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## Notes on FW-076

- Colonel George Laven, Jr., was a veteran ace with nearly 1000 combat missions in World War II and kills in the Aleutians and Southwest Pacific. In 1954, as the commander of the 479th Tactical Fighter Wing at George AFB in California, he picked this brand-new jet (54-2076) from the North American factory. The last four numbers of the serial (2076) were the same as the P-38 he flew in the Aleutians in 1942 and 1943. This was Laven's personal jet—make NO mistake about that! and nobody else flew it—and he logged over 2000 hours in it by 1958. Colonel Laven was well known for his highly colorful personal jets, and this bird was perhaps the most colorful of all. The jet then went to the training unit at George AFB, then to the New Mexico ANG (where Laven flew it again as the Senior Advisor to the Guard), and with the NMANG to Vietnam. Later it was sold to the Turkish AF and participated in the invasion of Cyprus. In 1983 Laven visted Turkey and visited his old (thirty years old!) jet, which was still being regularly flown.
- This set requires the use of a Monogram F-100D kit and the Cutting Edge Modelworks F-100C conversion set, stock number CEC48094. This is a major conversion, but surprisingly simple to build. It also has the only correctly shaped fin on the market (all published plans are incorrect for the "C" model).
- The "U.S. AIR FORCE" decals are sized correctly (15") to USAF T.O. 1-1-4 specifications for the F-100. The overall
  width and height fit perfectly on the Monogram kit, but several panel lines on the kit are incorrect and do not cross
  the letters where they should.

## Applying the Decals

You probably already know all this stuff, so feel free to use your regular process; however, if you're new to aftermarket decals, here goes:

- Generally, use the Microscale Finishing System. We don't recommend extremely strong decal solvents such as Solvaset.
- Your model must have a smooth, glossy surface, as decals won't adhere well to matte surfaces. Use gloss paints or your favorite clear gloss overspray over matte or semigloss paint.
- Cut each subject out without trimming off the slight excess film (this helps the decal film disappear when dry).
- Put the decal in warm water that has a drop or two of liquid dishwashing soap or photo-flo for 10 seconds.
- When the decal will slide off the backing paper without forcing it, apply it to the proper position on your model.
   Slide the backing paper out from underneath.
- Gently blot off excess water and smooth out bubbles under the decal surface. If you wish, carefully brush on a mild decal softener such as Micro-Sol.
- When all decals are completely dry, gently wash off all excess decal adhesive.
- Finally, overcoat your model with a good quality gloss coat, followed by your choice of matte or eggshell clear topcoat.

## Bibliography

Photos fom Dave Menard F-100 Super Sabre in Color, by Robert Robinson and David Menard F-100 Super Sabre, Detail & Scale #33, by Bert Kinzey North American F-100 Super Sabre, by David A. Anderton