Jäger-Notprogramm, the "Emergency Fighter Programme", further development of the Ju 388J was considered essential. Possessing an identical airframe to the bomber and reconnaissance variants of the Ju 388, the high-altitude night and all-weather Zerstörer prototype converted from a Ju 188T, the Ju 388 V2, began its flight test programme late in January 1944. Armed with the MG 131Z/FA 15 remotely-controlled twin-tail barbette which was intended as an item of equipment common to all Ju 388 variants, the Ju 388 V2 carried FuG 220 Lichtenstein SN-2 with its Hirschgeweih (stag's antlers) aerial, and a forward-firing armament of two 20-mm. MG 151 cannon with 180 r.p.g. and two 30-mm. MK 108 cannon with 110 r.p.g. guns, or Waffentropfen, mounted asymmetrically beneath portside of the fuselage centre section. The pressure cabin, provided accommodation for a pilot, two observers and a three-man crew, was designed to maintain a pressure differential of 3.7 lb./sq. in., and the cabin roof was double-glazed, partly armoured and partly with plexiglass, hygrometric chemical sensing system. The rear wall of the pressure cabin was made of an armour bulkhead, and the entry hatch in the starboard side was opened in an emergency by compressed air. The FA tail turret was armed with two PVE 11 double-rotational sights, and its field of fire was ± 60 degrees azimuth and ± 45 degrees elevation and depression. Its twin vertically-rotating 13-mm. MG 131 machine guns were provided with a flexible support, delayed fire control and control system. The Ju 388J in a similar fashion to other aircraft intended to mount this equipment, and production orders for the initial model, the Ju 388J-1, were amended to permit delivery of the remotely-controlled armament, the Ju 388 V4 and V5, the second and third prototypes for the J-series Zerstörer, being delivered without the FA 15. These prototypes differed from the Ju 388 V2 in several other respects. A "schräge Musik" arrangement of two 20-mm. MG 151 cannon with 200 r.p.g. was introduced in the aft fuselage, these weapons firing obliquely upward at an angle of 70° from the horizontal, and the Lichtenstein SN-2 and its Hirschgeweih aerial array was replaced by FuG 218 Neptun with a pointed wooden nose cone enclosing much of the Morgenstern-type antenna. FuG 350 Naxos Z being built into the Morgenstern compartment to receive H2S emissions. An additional tail warning antenna was provided, and other avionic equipment included FuG 10 H.F. and FuG 1672 Y-V.H.F. radio, FuG 25a L.F.F., FuG 101a radio altimeter, Pfege 6 radio compass, FuBl 2 airfield blind approach receiver, and FuG 120a Bemardin beacon bearing recorder.

The Ju 388 V2, the first prototype for the Ju 388J night fighter. (Above right) The nose of the Ju 388 V2 with the "Hirschgeweih" antennae of the Lichtenstein SN-2 radar. Subsequent J-series prototypes had "Morgenstern" antennae.