



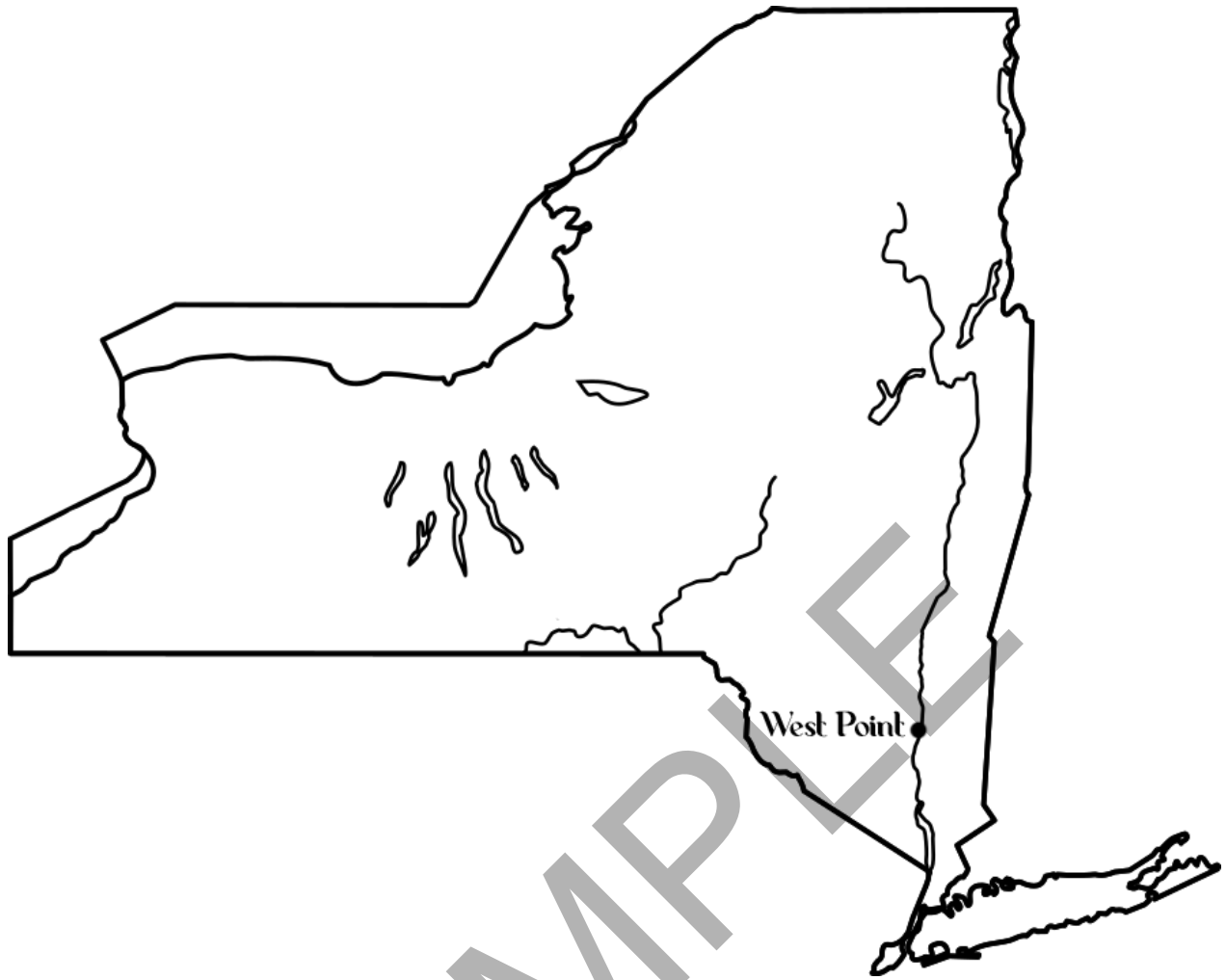
George S. "Spanky"

Roberts became the
first commander of
the 99th Fighter
Squadron.



Benjamin O. Davis,
Jr., later became
their commander.

Before Tuskegee, he
had graduated



from the U.S.

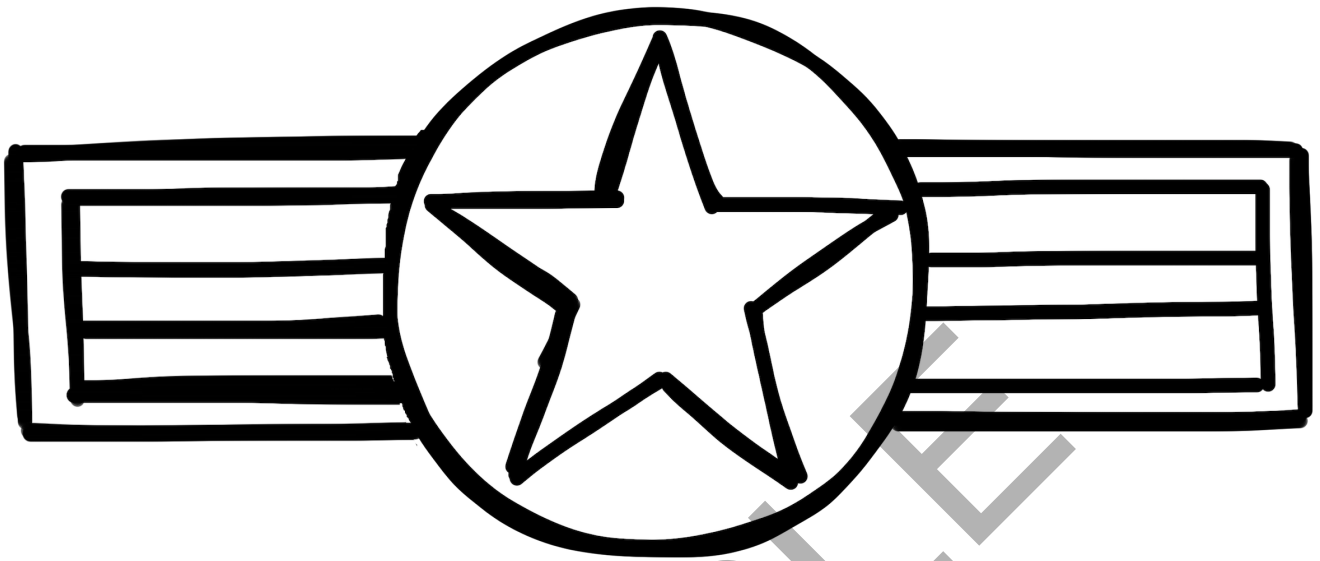
Military Academy in

West Point. He was

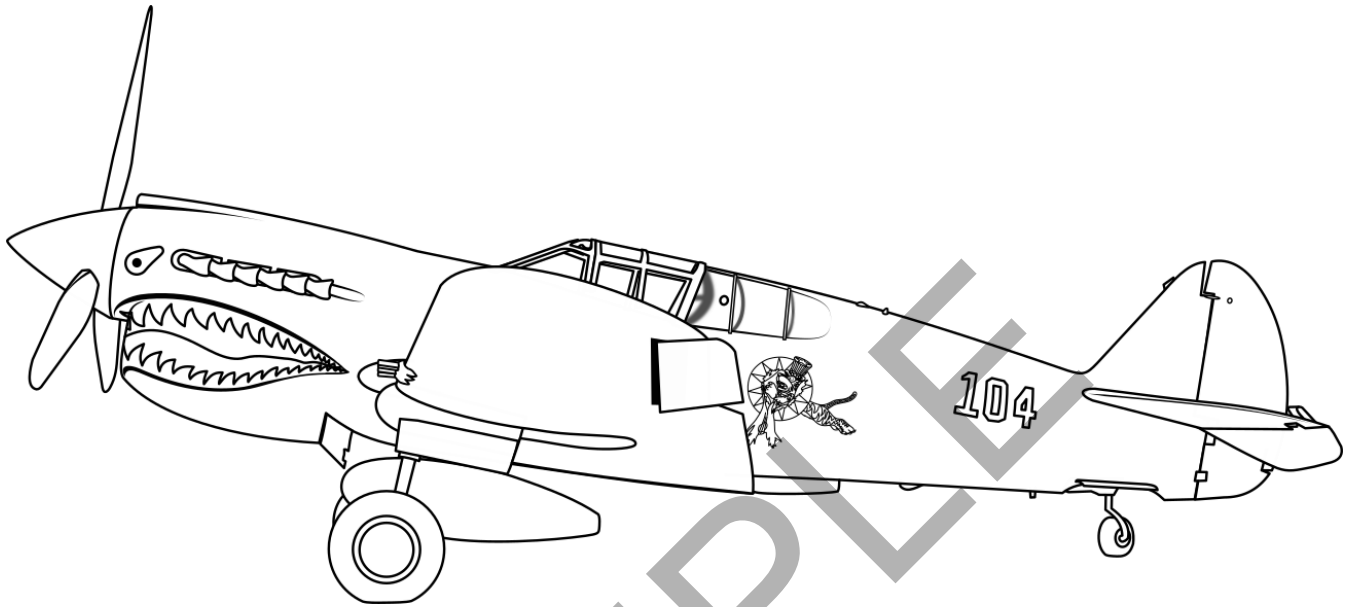
the son of the first

African American

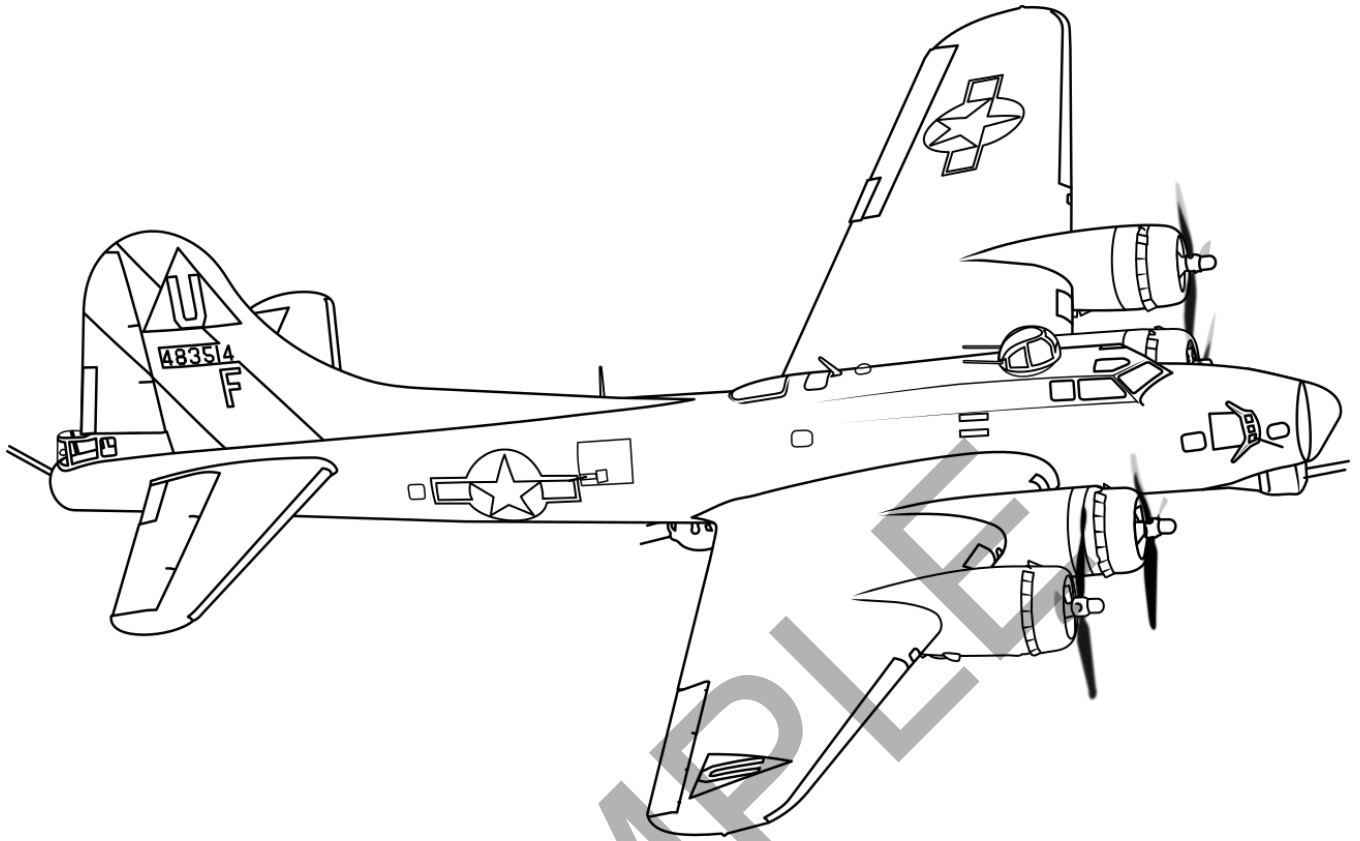
Army general.



He later became the
first African
American general
in the United States
Air Force.

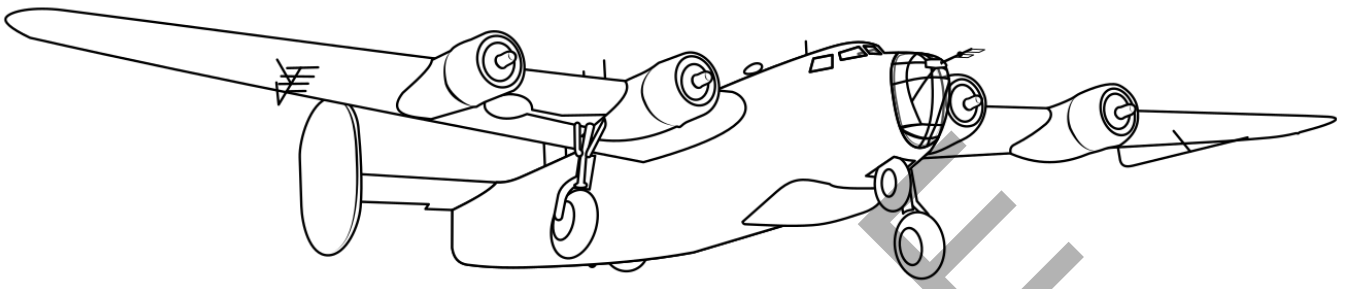


One of the first
types of planes
the 99th Fighter
Squadron used was
the P-40.



In early 1944,
squadrons of

African American
fighter pilots were
assigned to escort
B-17 and . . .



B-24 bombers. Their
job was to make sure
no one hit the
bombers and protect
them at all costs.