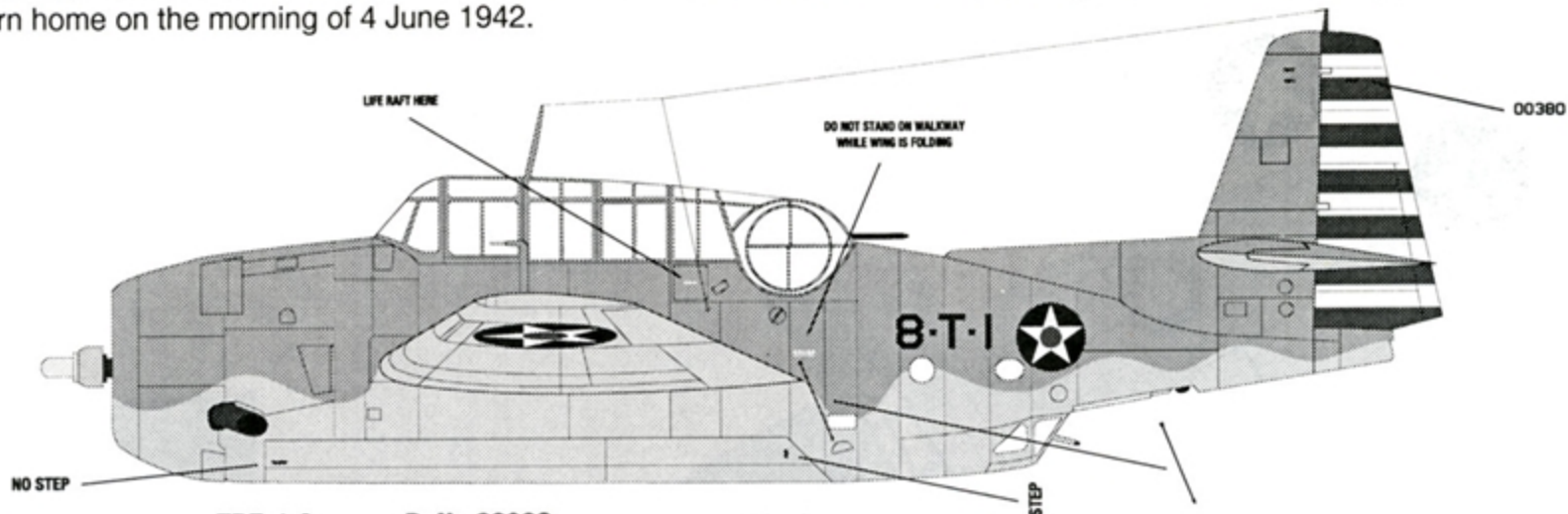
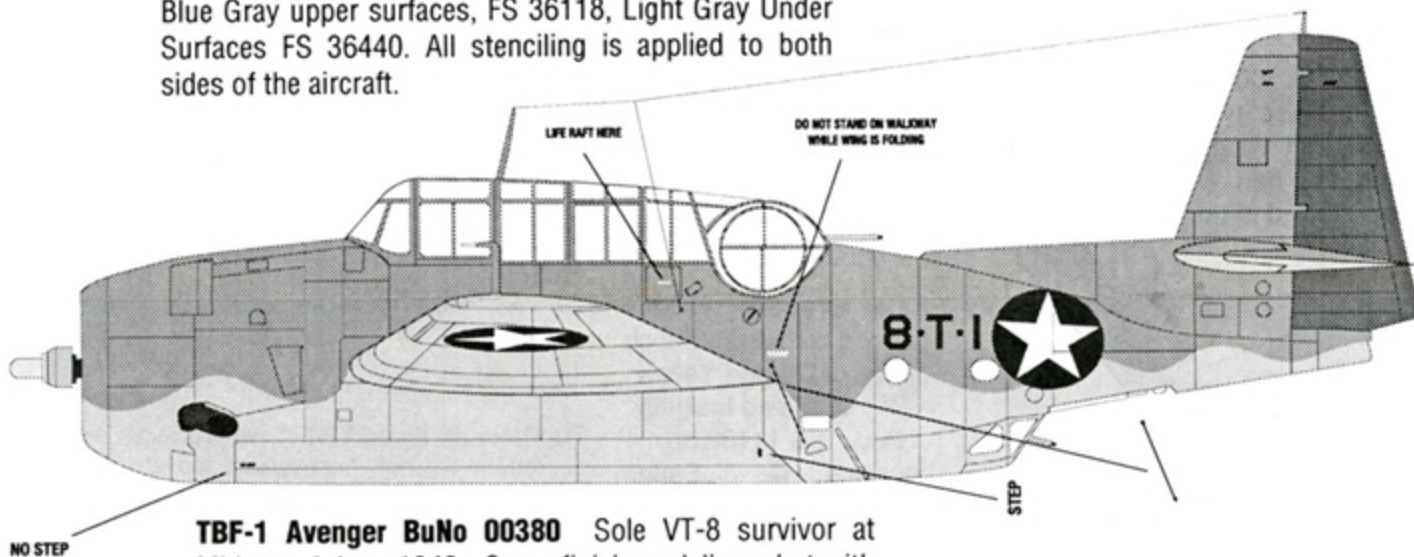


TBF-1/TBM-1 AVENGERS of VT-8 and VC-8

VT-8 from USS Hornet (CV-8) was the first US Navy squadron to receive the Avenger. Just before Torpedo Eight's TBD Devastators flew into history at Midway, the other half of the squadron flew the Avenger's first combat mission from Midway Island with no more success than their carrier-based squadron mates. Badly damaged, 8-T-1 was the only VT-8 aircraft to return home on the morning of 4 June 1942.

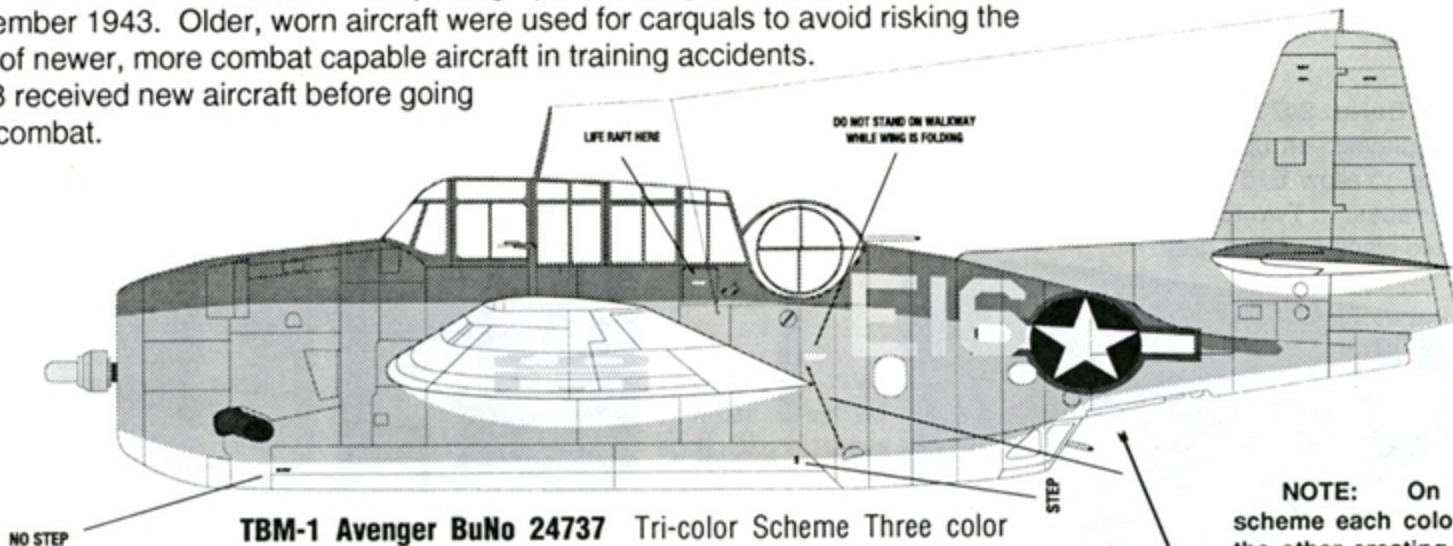


TBF-1 Avenger BuNo 00380 (as delivered to squadron)
Blue Gray upper surfaces, FS 36118, Light Gray Under Surfaces FS 36440. All stenciling is applied to both sides of the aircraft.



TBF-1 Avenger BuNo 00380 Sole VT-8 survivor at Midway, 4 June 1942. Same finish as delivery but with red centers of stars and rudder stripes removed. Note rudder in fresh, darker paint.

TBM-1 BuAir Number 24737 was photographed during VC-8's carrier qualification aboard USS Mission Bay (CVE-59) in November 1943. Older, worn aircraft were used for carquals to avoid risking the loss of newer, more combat capable aircraft in training accidents. VC-8 received new aircraft before going into combat.



TBM-1 Avenger BuNo 24737 Tri-color Scheme Three color scheme consists of Non Specular Sea Blue (FS 35042, ANA 607) and Intermediate Blue (FS 35164, ANA 608) over Non Specular White (FS 37875, ANA 601)

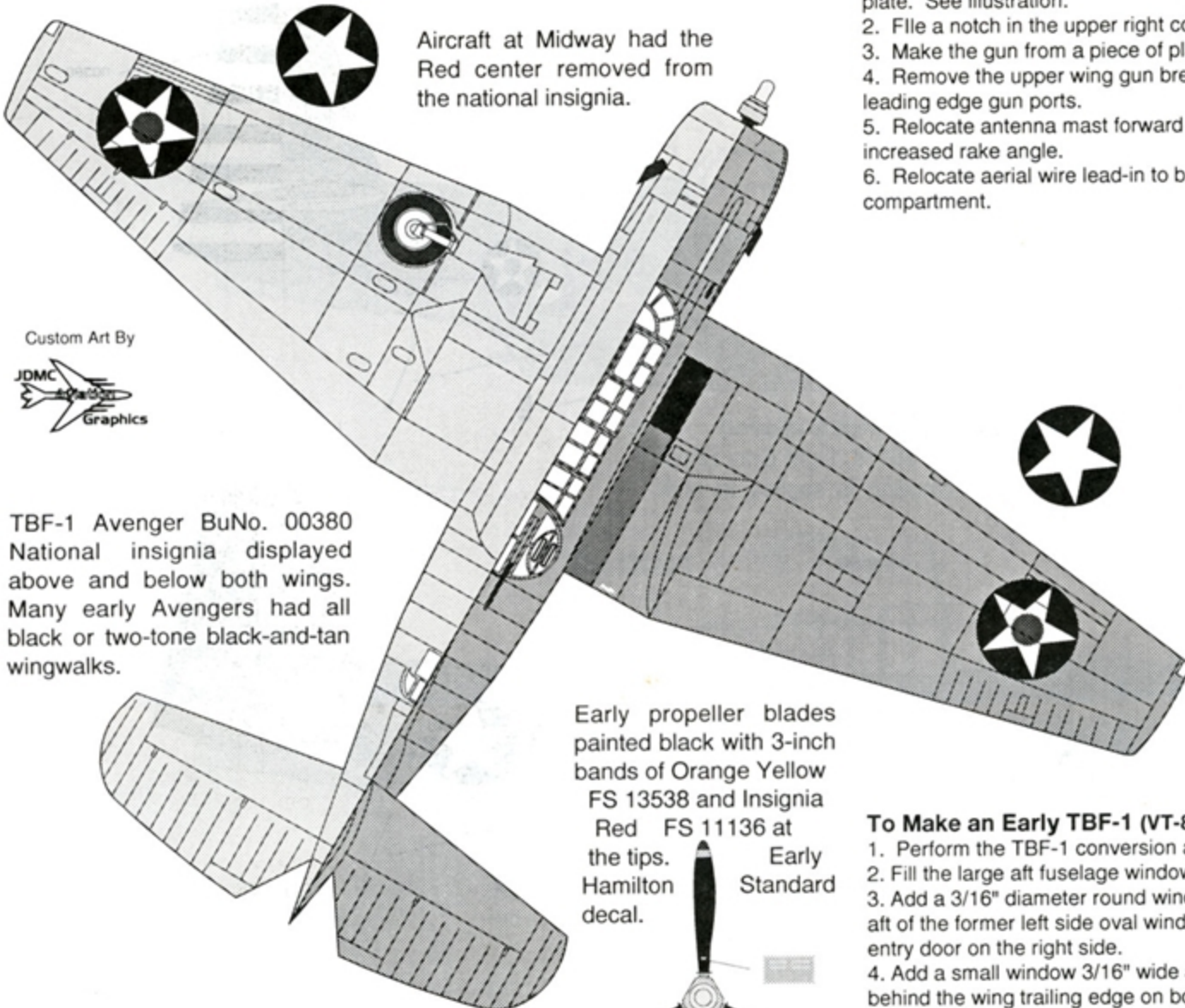
NOTE: On the Tri-color scheme each color blends into the other creating a soft blend. There are no hard edges

TBF-1/TBM-1 AVENGERS of VT-8 and VC-8

This decal sheet has been produced to fit the Accurate Miniatures TBF-1C 1/48th scale kit.

Converting the TBF-1C to TBF-1/TBM-1(VC-8/VT-8) :

1. Make a trough on the right fuselage decking in front of the windscreen for the .30 cal machine gun by filing down the cover plate. See illustration.
2. File a notch in the upper right cowl flap as shown.
3. Make the gun from a piece of plastic rod or tube.
4. Remove the upper wing gun breech fairings and fill in the leading edge gun ports.
5. Relocate antenna mast forward one canopy frame. Note the increased rake angle.
6. Relocate aerial wire lead-in to below the life raft compartment.

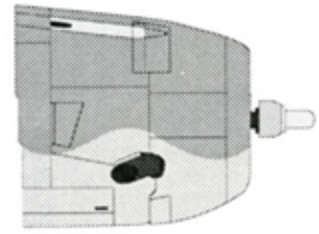


Aircraft at Midway had the Red center removed from the national insignia.

Custom Art By



TBF-1 Avenger BuNo. 00380 National insignia displayed above and below both wings. Many early Avengers had all black or two-tone black-and-tan wingwalks.



Early propeller blades painted black with 3-inch bands of Orange Yellow FS 13538 and Insignia Red FS 11136 at the tips. Hamilton Standard



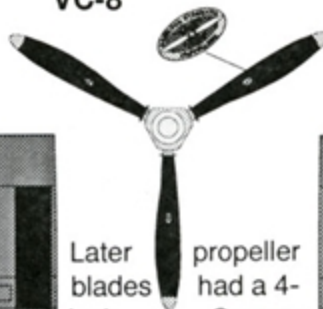
VT-8

To Make an Early TBF-1 (VT-8 aircraft only):

1. Perform the TBF-1 conversion above.
2. Fill the large aft fuselage windows on both sides.
3. Add a 3/16" diameter round window to each side: one frame aft of the former left side oval window and centered on the crew entry door on the right side.
4. Add a small window 3/16" wide and 3/32" high below and behind the wing trailing edge on both sides. Window corners are rounded.
5. The small clear turret fairing can be made by using the kit's rear canopy section as a mold and heat forming a thin sheet of clear plastic over it. Cut to triangular shape to fit between rear canopy section and turret and paint canopy frames Blue Gray.
6. There is evidence that the first 200 Avengers had a second set of flight controls in the rear cockpit.

We cannot verify that this A/C was shipped in this configuration or supply any drawings.

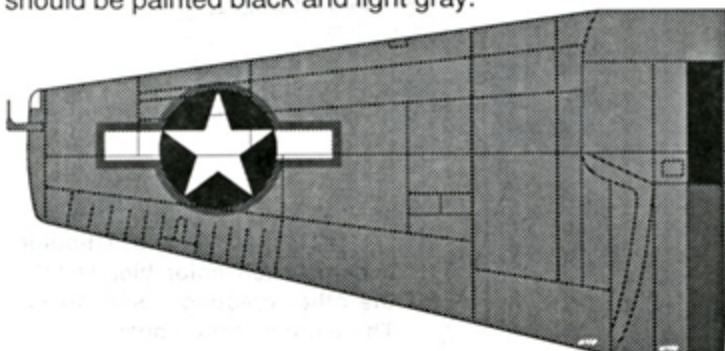
VC-8



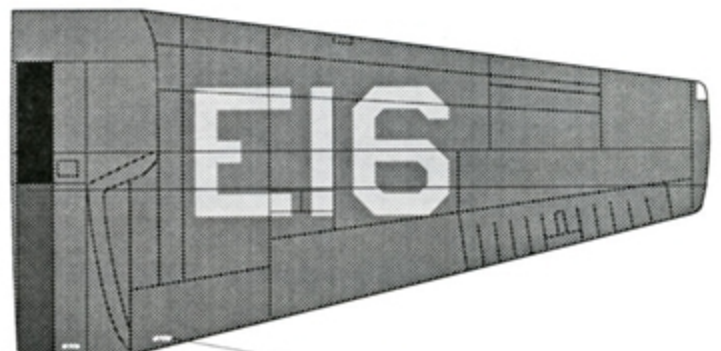
Later propeller blades had a 4-inch Orange Yellow band at the tips and the later Hamilton Standard decal

We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals who helped make this decal sheet possible: Hill Goodspeed of the Emil Buehler Naval Aviation Library, Bill Bosworth of Accurate Miniatures and Roger Seybel of the Grumman History Center.

TBM-1 Avenger BuNo. 24737 Red-outlined Star and Bar displayed on upper left and lower right wings. Yellow E16 carried on both other wing surfaces. Two-tone wingwalks should be painted black and light gray.



NO STEP



NO STEP

NO STEP