

General Curtis LeMay

Little has been written about Gen. Curtis LeMay's involvement with the Corvette, largely because it is rather unofficial. What is known, however, is that he planted the idea with his friend Harley Earl of building a two-seat sports car like those he had seen from Austin and Rover in Europe. LeMay wanted to encourage the use of air bases and other military facilities for sports car racing. He hoped that this would help to keep servicemen in the service. LeMay was nicknamed "Old Iron Pants" because he flew so many combat missions. Although he wasn't known as the warmest American warrior, he took care of his troops, building new bases and implementing training programs.