter code for Oslo Airport
42. Prefix relating to air or flight
43. Actor Johnny
45. Fractional monetary unit of Japan
47. Post or function occupied by another
49. Technology news and reviews website
51. ICAO designator for Aer Lingus
52. Field treated by an agricultural aircraft
54. Airspeed indicator, briefly
56. Abbreviation for passengers

SUDOKU

8	3	9	2	7	1	5	4	6
5	4	6	9	8	3	7	1	2
7	1	2	6	5	4	8	3	9
1	6	7	5	4	9	3	2	8
4	9	5	8	3	2	1	6	7
3	2	8	7	1	6	4	9	5
6	5	1	4	9	8	2	7	3
2	7	3	1	6	5	9	8	4
9	8	4	3	2	7	6	5	1

THIS DAY IN AVIATION

1960

NASA Research Test Pilot Joseph Albert Walker Set Unofficial World Speed Record in X-15A

On 4 August 1960, NASA research test pilot Joseph Albert Walker set an unofficial world speed record flying the number one North American Aviation X-15A, 56-6670. Airdropped from a Boeing NB-52A Stratofortress over Silver Lake, Walker fired the rocket plane's two Reaction Motors XLR11-RM-13 engines for 264.2 seconds. The X-15 accelerated to 2,195 miles per hour (3,533 kilometers per hour), reaching Mach 3.31 and climbing to 78,112 feet during this 18th program flight.

This marked 56-6670's eighth flight and Walker's fourth X-15 sortie, aimed at gradually increasing speed toward the design limit. The interim XLR11 power plants provided thrust slightly exceeding the future XLR99's idle. Walker landed at Edwards Air Force Base after 10 minutes, 22.6 seconds. The flight surpassed Captain Mel Apt's 1956 Bell X-2 record, which ended tragically when Apt's aircraft broke up immediately after reaching Mach 3.196.

TRIVIA

1. Which aircraft's 1956 speed record was surpassed by Joseph Walker's 1960 X-15 flight?
A. Bell X-2
B. Boeing NB-52A
C. Lockheed SR-71A
D. Concorde
2. Which crossword answer matches this clue: Sound heard when a jet breaks the sound barrier?
A. TIS
B. PDX
C. NOAA
D. BOOM
3. Which crossword answer matches this clue: Active, as an electrical circuit?
A. LIVE
B. SEATTLE
C. OSL
D. EIN