

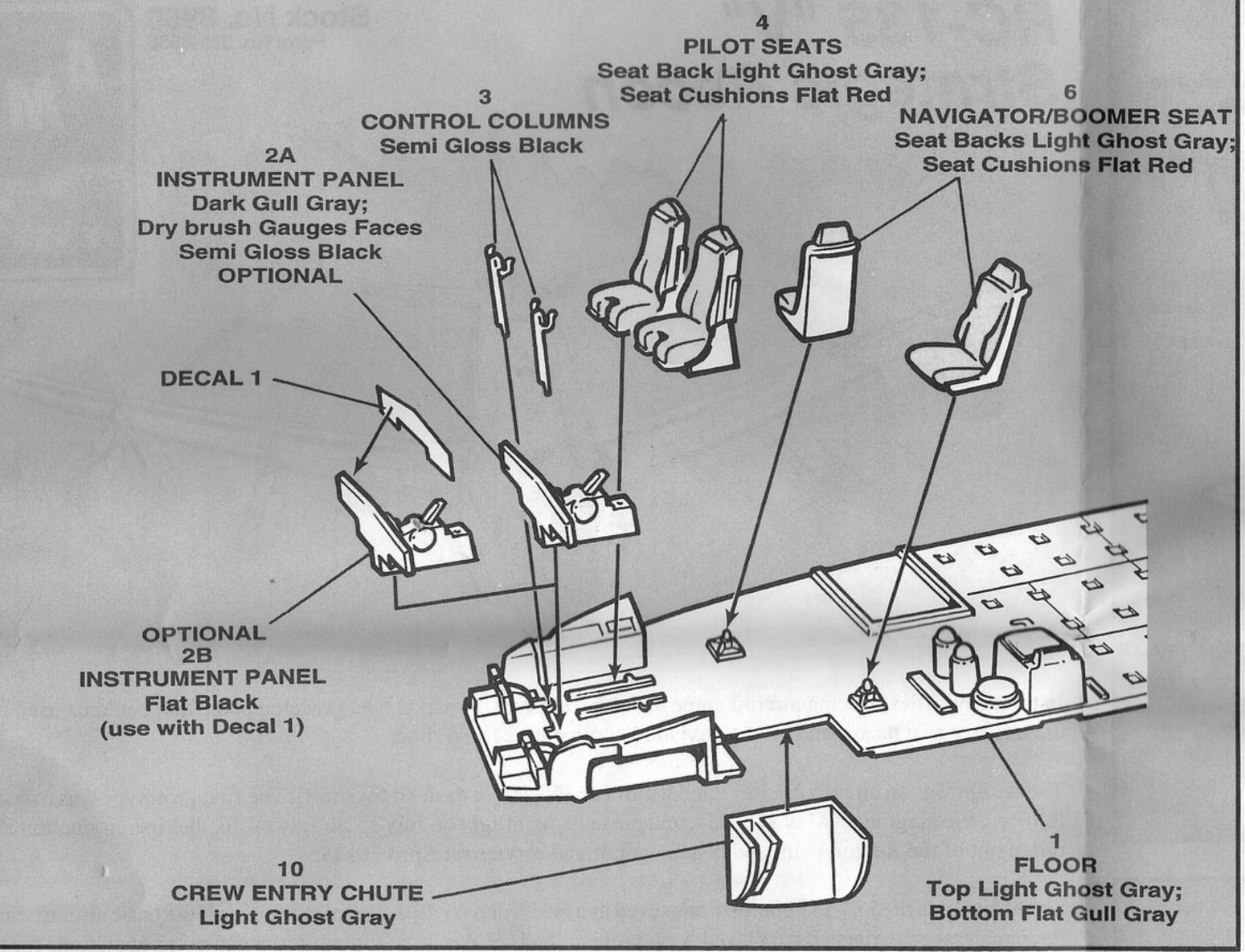
In the early fifties, Boeing aircraft came up with a concept to market a jet powered plane that could be used by both the military as a tanker and civilian aviation companies as an airliner.

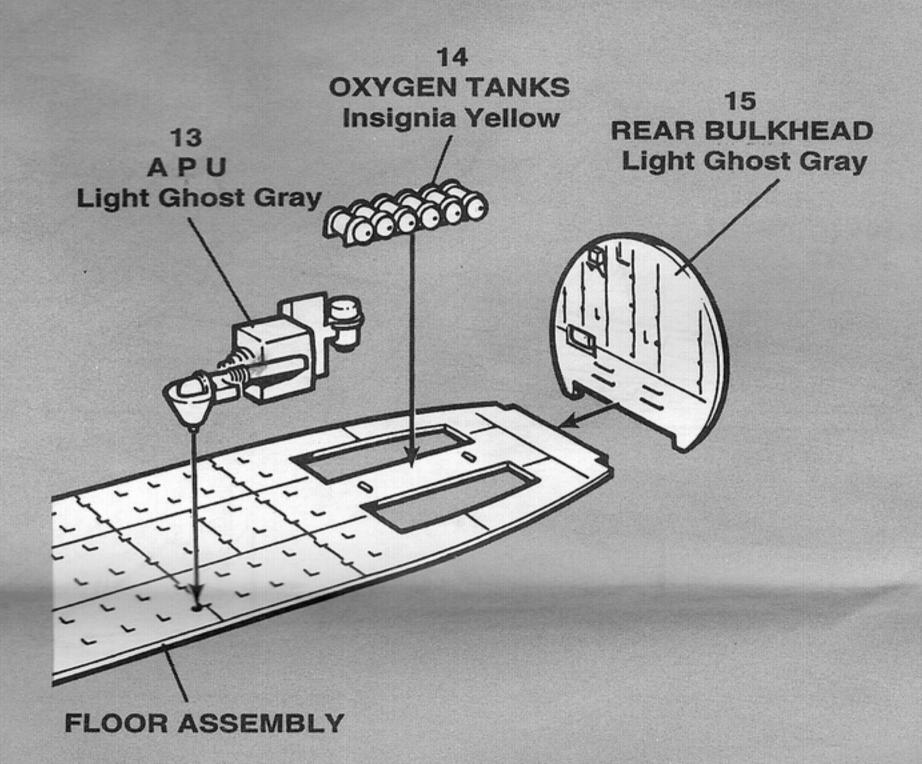
The design was an all new aircraft, model number 367-80 (or dash 80 for short). The first prototype was rolled out at Renton, Washington on May 14, 1954, and made its first flight on July 15. In July of '56, the first production KC-135 rolled out of the Renton plant and began operational service on April 30, 1957.

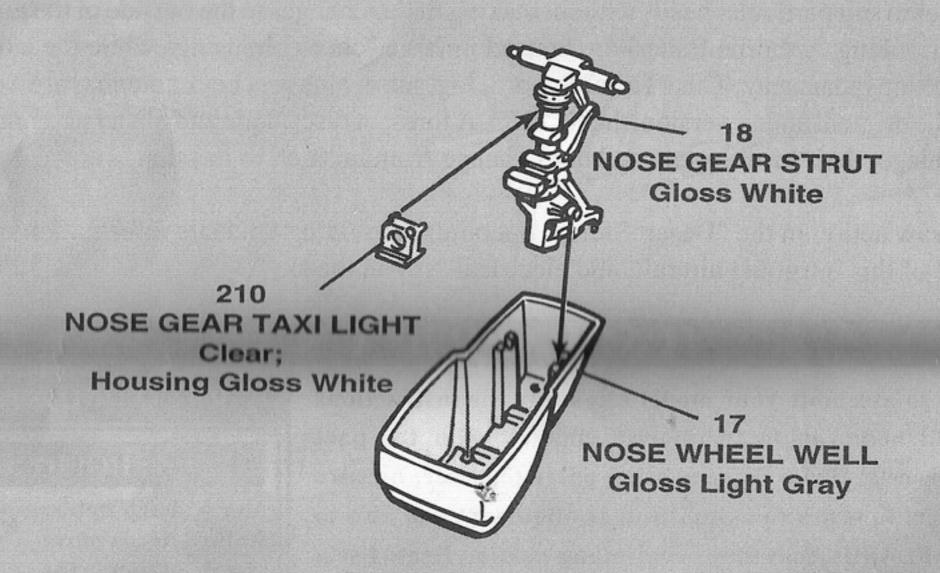
Since that time, the KC-135 platform has seved as a basis for over 40 different variations of the basic aircraft. Strategic Reconnaissance variants have played a vital role in the U.S. Air force's intelligence gathering operations for the last 20 years. The RC-135"V" (Radar variant "V" configuration), a recent version engaged in these information gathering operations, is the most numerous of the Recon mission RC-135s.

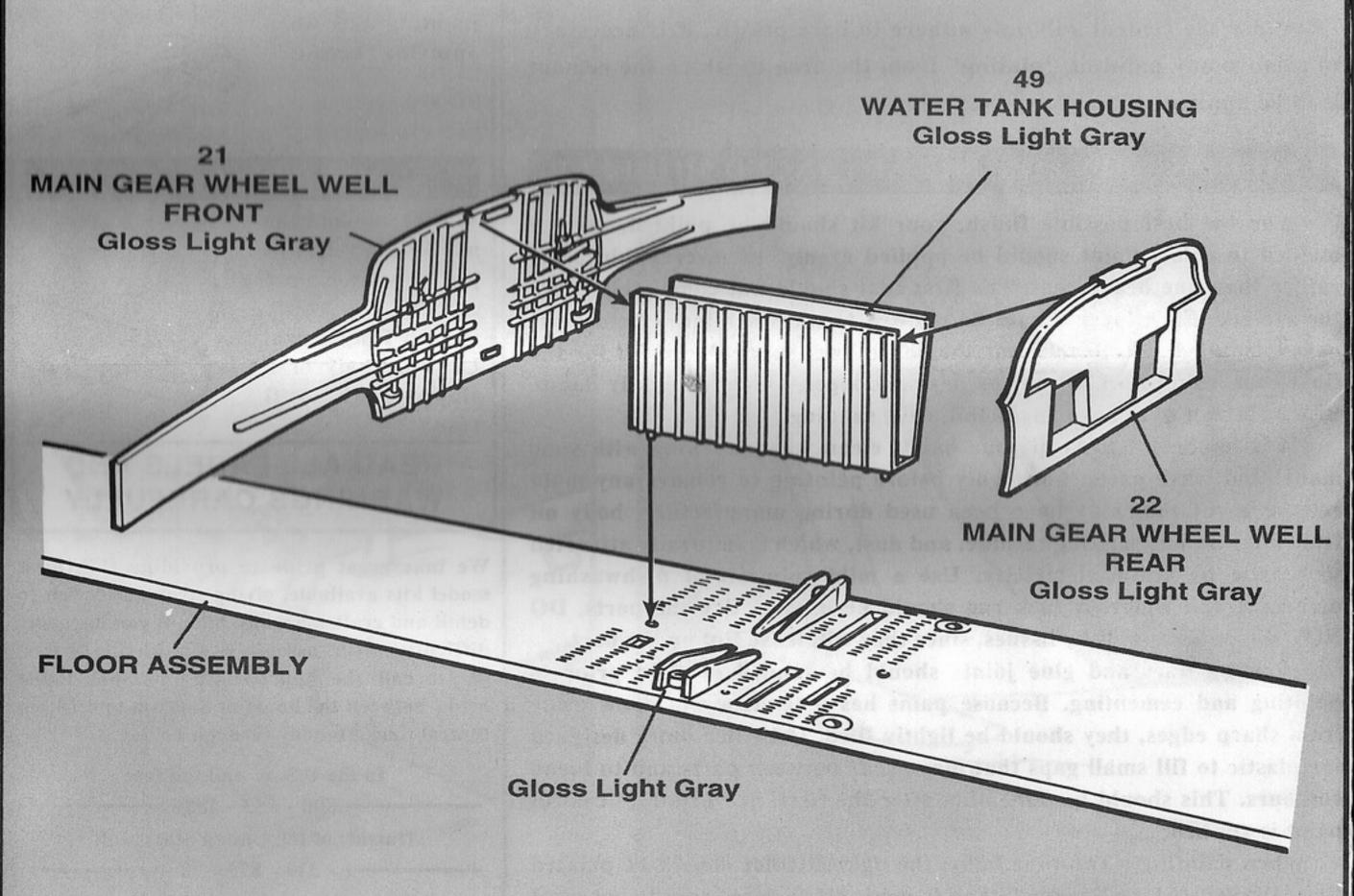
The RC-135s large size allows for the installation of a wide variety of mission-specific equipment. This equipment can be changed over to suit particular needs without making major changes to the outside of the aircraft. On the outside the SLARs (Side Looking Airborne Radar) are housed in large "cheek" housings while the extended front radome covers forward looking radar array. This "Thimble," or "Hog" nose, plus the cheek antennas are a quick way to identify the RC-135 from the original tanker version, the KC-135. A forest of disc, blade and blister antenna decorate the bottom and top of the fuselage, their location can and does change from mission to mission.

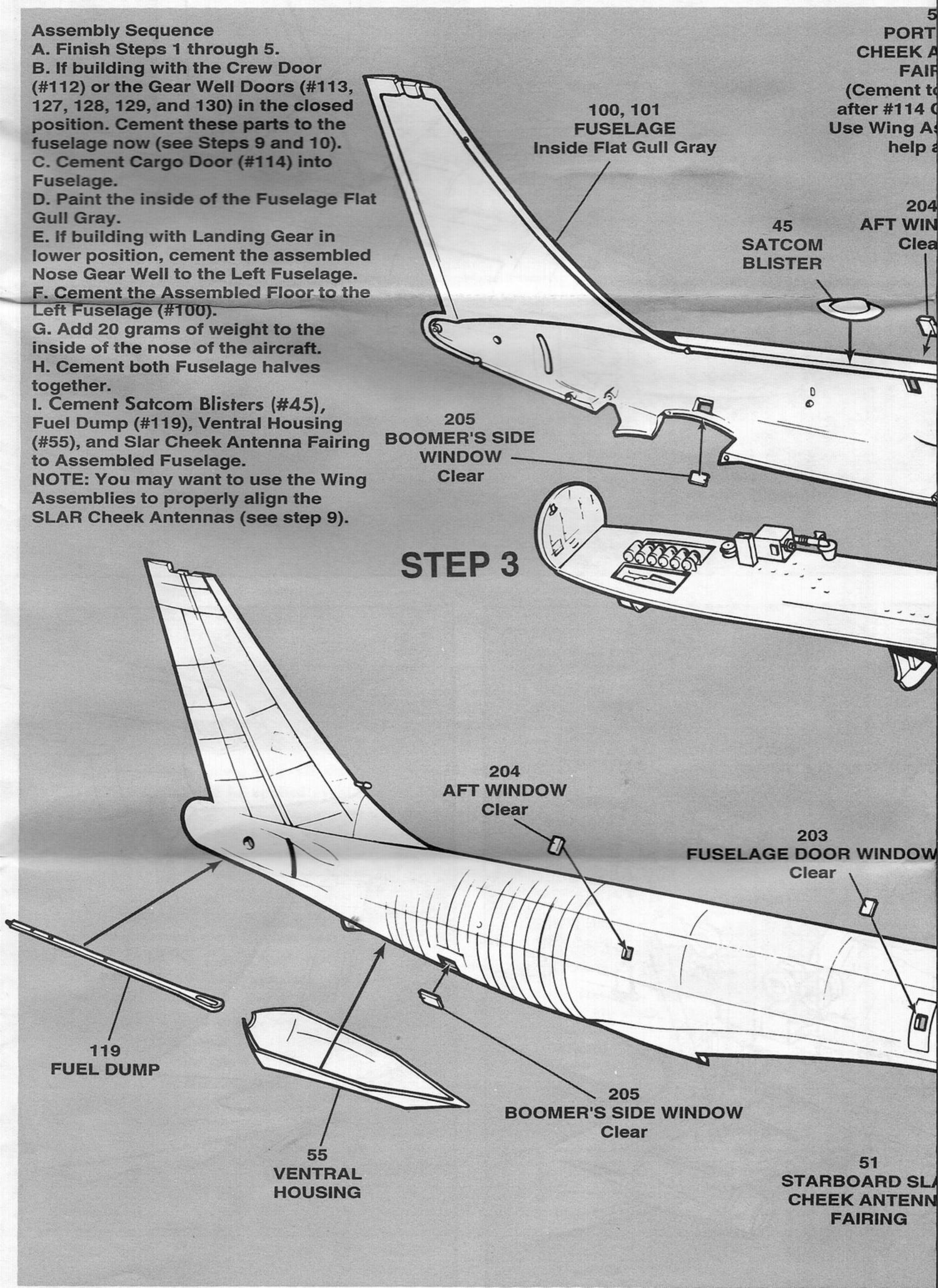
The RC-135 "V" saw action in the "Desert Storm" operation, providing valuable information on the Iraqi defenses. Enjoy your model of this intrguing aircraft, and electrical "spy in the sky".

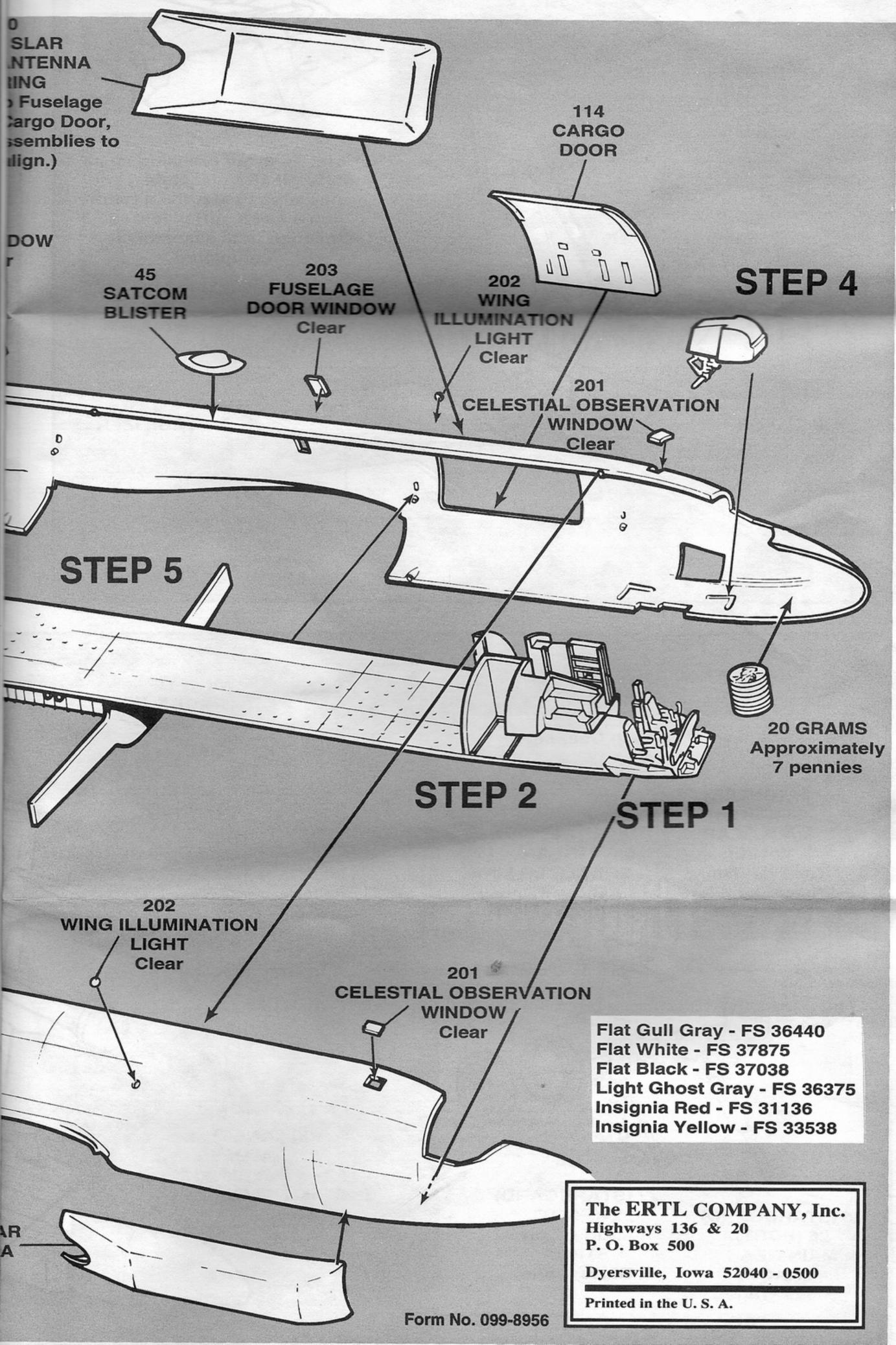


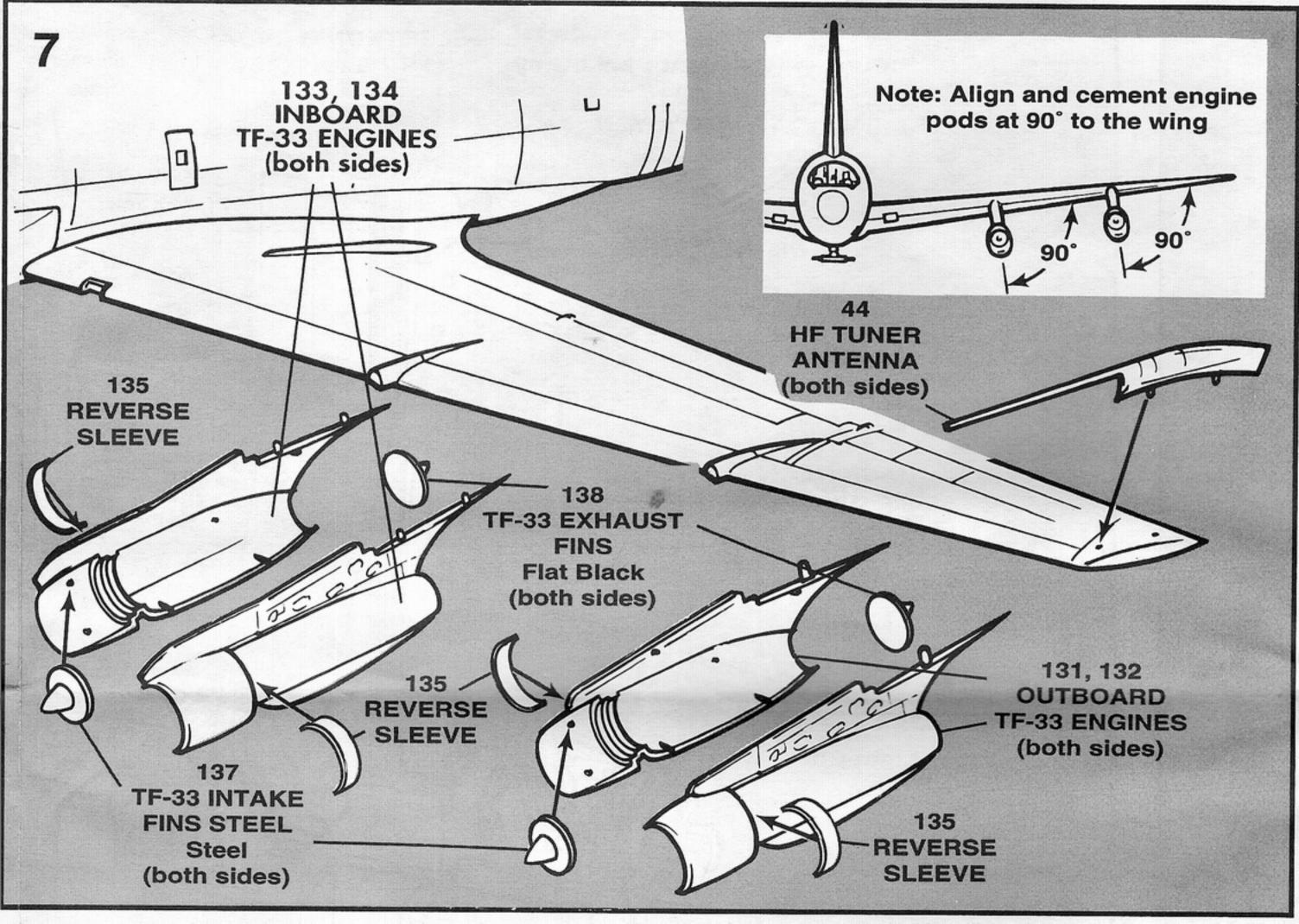








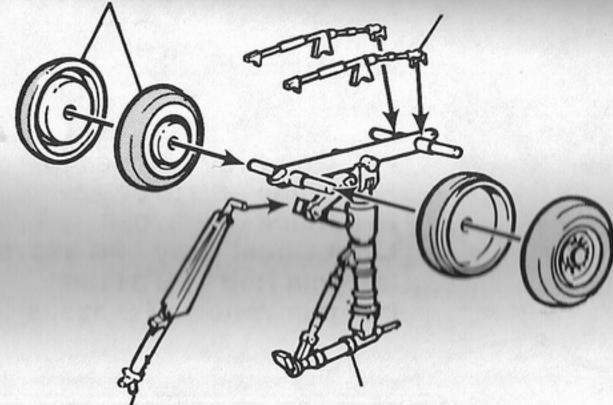




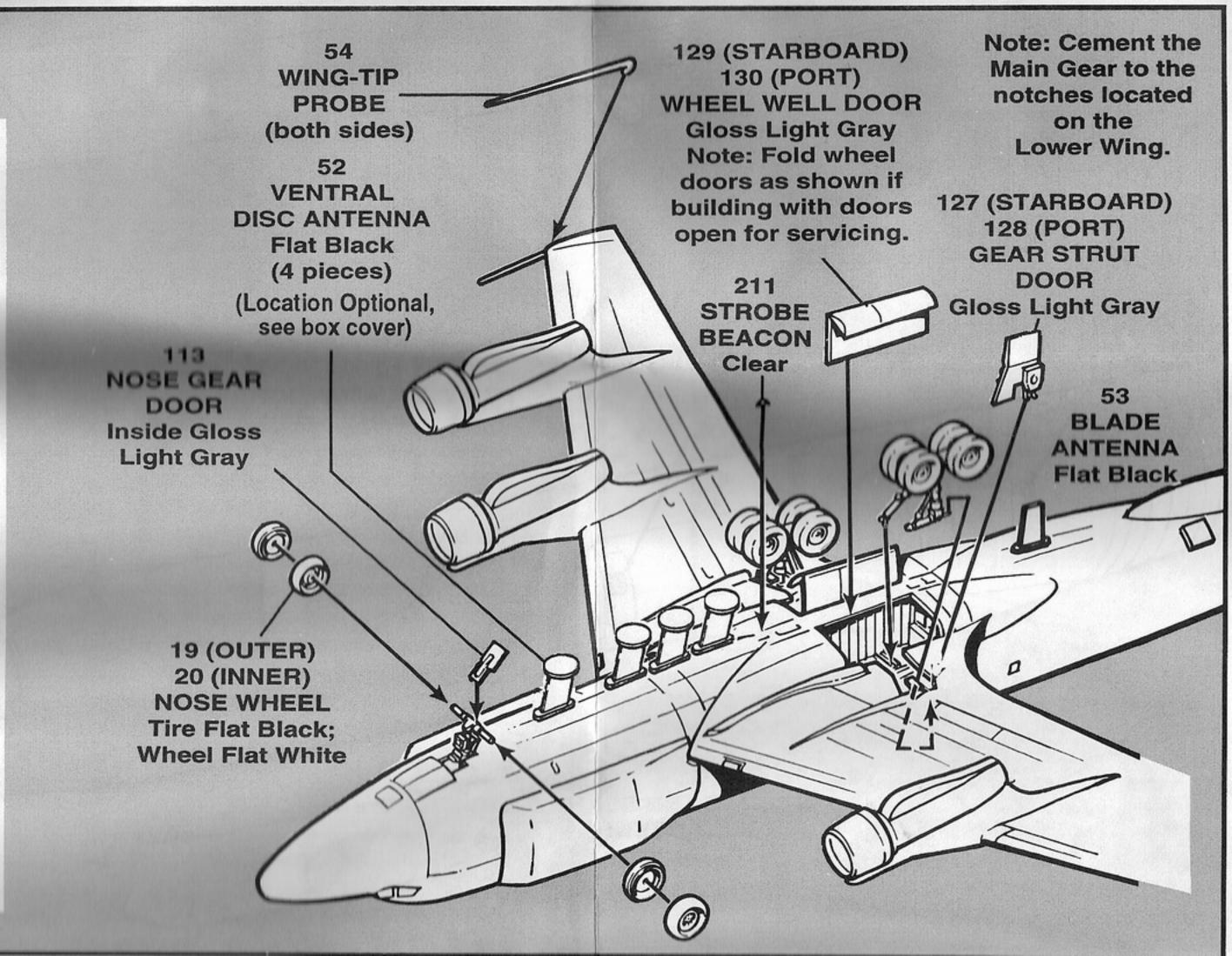
Assemble 8 Main Gear sets

27 (OUTER)
28 (INNER)
MAIN GEAR
WHEEL
Tire Flat Black;
Wheel Flat White
(both sides)

GEAR
EQUALIZER LINK
Gloss White
(both sides)



25 (STARBOARD) 26 (PORT) MAIN GEAR BRACE Gloss White 23 (STARBOARD)
24(FORT)
MAIN GEAR
STRUT
Gloss White



CREW LADDER Aluminum 29 TAIL SUPPORT STRUT Yellow

