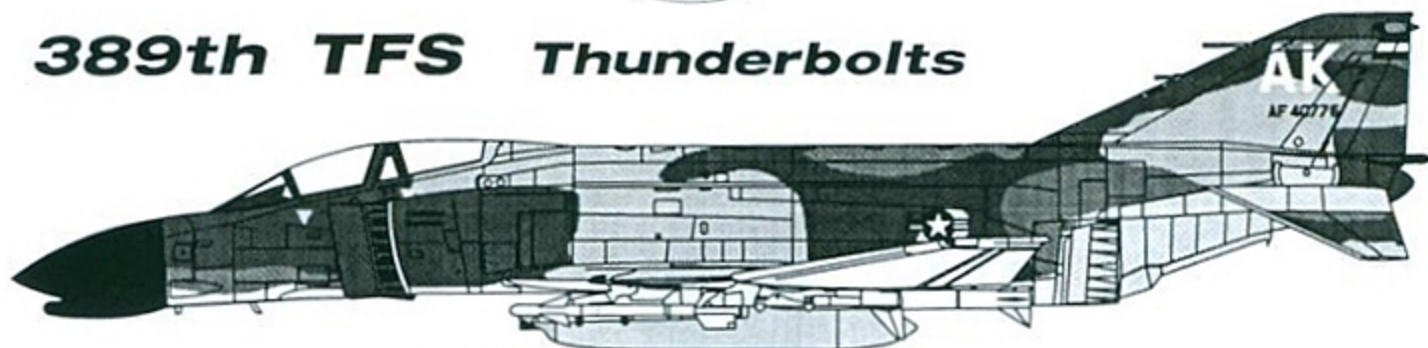


GUNFIGHTER F-4C PHANTOMS



389th TFS Thunderbolts



Chicago 03 Major Robert D. Anderson and Captain Fred D. Kjer MiG-21 AIM-7 23 April 1967
Wander 01 Lt Colonel Robert F. Titus and 1/Lt Milan Zimer 2 MiG-21 AIM-9, 20mm 22 May 1967

390th TFS Wild Boars



The Blue Max Colonel Frederick C. "Boots" Blesse 14 October 1967

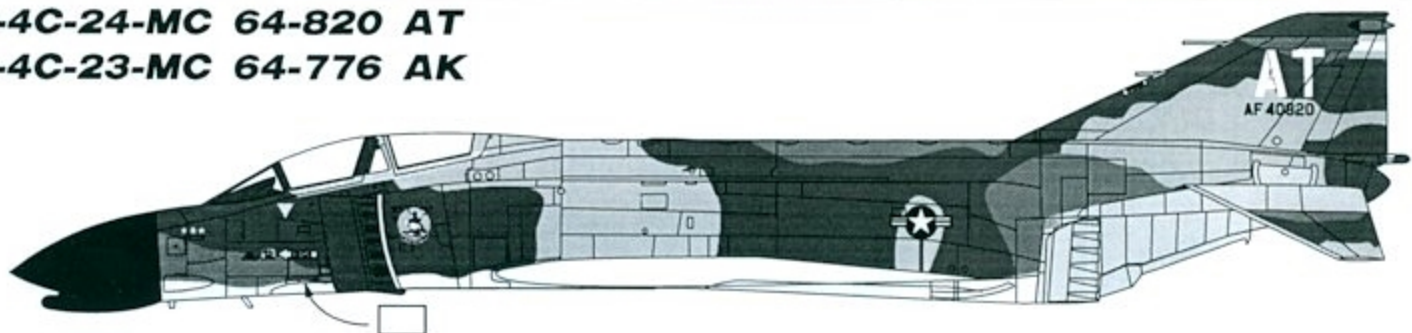
480th TFS Warhawks



Speedo 01 Major James A. Hargrove and 1/Lt Stephen H. DeMuth MiG-17 20mm 14 May 1967
Oakland 01 Major Durwood K. Priestler and Captain John E. Pankhurst MiG-21 20mm 5 June 1967

The 366th Tactical Fighter Wing, based at DaNang Air Base in the Republic of Viet Nam, downed eleven MiGs between 23 April and 5 June 1967. During that period the 366th pioneered the use of the podded 20-mm Gatling gun in air-to-air combat and earned the title "The Gunfighters," downing the only four MiGs destroyed in the war with the SUU-16. Four additional MiGs were claimed using the AIM-7E Sparrow, two with AIM-9B Sidewinders and one was forced to fly into the ground for a maneuver kill. In early 1967 a two letter code system was adopted where the first letter identified the squadron (A - 389th TFS, B - 390th TFS, C - 480th TFS) and the second letter the individual aircraft. Further, each squadron applied its pennant to the rudder. The Gunfighters emblems were first applied in mid-June. This decal sheet presents seven F-4C Phantoms flown by the 366th in 1967, including all three gun-MiG killers. The information for this sheet came from direct correspondence with participants, private photo collections, official documents and published sources.

F-4C-24-MC 64-820 AT
F-4C-23-MC 64-776 AK

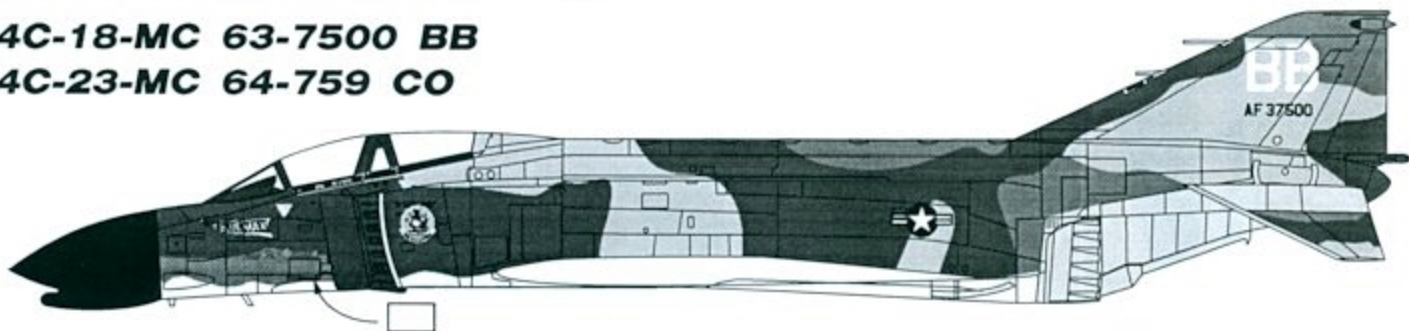


F-4C-24-MC 64-824 (above) was assigned to Lt Col Robert F. Titus, Commander of the 389th TFS. It was finished in the three color T.O.1-1-4 SEA camouflage scheme. The red canopy rails carried the names of Titus and his GIB, 1/Lt Milan Zimer. A Gunfighters emblem (not outlined in white) was added to both inlet sides in June 1967. Not a MiG-killer itself, AT/820 displayed Titus and Zimer's three victories on the left side of the nose and the 389th TFS red-white-red rudder pennant in the summer of 1967.

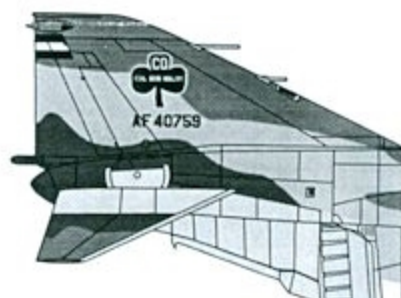


F-4C-24-MC 64-776, (inset right and overleaf) bagged three MiGs on two missions. On 23 April 1967, Maj Robert D. Anderson and Capt Fred D. Kjer downed a MiG-21 with an AIM-7 Sparrow on an escort mission near Hanoi. *Chicago 03* was configured with four AIM-7Es and four AIM-9B Sidewinders plus two 370-gallon wing tanks. The centerline pylon was empty. Titus and Zimer downed two MiG-21s in AK/776 on 22 May, the first with a Sidewinder and the second with 20mm fire from the SUU-16 gun pod. *Wander 01* was configured with two each AIM-7E and AIM-9B, ECM, a centerline gun pod and 370-gallon tanks outboard. The gun kill was Titus and Zimer's third victory in four days. One red star kill marking was reportedly carried by AK/776 from the 23 April action. In USAF SEA camouflage, it carried the code AK plus the 389th's pennant on the vertical tail. 64-776 is now on display at Seattle's Museum of Flight.

F-4C-18-MC 63-7500 BB
F-4C-23-MC 64-759 CO

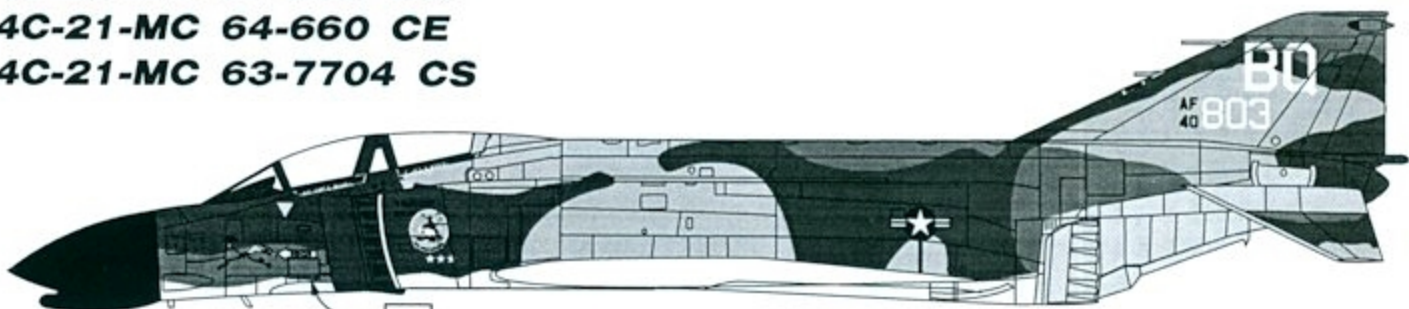


F-4C-18-MC 63-7500, *The Blue Max* (above) carried the name of Korean War double ace Col Frederick "Boots" Blesse, author of the TAC Fighter Tactics Manual "No Guts No Glory" and 366 TFW Air Doctrine Officer. Although he scored no victories in Southeast Asia, his contribution in terms of tactics, training and leadership was invaluable. *The Blue Max* was in SEA camouflage with blue canopy rails. The rear canopy nameplates were blank. Note the absence of the red turbine warning stripe and the simplified white-outlined Gunfighters emblem which partially covers the serial number block.



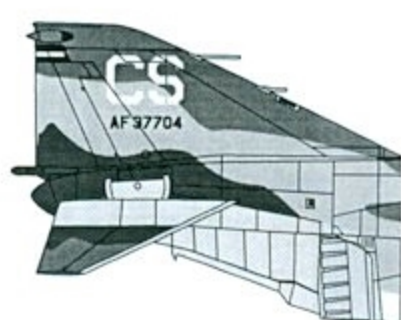
F-4C-23-MC 64-759 (inset right and overleaf) was the personal aircraft of Col Bob Maloy, Commander of the 366th TFW in October 1967. It carried the tail code CO (for Commanding Officer) and Maloy's name in a large Shamrock. "C" also stood for the 480th TFS, whose color was green. The aircraft was finished in the T.O. 1-1-4 SEA scheme and carried white-outlined Gunfighters emblems on both right and left inlet trunks and the squadron pennant at the top of the rudder.

F-4C-23-MC 64-803 BQ
F-4C-21-MC 64-660 CE
F-4C-21-MC 63-7704 CS



F-4C-23-MC 64-803 of the 390th TFS (above) wasn't a MiG-killer but carried three red stars under its simplified white-outlined Gunfighters emblems and the popular cartoon character Roadrunner on its nose. In USAF SEA camouflage, it was one of the first aircraft in the 366th to adopt the large "last three" serial number display on the tail. BQ/803 was lost on 19 Feb 68 over North Viet Nam. Unfortunately, the names on the canopy rails were illegible - we welcome your inputs!

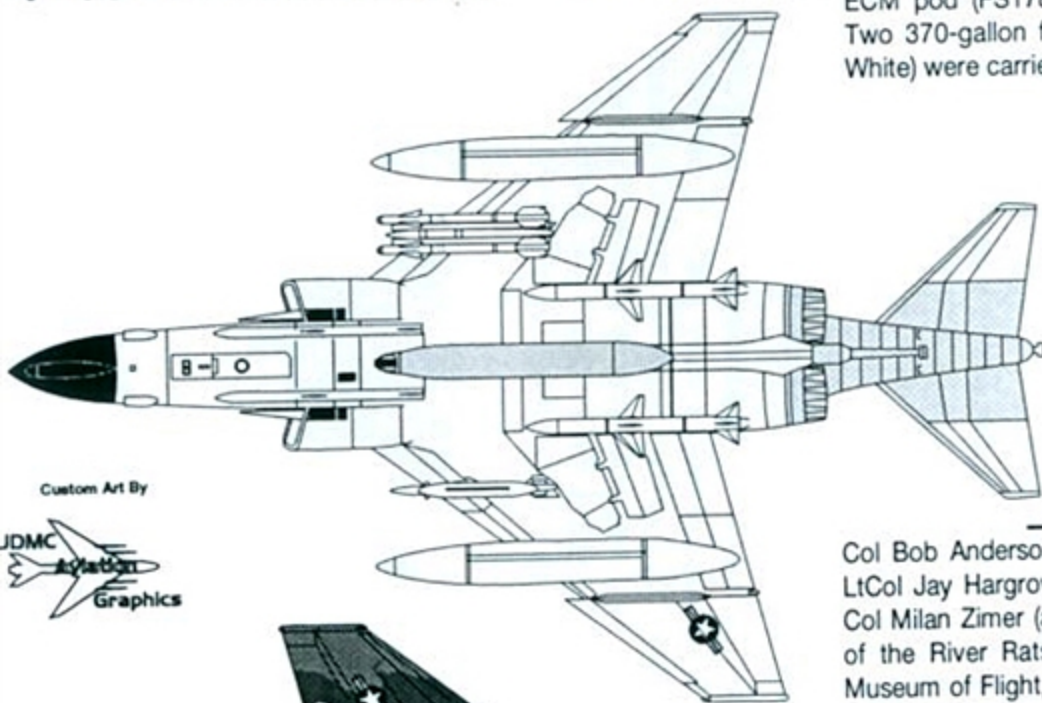
On 14 May 1967, F-4C-21-MC 64-660 (overleaf) *Speedo 01*, flown by Maj James Hargrove and 1/Lt Stephen DeMuth of the 480th TFS, scored the first air-to-air gun victory by an F-4 Phantom. It was finished in SEA camouflage and was coded CE. A green-white-green 480TFS pennant was on the rudder. On 5 June, it also scored the last F-4C/SUU-16 kill as *Oakland 01* with Maj Durwood Priestner and Capt John Pankhurst at the controls. CE/660 was a triple MiG-killer, scoring its first on 12 May 66 (MiG-17/AIM-9) while assigned to the 389th TFS, 35th TFW at DaNang.



F-4C-21-MC 63-7704 (inset right) was flown by Capt Jim Craig (Aircraft Commander) and 1/Lt Jim Talley (Pilot) of the 480th TFS. As callsign *Speedo 03*, they gunned down a second MiG on the 14 May 1967 mission. The aircraft was in the SEA scheme, coded CS, and carried the 480th TFS pennant on the rudder. The Gunfighters emblem was applied to both side inlet trunks later, in the summer of 1967.

For the Hasegawa and Monogram F-4C Phantom II Kits

A typical 366TFW air-to-air ordnance load in May-June 1967 was a SUU-16 gun pod (FS16440 Gray with stainless steel nose fairing) on the fuselage centerline, two AIM-7E Sparrows (FS17875 White) in the rear fuselage wells, two AIM-9B Sidewinders (FS17875 White) on the left inboard wing pylon launch rails and an ECM pod (FS17875 White) on the right inboard pylon. Two 370-gallon fuel tanks (FS34102/36622 or FS17875 White) were carried on the outboard wing stations.



Custom Art By



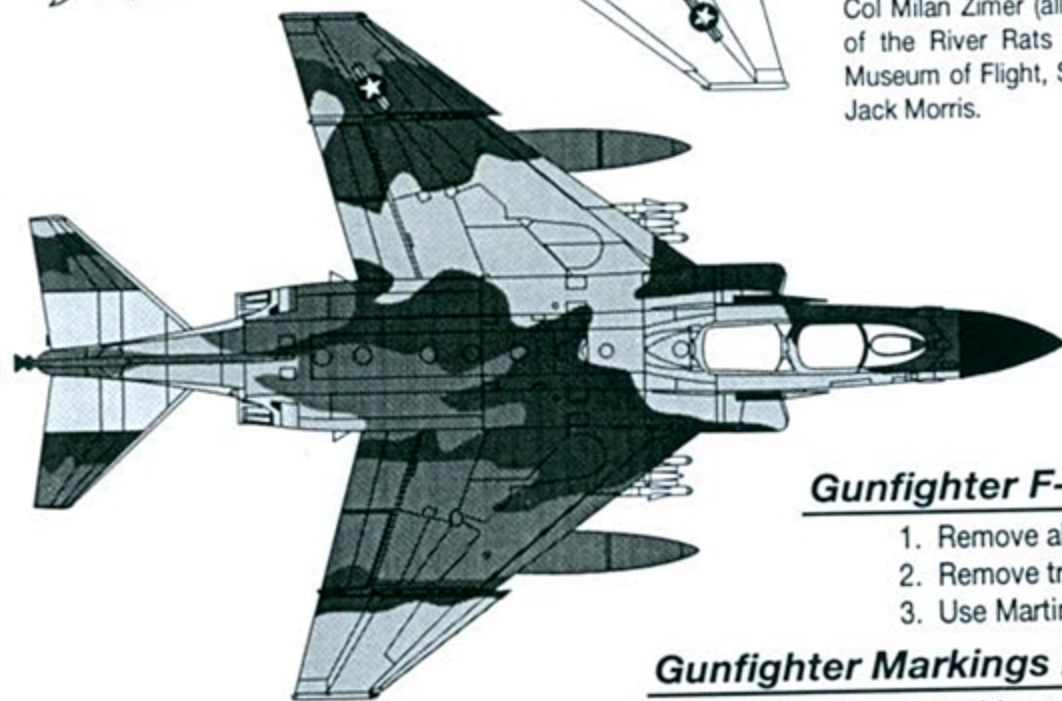
**What F-4 markings would you like to see in decal form?
Write to me:**

Ben Backes
321 S. Keith, Wichita KS 67209

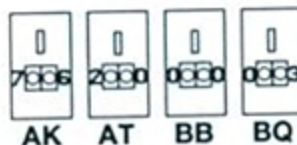
If you want a response, please include a SASE.

Acknowledgements

Col Bob Anderson, Col Sam Bakke, MGen Boots Blesse, LtCol Jay Hargrove, Col Bob Janca, BGen Bob Titus and Col Milan Zimer (all Ret) of the 366TFW, Col(Ret) Al Bache of the River Rats Association, John Summerford of the Museum of Flight, Seattle, Tom Brewer, Robert F. Dorr and Jack Morris.



Nose Gear
Doors

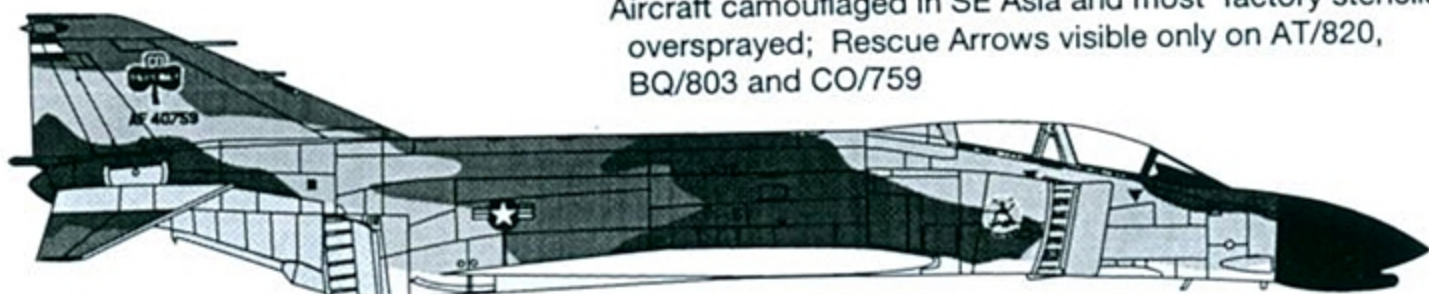


Gunfighter F-4C Construction Notes

1. Remove all formation lighting
2. Remove triangular plates from horizontal tails
3. Use Martin Baker Mk.5 Ejection Seats

Gunfighter Markings Notes

15" Stars in all four positions
Wheel well and LG door interiors Gloss White FS18785
Leading edges of inboard pylons Tan FS30219
Aircraft camouflaged in SE Asia and most factory stencils oversprayed; Rescue Arrows visible only on AT/820, BQ/803 and CO/759



Right Side Camouflage Pattern

T.O.1-1-4 SE Asia Scheme

- FS30219 Tan
- FS34102 Medium Green
- FS34079 Dark Green
- FS36622 Light Gray
- Metal Areas
- Black

References

Correspondence with 366TFW members, Feb-May 1997.
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Air War Over Vietnam, Koku-Fan Illustrated #21, 1984.
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