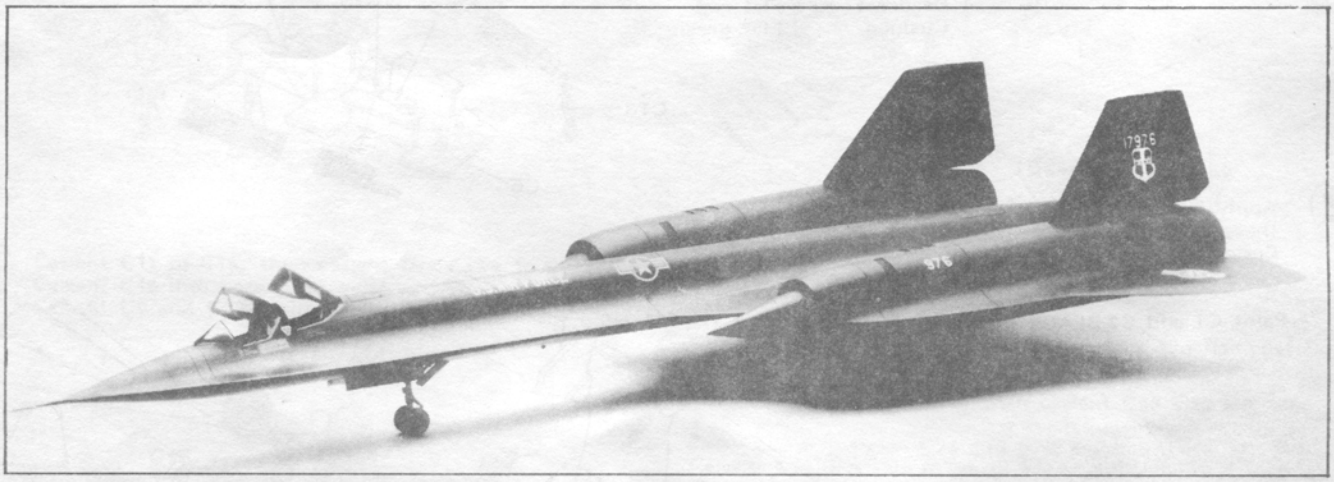
LOCKHEED SR-71A BLACKBIRD

1/72 Scale

MINICRAFT MODELS, INC.
1510 W. 228th STREET
TORRANCE, CA. 90501

MINICRAFT / Hasegawa

1187



LOCKHEED SR-71A BLACKBIRD HISTORY

Aerial reconnaissance has become one of the most important sources of strategic information for military planners. Where orbiting satellites are suitable for certain information, a piloted aircraft is much more versatile as a data gatherer. The most famous "spy plane" is Lockheed's U-2, a subsonic, high-altitude photoplatform. Although capable of flying as high as 85,000 feet, the U-2's top speed of some 500 mph made it vulnerable to interception by zoom-climbing fighters or surface to air missiles.

On April 26, 1962, the supersonic successor to the U-2 made its first flight. Known as the Lockheed A-11, the new plane resembled nothing that had ever flown before. It was larger than most bombers and faster than any airplane yet built, with the exception of the famous X-15 research rocket. Early in the development of the huge plane, clandestine flights were made over Communist countries to determine its suitibility for its intended role.

The first A-11's were classed as fighters, and designated YF-12A, but their role was mainly research, while a true reconnaissance version, the SR-71, was put into production, making its initial flight on December 22, 1964. The existence of the new spy plane was a well-kept secret during its development, but such a radical machine could not be kept under wraps for long. In September, 1974, an SR-71A set a Transatlantic speed record, flying from New York to London in less than 2 hours.

With its advanced surveillance gear, the SR-71 can scan thousands of miles of the earth's surface each hour. It normally flies at altitudes above 80,000 feet at three-times the speed of sound, far beyond the reach of contemporary interceptors or SAM missiles!

SR-71A CHARACTERISTICS

Wingspan: 55 feet 7 inches
Length: 107 feet 5 inches
Height: 18 feet 6 inches
Powerplant: Two Pratt & Whitney J58 engines with 32,500 lbs thrust each.
Performance: Maximum speed-2,200 mph @ 86,000 feet.
Range: (At Mach 3) 2,982 miles. The SR-71A is equipped with aerial refueling gear.

PARTS LIST

A PARTS
1 Fuselage top

B PARTS
1 Fuselage bottom

D PARTS
1 Windshield
2 Front canopy
3 Rear canopy

C PARTS
1 Rear instrument panel
2 Front Inst. panel
3 Rear bulkhead
4 Middle bulkhead
5 Nose top
6 Cockpit floor
7 Vertical Stab. (R)
8 Vertical Stab. (L)
9,10 Nose gear covers
11 Nose strut cover
12 Seat (2)
13 Control Column
14 Canopy actuator (F)
15 Canopy actuator (R)
16 Nose gear
17 Nose bottom
18 Exhaust nozzle (L)
19 Retracting arm (R)
20 Flameholder (R)
21 Intake cone (R)
22 Main gear strut (R)
23 Main gear strut (L)
24 Main wheel (4)
25 Nose wheel (2)
26 Main gear cover (R)
27 Main wheel cover (R)
28 Main wheel cover (L)
29 Main gear cover (L)
30 Retracting arm (L)
31 Exhaust nozzle (R)
32 Intake cone (L)
33 Flameholder (L)

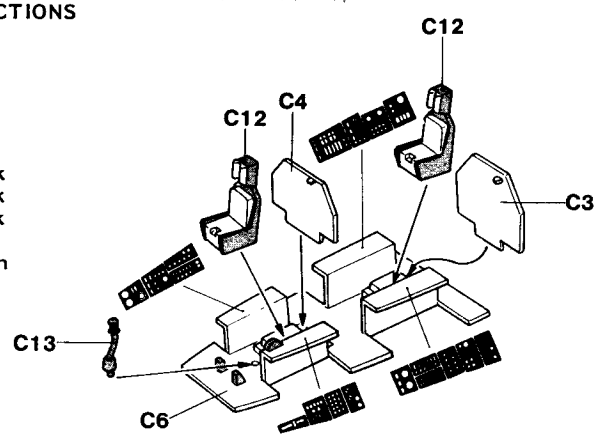
FEDERAL STANDARD COLORS FOR SR-71

Indigo Blue	FS 35042
Gray	FS 36231
Red	FS 31136
Green	FS 34096

FEDERAL STANDARD COLOR NUMBERS
The FS numbers on these instructions refer to Federal Standard 595a, a reference book which includes authentic color chips. A copy of this book can be obtained from:
GENERAL SERVICES ADMIN.
SPECIFICATIONS ACTIVITY
BUILDING 197
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20407
(There is a nominal charge for the book)

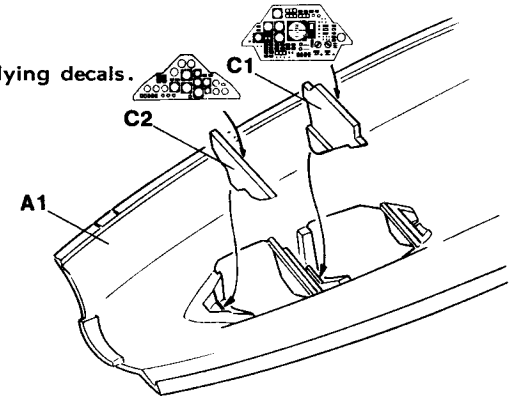
1 Cement C13 to C6, then cement two C12's, C4 and C3 into place.
Apply console decals as indicated.

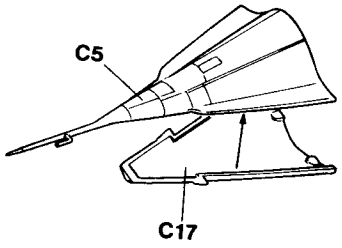
COCKPIT INTERIOR	
Ejection seat	Flat black
Control column	Flat black
Rudder pedals	Flat black
Headrest	Flat red
Cushion	Flat green



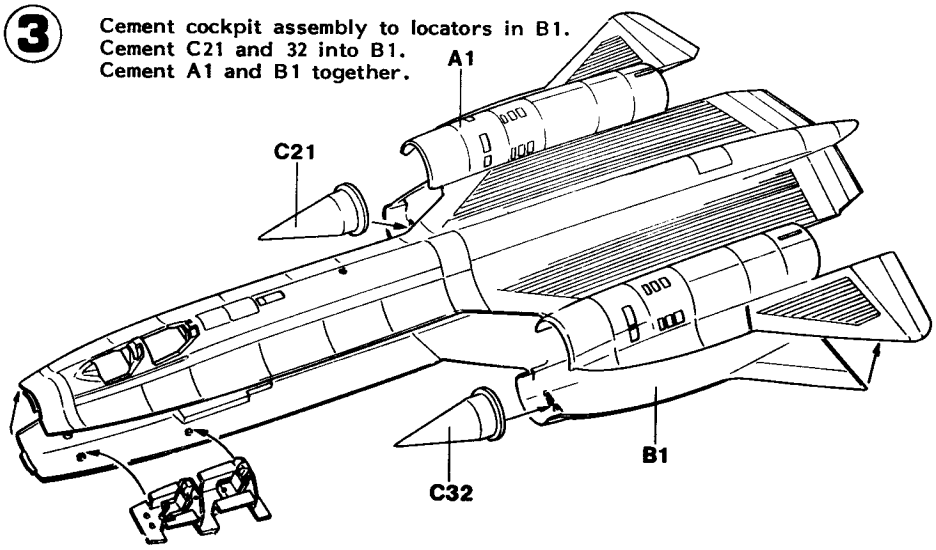
2 Apply instrument decals to C1 and C2, then cement these parts into A1 as shown.
Cement C5 to C17.

Paint C1 and C2 BLACK before applying decals.

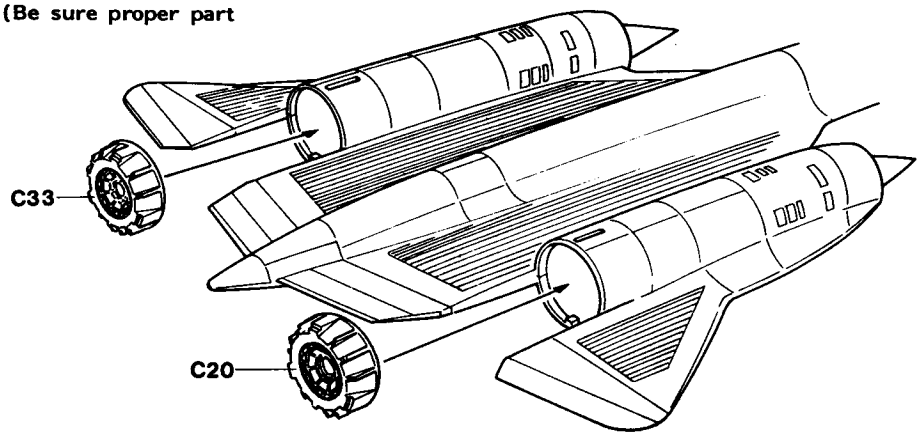




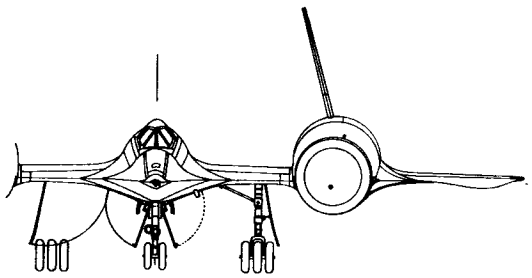
3 Cement cockpit assembly to locators in B1.
Cement C21 and 32 into B1.
Cement A1 and B1 together.

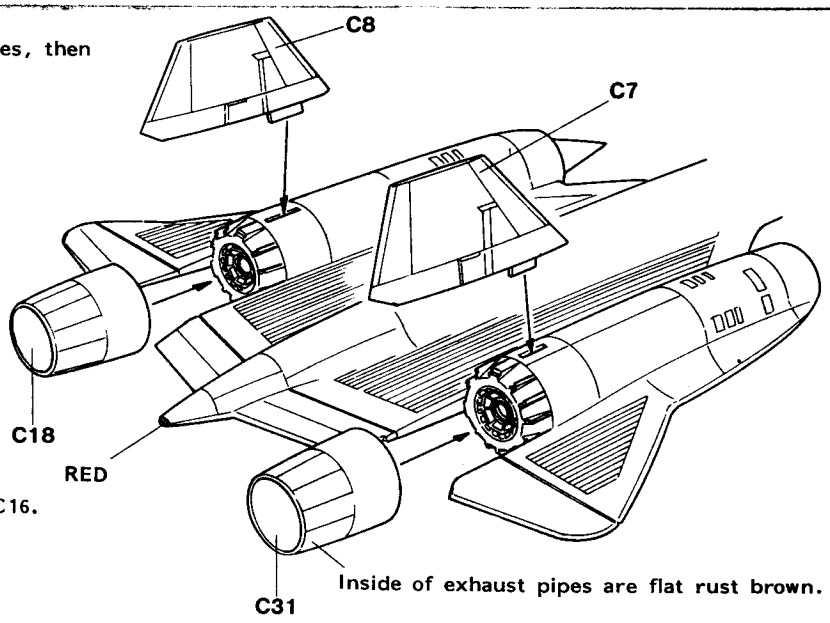


4 Cement C33 and C20 in place. (Be sure proper part is used for each side.)



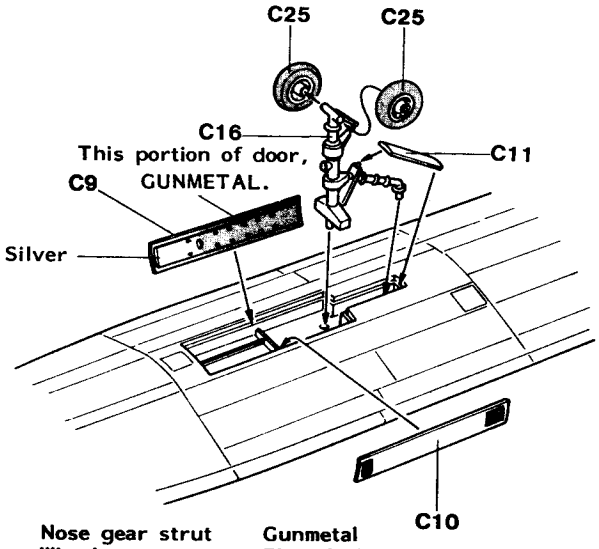
5 Cement C18 and C31 over rear of engine nacelles, then cement C7 and C8 in place.





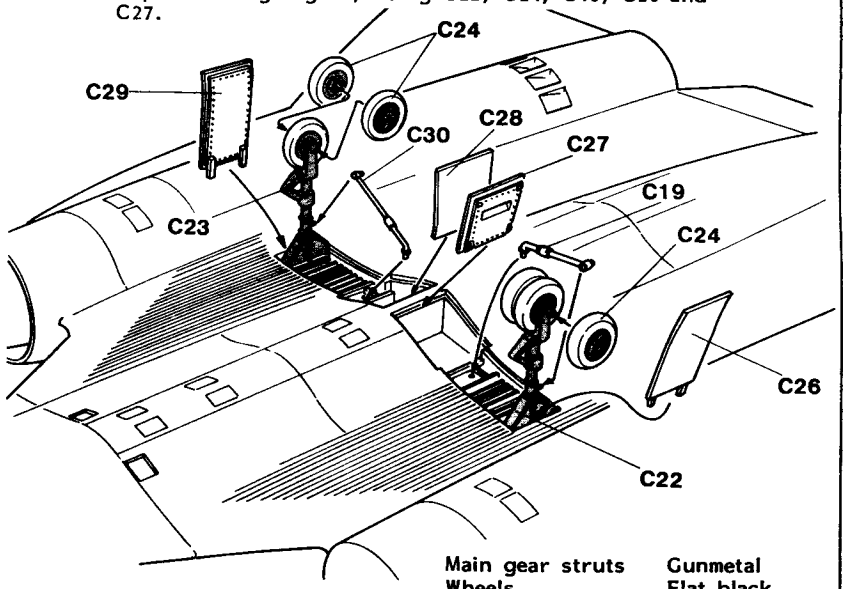
Inside of exhaust pipes are flat rust brown.

6 Cement C11 to C16, then cement two C25's to C16.
Cement C16 into nose gear well.
Cement C9 and C10 beside well.



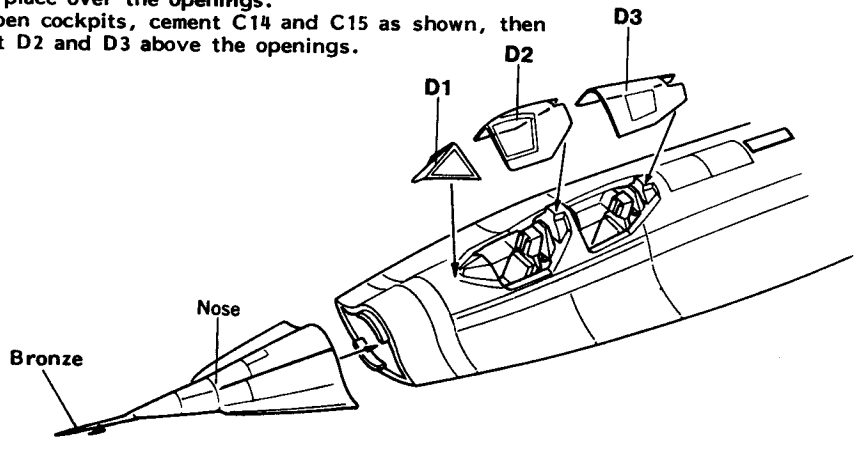
Nose gear strut	Gunmetal
Wheels	Flat black
Tires	Flat black
Inside of doors and wheel well	Flat silver

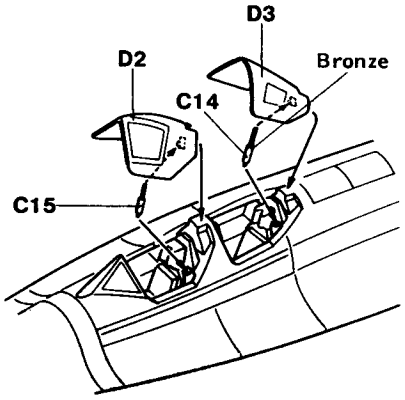
7 Cement two C24's to C23, then cement C23 into left main gear well.
Cement C30 between C23 and well as shown.
Cement C28 and C29 in place where indicated.
Repeat for right gear, using C22, C24, C19, C26 and C27.



Main gear struts	Gunmetal
Wheels	Flat black
Tires	Flat aluminum
Retracting arms	Silver
Inside of doors and wheel wells	Flat silver

8 Cement D1 to front of cockpit.
If you wish to have your cockpits closed, cement D2 and D3 in place over the openings.
For open cockpits, cement C14 and C15 as shown, then cement D2 and D3 above the openings.





Printed in USA

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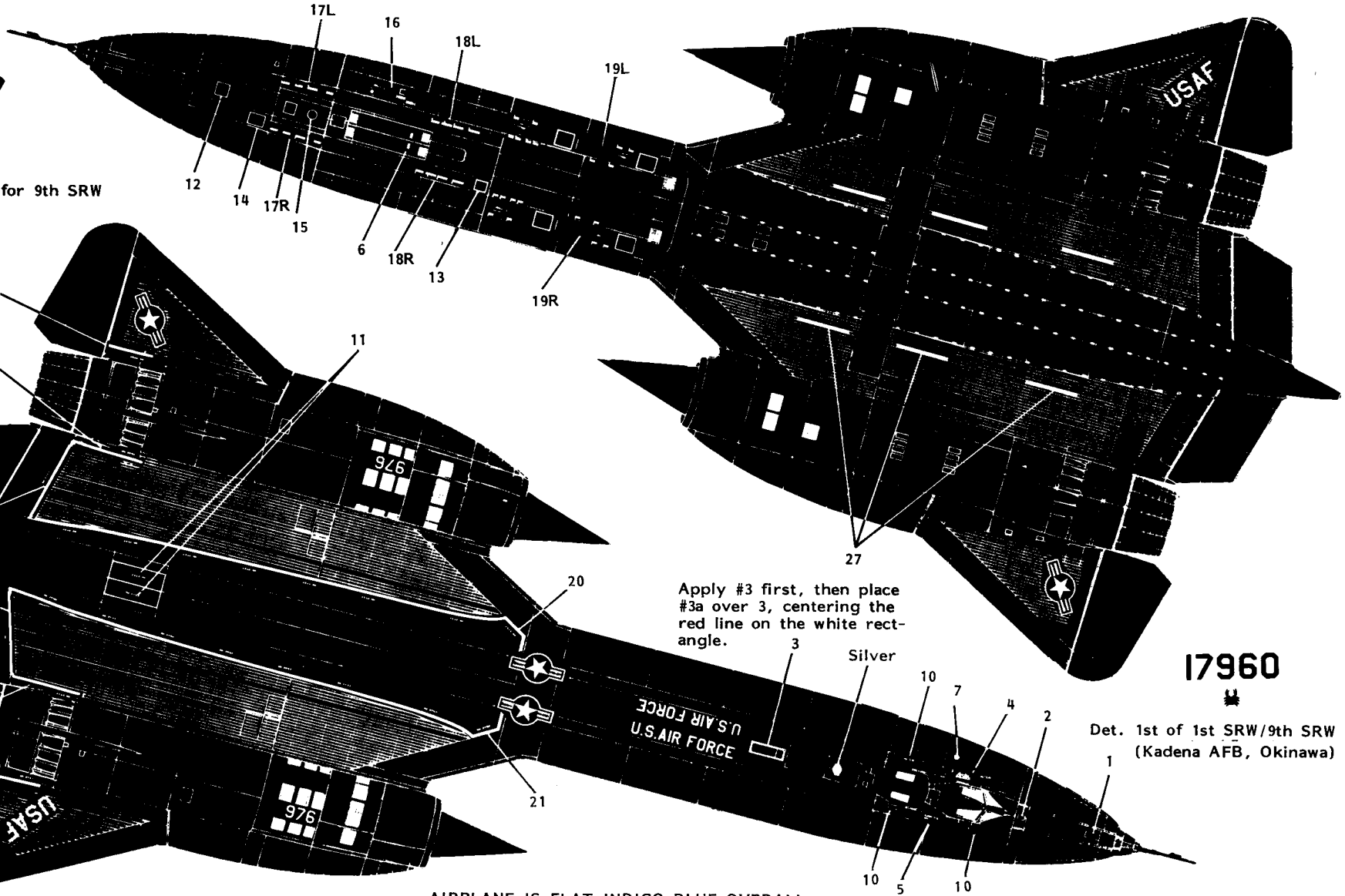
Optional markings for 9th SRW



Apply #3 first, then place #3a over 3, centering the red line on the white rectangle.

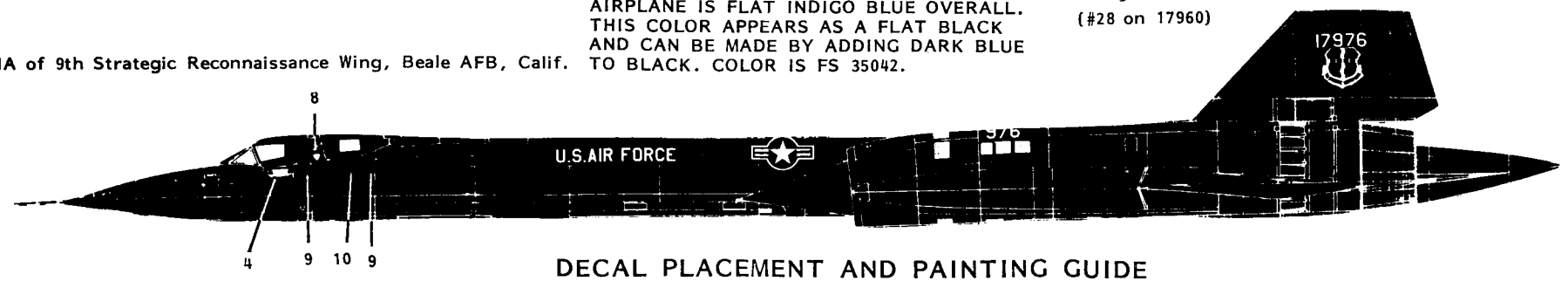
17960

Det. 1st of 1st SRW/9th SRW (Kadena AFB, Okinawa)

(#28 on 17960)

SR-71A of 9th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, Beale AFB, Calif.

AIRPLANE IS FLAT INDIGO BLUE OVERALL. THIS COLOR APPEARS AS A FLAT BLACK AND CAN BE MADE BY ADDING DARK BLUE TO BLACK. COLOR IS FS 35042.



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DECAL PLACEMENT AND PAINTING GUIDE