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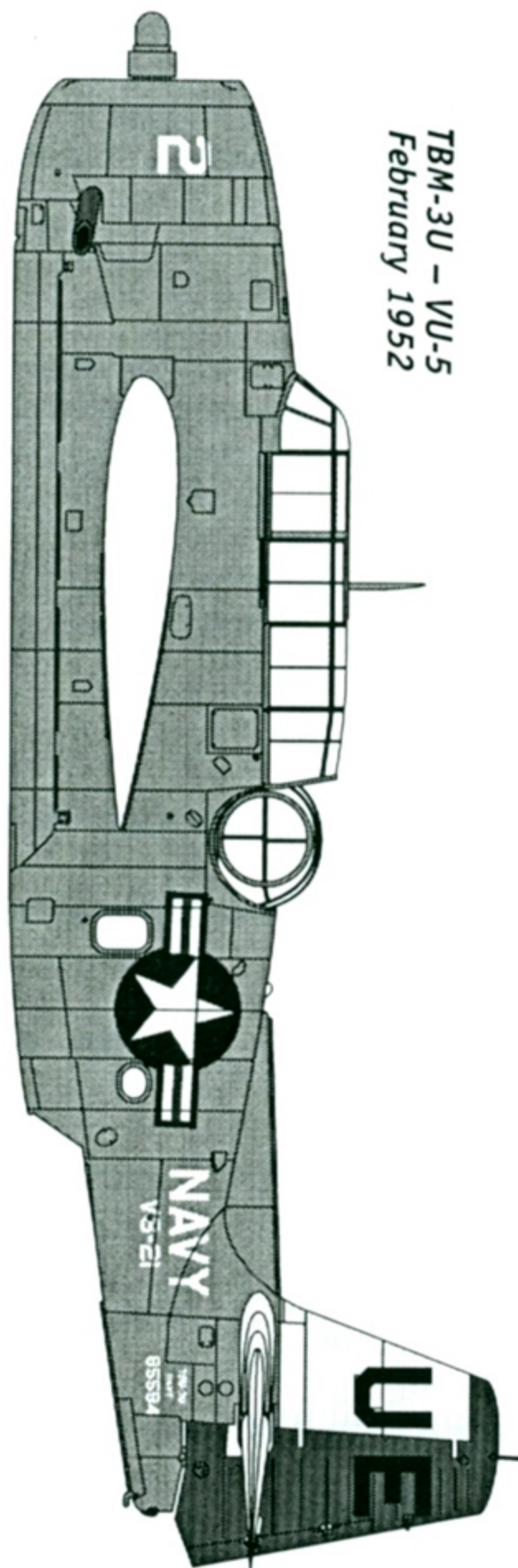
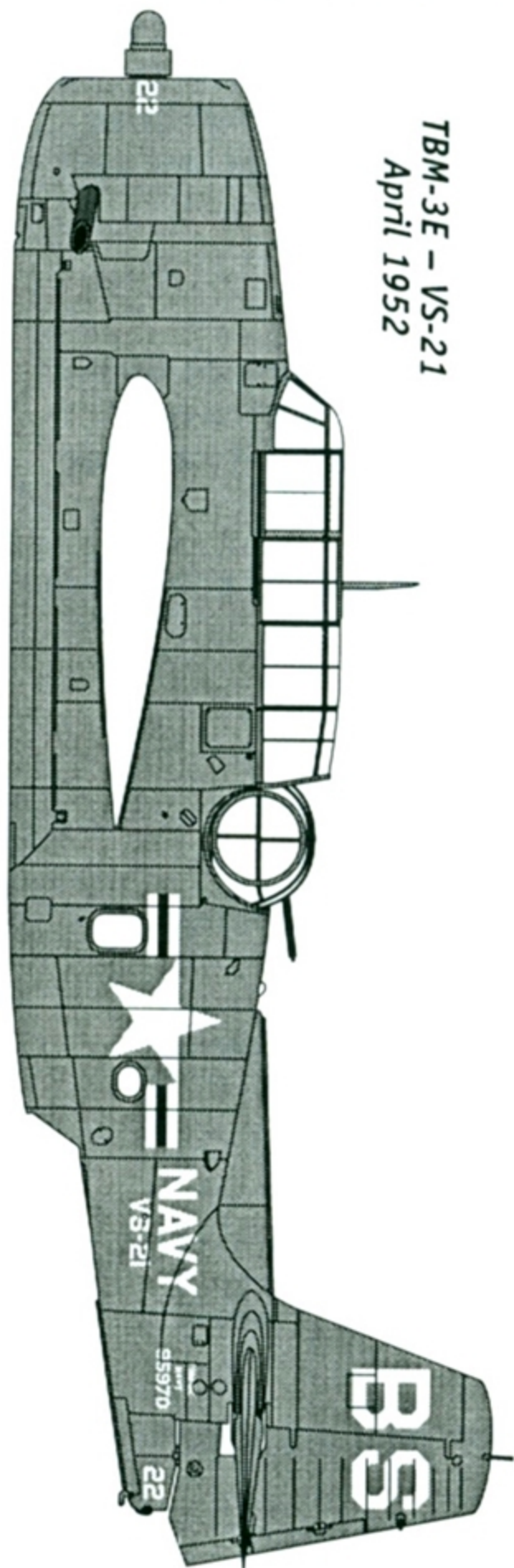
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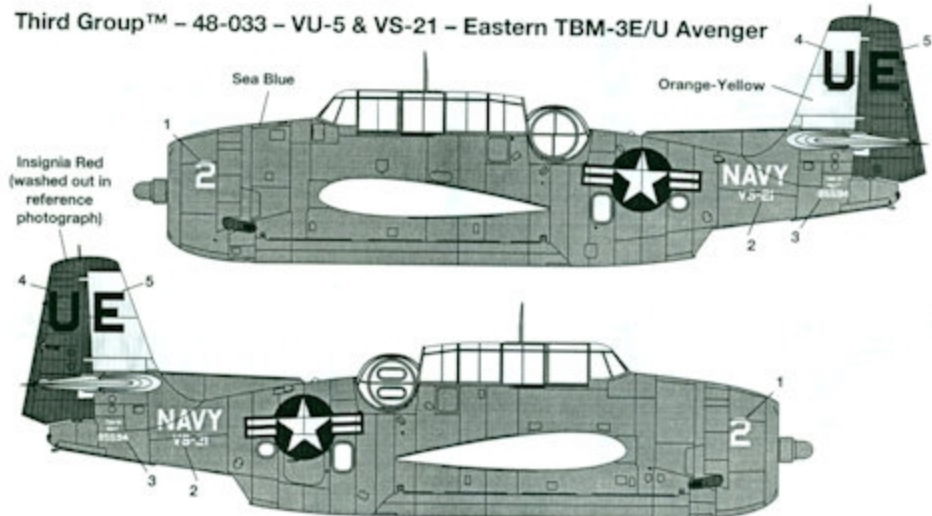
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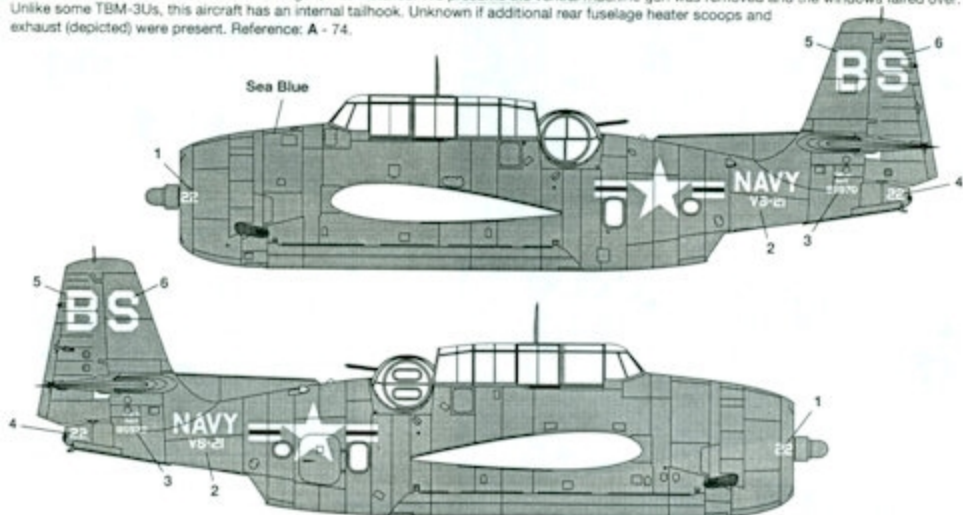
USN Post-WWII Eastern TBM-3 Avengers



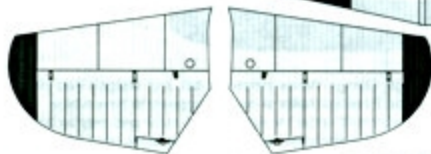
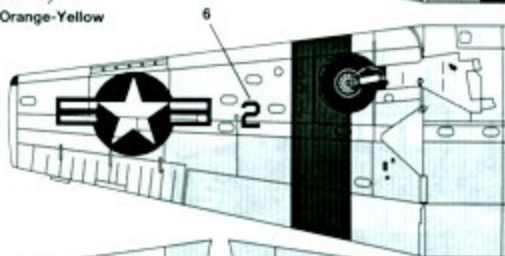
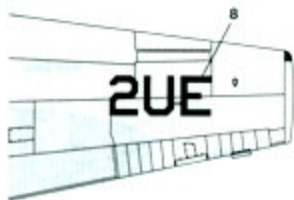
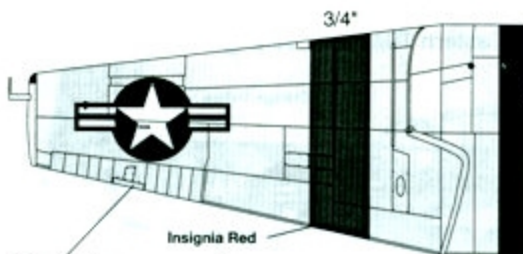
Third Group™ – 48-033 – VU-5 & VS-21 – Eastern TBM-3E/U Avenger



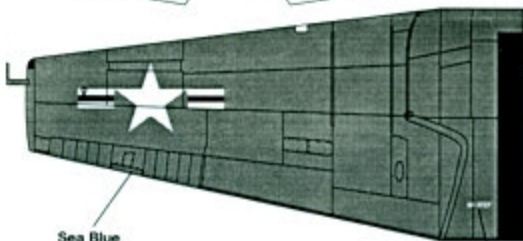
White 2: VU-5 TBM-3U, BuNo 85594, during February of 1952 with Sea Blue fuselage, Orange-Yellow wings and tail, and Insignia Red wing bands, rudder, and possible horizontal tail tips. Black propeller with 4-inch yellow tips. Fuselage national insignia appears to have a blue surround, though it might not have. A Glossy Insignia White AN/ASP-4 radar pod was carried under the right wing. A radar pod may be borrowed from the Monogram P-38 Lightning kit. TBM-3Us were supposed to have had all armor and armament removed as they were used as utility aircraft; however, the turret, sans machine gun, was installed. We presume the ventral machine gun was removed and the windows faired over. Unlike some TBM-3Us, this aircraft has an internal tailhook. Unknown if additional rear fuselage heater scoops and exhaust (depicted) were present. Reference: **A** - 74.



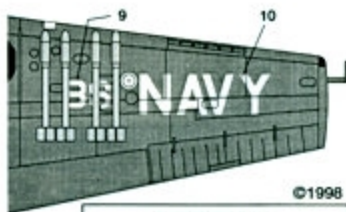
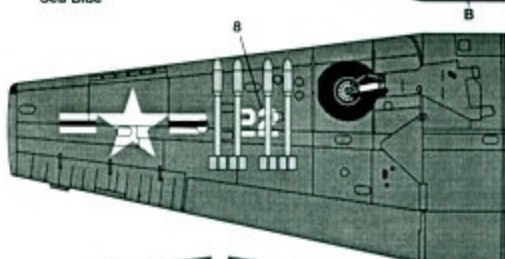
White 22: VS-21 TBM-3E, BuNo 85970, in overall Sea Blue while serving aboard the USS Badoeng Strait (CVE-116) during April of 1952. This Avenger was one of the few remaining USN carrier-based Avengers that was not modified for Anti-Submarine Warfare or Carrier-On-Board Delivery (COD) transport duties. Black propeller with 4-inch yellow tips. Additional rear fuselage heater scoops and exhaust; the right exhaust (above the star-and-bar) being a light color. Probable faired ventral windows. Probable Glossy Insignia White AN/ASP-4 radar pod under right wing. White 22 (4) may not have been applied. Reference: **B** - 55.



For scale plan views,
enlarge by 150%.



Possibly fitted
with rockets.



Black propeller blade
at 3 o'clock



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REFERENCES

A: *Aircraft in Profile, Vol. 10:*
René J. Francillon, 1971

B: *Bent and Battered Wings,*
USN/USMC
Damaged Aircraft 1943-1953:
Jim Sullivan, 1986