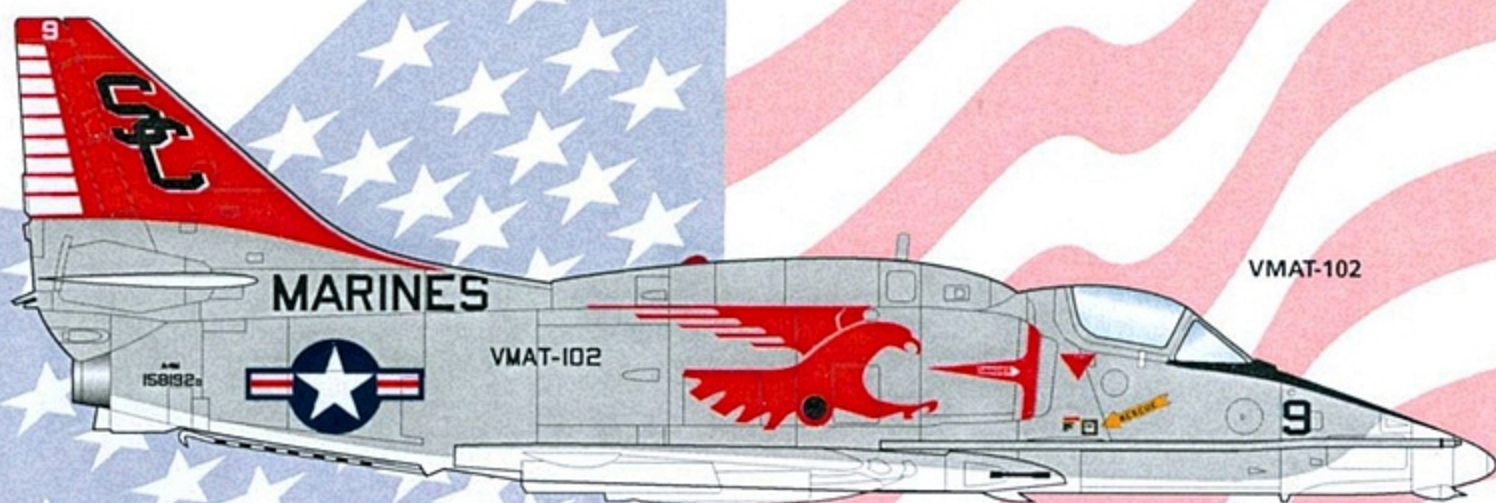


LIMITED EDITION!

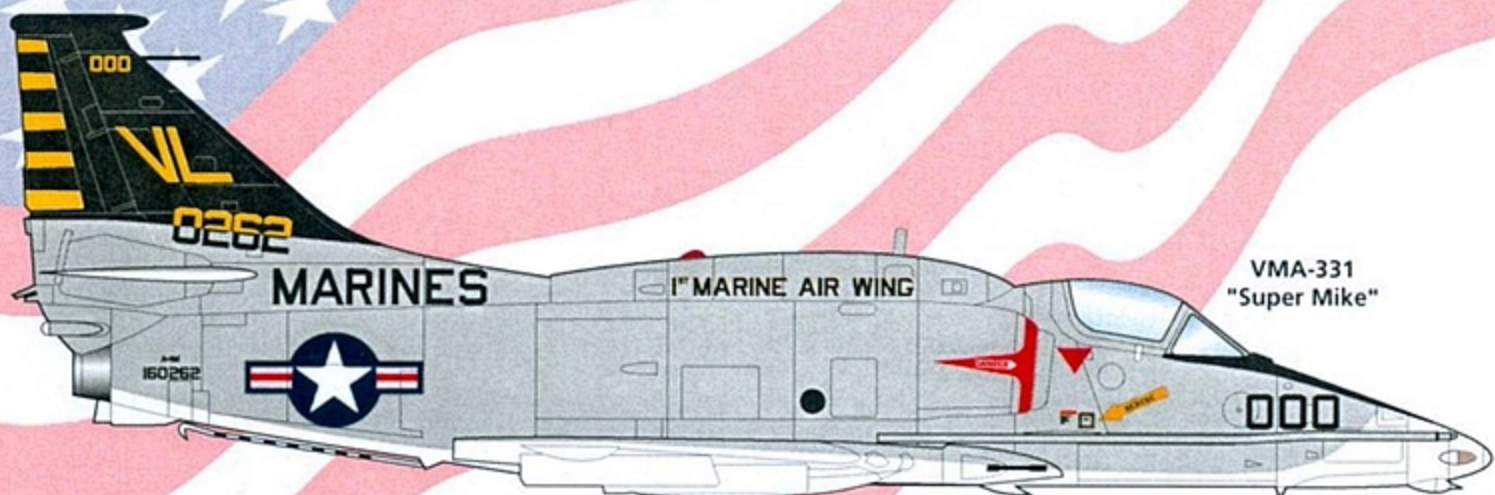
CED48195

# A-4M

## Skyhawks Part 3



VMAT-102



VMA-331  
"Super Mike"

Recommended kit:  
Hasegawa A-4E/F with  
Cutting Edge conversions

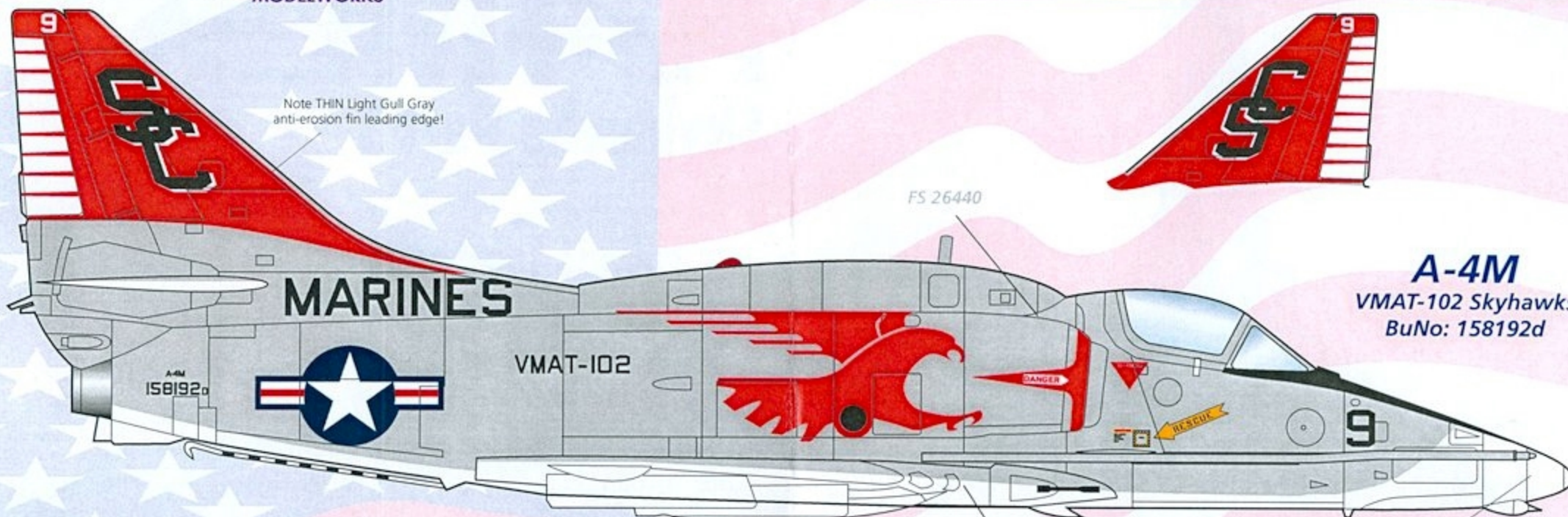
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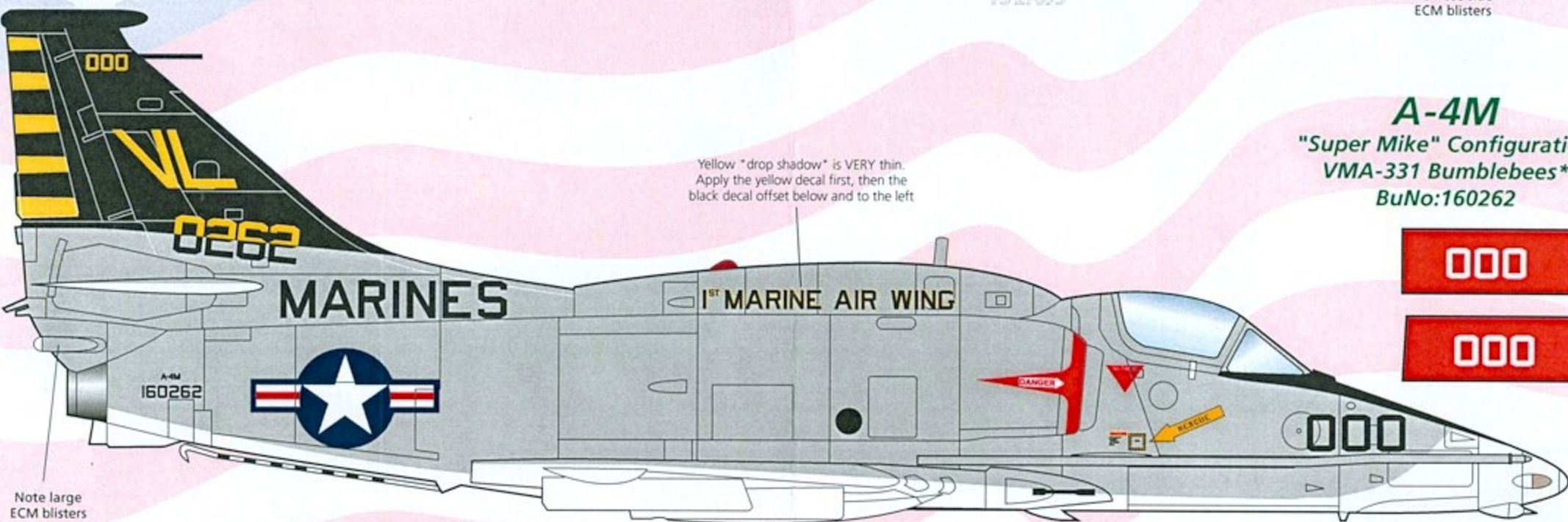




Note THIN Light Gull Gray anti-erosion fin leading edge!

FS 26440

**A-4M**  
VMAT-102 Skyhawks  
BuNo: 158192d



Yellow "drop shadow" is VERY thin. Apply the yellow decal first, then the black decal offset below and to the left

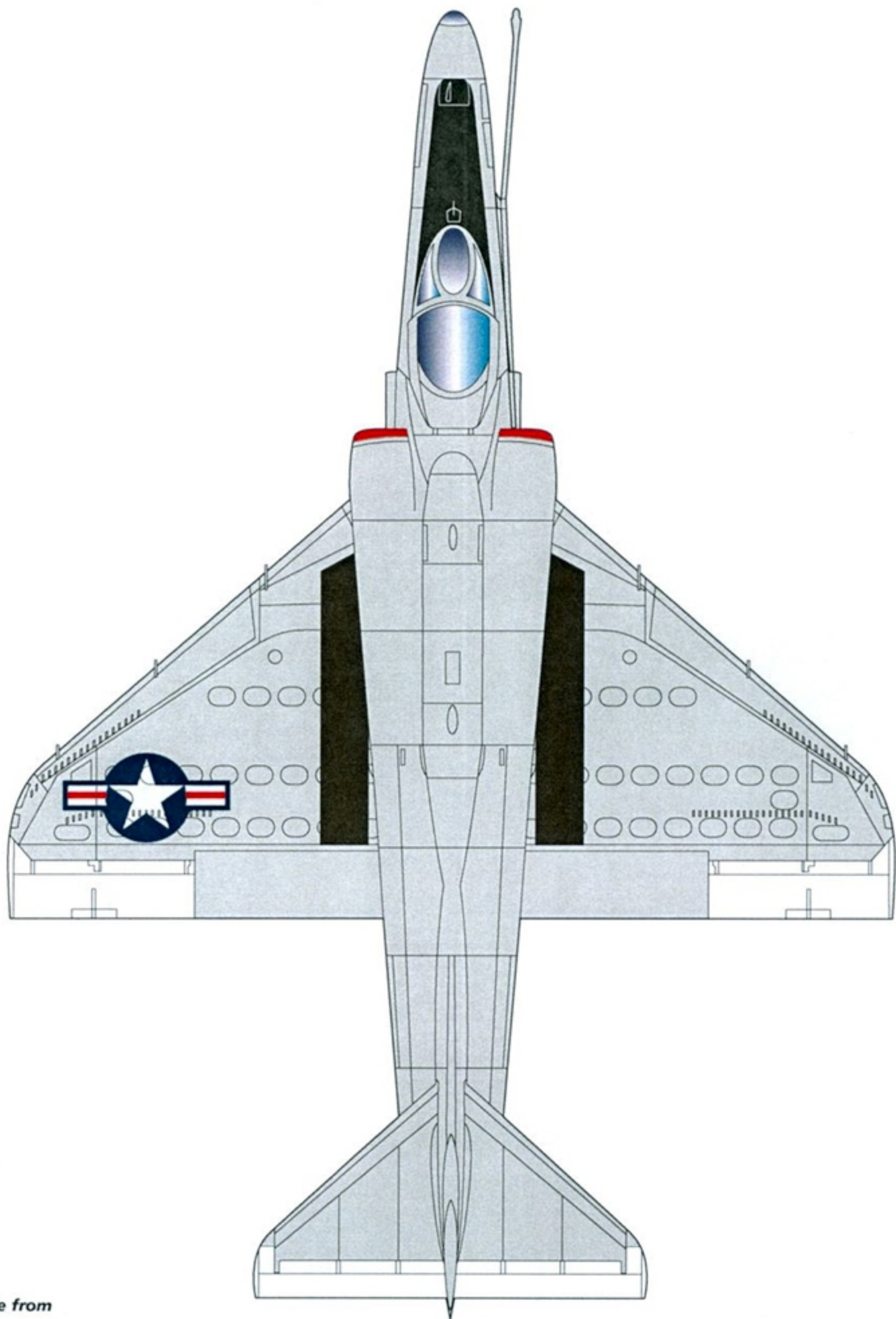
Note large ECM blisters

**A-4M**  
"Super Mike" Configuration  
VMA-331 Bumblebees\*  
BuNo:160262



• if you want to die. If you're a squadron member it's VMA-331 Killer Bees!





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## VMAT-102

- Note narrow anti-corrosion Light Gull Gray fin leading edge leading edge.
- This jet had the early (small) rear fuselage ECM blisters and standard A-4F-type plain nose.
- This set requires Cutting Edge conversion set CEC48401, A-4M Airframe Conversion.
- Skyhawkers later flew mid-production A-4Ms in a similar scheme with fin tip hot dog antennas and nose antennas.

## VMA-331

- This jet was a very late production "Super Mike," and requires both Cutting Edge conversion sets CEC48401, A-4M Airframe Conversion and CEC48402, A-4M "Super Mike" Conversion.
- The thin yellow "drop shadow" on the "1st MARINE AIR WING" insignia was too fine to reliably print as a single decal. Apply the yellow decal, then apply the black decal very slightly below and to the left.
- A well known photo of this jet appeared in Koku-Fan many years ago. In keeping with Koku-Fan's propensity to heavily emphasize the blue color in photos (they told me it makes the photos look prettier!), the black fin and rudder appeared to be very dark blue. This is NOT correct. The squadron colors were BLACK and yellow, not blue and yellow!

## Applying the Decals

You probably already know all this stuff, so feel free to use your regular process; however, if you're new to aftermarket decals, here goes:

- Generally, use the Microscale Finishing System. We don't recommend extremely strong decal solvents such as Solvaset.
- Your model must have a smooth, glossy surface, as decals won't adhere well to matte surfaces. Use gloss paints or your favorite clear gloss overspray over matte or semigloss paint.
- Cut each subject out without trimming off the slight excess film (this helps the decal film disappear when dry).
- Put the decal in warm water that has a drop or two of liquid dishwashing soap or photo-flo for 10 seconds.
- When the decal will slide off the backing paper without forcing it, apply it to the proper position on your model. Slide the backing paper out from underneath.
- Gently blot off excess water and smooth out bubbles under the decal surface. If you wish, carefully brush on a mild decal softener such as Micro-Sol.
- When all decals are completely dry, gently wash off all excess decal adhesive.
- Finally, overcoat your model with a good quality gloss coat, followed by your choice of matte or eggshell clear topcoat.

## FS 595 Color Cross Reference

Light Gull Gray FS 36440

Xtracolor X137, Modelmaster 1729/1730, Gunze Sangyo H315/325, Pro Modeler 88-0033, Polly Scale 505326

White FS 17875

Any white paint

## Bibliography

Photos in the personal collection of Dave Klaus

Technical information and photos provided by the Kuwait Embassy

Photos and technical information provided by Harry Gann, Douglas Aircraft

*Special thanks to:*

*Dave Aungst*

*Gary Campbell*

*Ed Miranda*

*Harry Gann*

*Kuwait Embassy*