

Recommended kits: 1/48: Tamiya F4D-1 1/72: Airfix F4D-1



P.O. Box 3956 Merrifield, VA 22116 USA

# F4D-1 Skyray





## **Notes on Specific Aircraft**

The Fords on this sheet carried either the standard late-'50s scheme of nonspecular (matte) ANA 620 Light Gull Gray over glossy ANA 511 Insignia White\*, or one of the special schemes noted below. In keeping with Navy edict, no markings were carried beneath the wings except the national insignia and small maintenance stencils (see sheet CED48092). The walkways on these particular aircraft were Light Gull Gray, except for the NATC drone control bird, which had black walkways (also see sheet CED48092).

The cockpit interior was generally Dark Gull Gray (ANA 621 [FS 36231]), with black instrument bezels, knobs, control stick handle, etc.

\* Note the color instruction sheet for this decal states ANA 601 [FS 37875]; the correct color is ANA 511 [FS 17875].

### NK/213, VF-141 Iron Angels, BuNo 134809E

 This scheme was carried for a short time while the unit was assigned to Carrier Air Group 14 in August-December 1958, and is far more interesting than the rather bland markings carried by the Iron Angels at other periods.

#### NATF/1, Naval Air Test Facility, BuNo 134854

- The NATF at Lakehurst, New Jersey, was charged with, among other things, the development and testing of shipboard and shore based catapult and arrested landing systems. They used a small fleet of contemporary fighter and attack aircraft to conduct the evaluations, including this Ford from 1959 to 1964.
- While originally appearing in the standard Light Gull Gray/Insignia White scheme, by 1963 the jet had been repainted in the bright colors shown here.

#### PA/32, VFAW-3 Blue Nemesis, BuNo 134802

- VFAW-3 [also written as VF(AW)-3] was unique in being the only US Navy squadron ever assigned to the North American Air Defense Command, flying under US Air Force operational command!
- This is the same scheme (although a different aircraft) as provided in the Tamiya 1/48 Skyray kit.
  We've given you the option of painting the fuselage spine and tail insignia blue, then applying the
  unit insignias and stars over that. While this will be somewhat tedious, it will result in a cleaner and
  more attractive representation of this beautiful scheme. Note that numerous configurations of star
  patterns can be seen in photos, and this aircraft has significantly more stars than the one in the
  Tamiya kit.
- Although not shown in many photos, the unit reportedly flew most missions armed with four 7-short FFAR rocket pods and two fuel tanks or two rocket pods and two Sidewinders.
- The Ginter book on the F4D has an excellent and interesting description of VFAW-3 operations.