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F-8 Crusader Part 5



149159

• This is the jet used by Dick Bellinger to score the Navy's first MiG-21 kill on October 9, 1966. Unlike many other VF-162 F-8s, this aircraft did not carry the Snoopy artwork on the fin cap.

148648

• The four MiG-17 silhouettes on the ventral fin represent the squadron score, while the single flag under the cockpit is for the pilot.

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.

FS 595 Color Cross Reference

FS 6440 Xtracolor X137, Modelmaster 1729/1730, Gunze Sangyo H315/325, Pro Modeler 88-

0033, Polly Scale 505326

FS 7875 Any white paint

Bibliography

Original photos.

F-8 in action by Jim Sullivan. Squadron/Signal Publications, 1985.

Vought's F-8 Crusader Part 4 by Steve Ginter. 1990 Steve Ginter.

F-8 Crusader Units of the Vietnam War by Peter Mersky. Osprey Publishing , 1998.