

**Yellowhammer
Models™**

YHD48039

1/48

F9F-2 Panther

For the Trumpeter &
Hobbycraft kits

F9F-2
VMF-311
K-3, South Korea, 1953



IW-2
I27207
MARINES
VMF-311

F9F-2B
VMF-311
K-3 Pohang, Korea, 1952

F9F-2
Blue Angels
1949 Demonstration Season



Hot Cats on Parade #2



The aft end of this jet is removed in all available photos, so the BuNo is a valid F9F-2 serial and style of "WL" and "MARINES" is generally typical of those applied to VMF-311 jets at this time.

Under left side canopy

I27207

Both birds were ground-based in South Korea and therefore extremely weather-beaten, dusty, streaked, and faded—especially #2. You can safely "go to town" on your weathering for these two subjects!



Details in paws are fine white lines, not colored as depicted in some published artwork

The outsides of the tip tanks are not visible in any available photo; we have assigned the number "1." Other photos may later come to light showing a different number.

NOTE: Teknics has created several useful correction/conversion sets you may find useful.

TK48085: F9F-2/3 Corrected Outer Wings With Tip Tanks Set
TK48089: F9F-2/3 "Down & Dirty" Conversion Set
TK48086: F9F-2/3 Corrected Fighter Nose
TK48091: F9F-2/3 Seamless Intakes for Trumpeter/HobbyCraft.
TK48092: F9F-2/3 Corrected Canopy

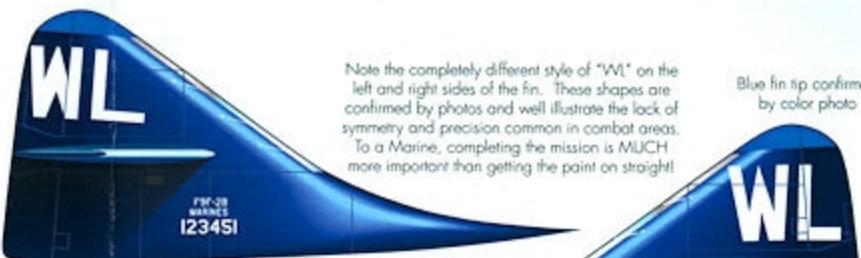
Check www.meteorprod.com for details.

F9F-2

VMF-311

K-3 Pohang, South Korea, 1952

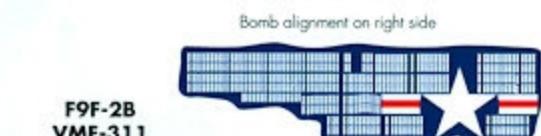
Red outline to mouth can be seen in good quality photos



Note the completely different style of "WL" on the left and right sides of the fin. These shapes are confirmed by photos and well illustrate the lack of symmetry and precision common in combat areas.

To a Marine, completing the mission is MUCH more important than getting the paint on straight!

Blue fin tip confirmed by color photo



Bomb alignment on right side

F9F-2B
VMF-311

Most Panther Combat Missions During Korean War
K-3 Pohang, Korea, 1953



Unknown whether the script was added to the right side nose number

Hot Cats on Parade #2

We've put considerable effort into obtaining the most accurate information possible on this jet so we could get it exactly right for you. We are deeply indebted to D'Ann Morris, the first-ever Blues female plane captain, and Blues historian John Keen, who obtained for us—from Dusty Rhodes logbook no less!—the BuNos of the two F9F-2 Panthers he flew during the 1949 demonstration season. Both BuNos are included on this sheet, although 122586 was his primary bird. We believe this information is presented here for the first time anywhere.

Note our Blue Angels badge decal does NOT have a white underlay under the yellow lower left quadrant. This is because the original (real) decal on these jets didn't either (!), causing the yellow to become significantly darker due to the "bleed through" of the dark blue paint under the decal. While this may look odd to you, it is completely correct as verified in many color photos of these jets.

Note the style, shape, and spacing of the "U.S.NAVY" is completely different between the fuselage and wings. Again, this is verified by many photos and our decals precisely replicate the size, style, shape and spacing on the original birds.

Photos of these birds show the guns still installed (or at least barrels sticking through the gun ports). The long vertical gun gas vents molded onto the Trumpeter nose were not even designed at the time these birds were flying with the Blues, so remove them from your model.

The yellow markings were NOT the orangish-yellow later used by the Blues, but rather a much paler yellow similar to FS 13655. Our decals are the correct color for the 1949 team.

The "Blue Angels Blue" color used by the F9F-2 and -5 Panthers was mixed and applied at Grumman using THREE parts ANA 623 Glossy Sea Blue to one part ANA 511 Insignia White. This resulted in a much darker blue color than modelers typically believe was used on these early jets. The confusion probably comes from the fact that a MUCH lighter blue mixed from TWO parts Glossy Sea Blue to one part Insignia White was used on the F9F-8 (in 1955) all the way through to the F11F-1 Tigers in 1958. Unfortunately no FS 595B color is even remotely close to this mix, so you're on your own to mix it from existing model paints.

Note the nearly complete lack of stenciling on these birds except for the tip tank fueling instructions and canopy removal warning.

F9F-2
LCDR Raleigh E. "Dusty" Rhodes
Team Leader
Blue Angels
1949 Demonstration Season



NOTE: the Blues Birds WITHOUT tip tanks for the first part of the 1949 season. Tankless wings are available in Teknics conversion set TK48088 (see below)

NOTE: Teknics has created several useful correction/ conversion sets you may find useful:

TK48082: XF9F-2/3 Prototype Conversion Set
 TK48085: F9F-2/3 Corrected Outer Wings With Tip Tanks Set
 TK48089: F9F-2/3 "Down & Dirty" Conversion Set
 TK48086: F9F-2/3 Corrected Fighter Nose
 TK48091: F9F-2/3 Seamless Intakes for Trumpeter/HobbyCraft.
 TK48092: F9F-2/3 Corrected Canopy

Check www.meteorprod.com for details.



Special thanks to Mike "Eagle Eyes" Lampros



...available from

Meteor

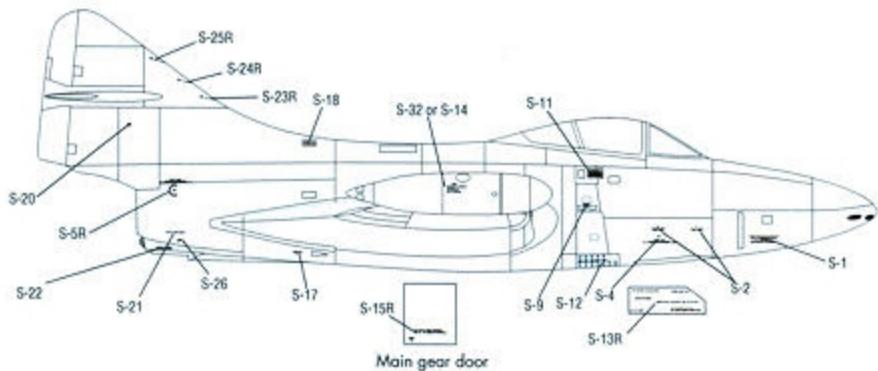


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tools, books, magazines, etc., and we'll
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1/48 templates for upper blow in doors

