

F-15 Strike Eagle

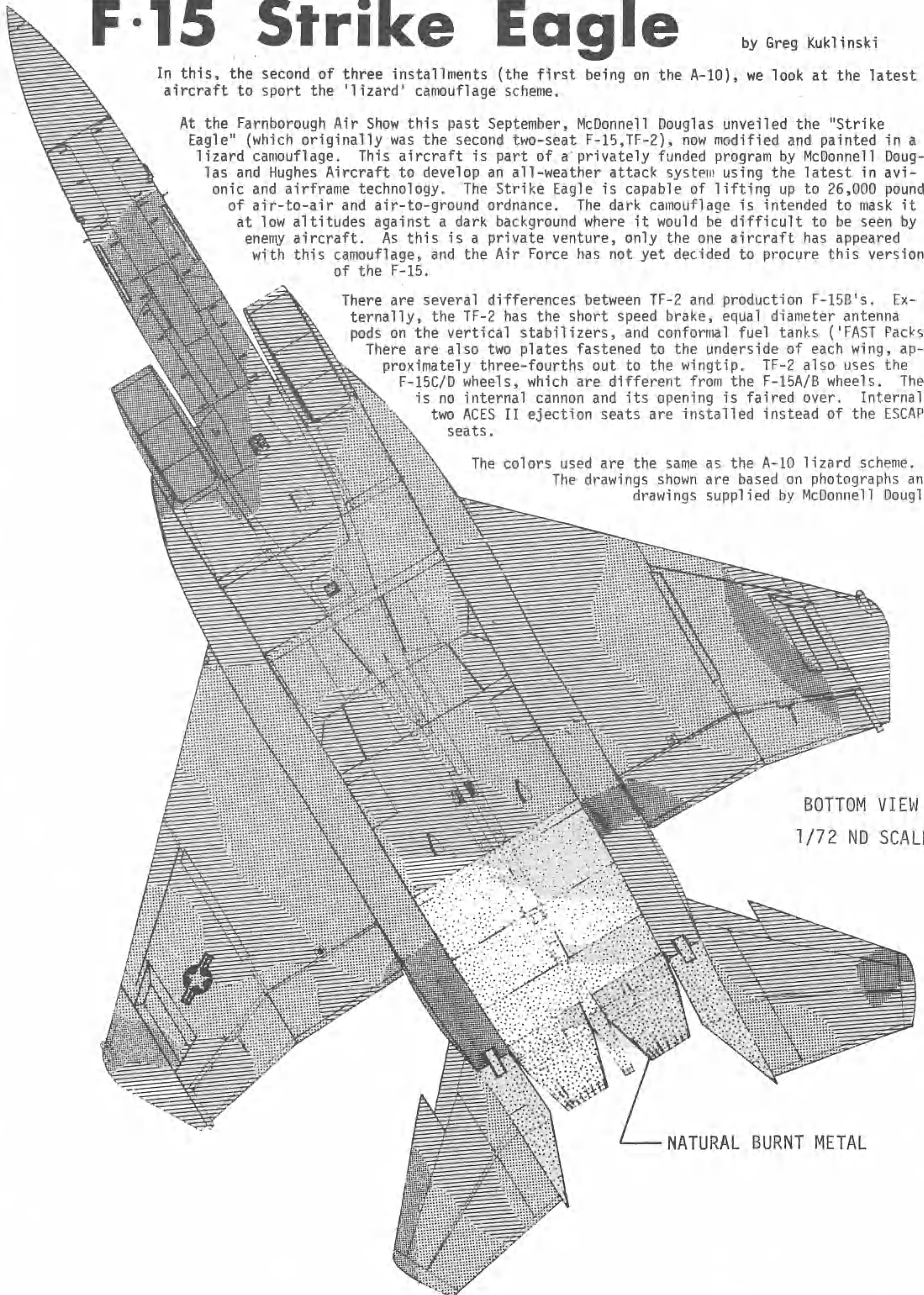
by Greg Kuklinski

In this, the second of three installments (the first being on the A-10), we look at the latest aircraft to sport the 'lizard' camouflage scheme.

At the Farnborough Air Show this past September, McDonnell Douglas unveiled the "Strike Eagle" (which originally was the second two-seat F-15, TF-2), now modified and painted in a lizard camouflage. This aircraft is part of a privately funded program by McDonnell Douglas and Hughes Aircraft to develop an all-weather attack system using the latest in avionic and airframe technology. The Strike Eagle is capable of lifting up to 26,000 pounds of air-to-air and air-to-ground ordnance. The dark camouflage is intended to mask it at low altitudes against a dark background where it would be difficult to be seen by enemy aircraft. As this is a private venture, only the one aircraft has appeared with this camouflage, and the Air Force has not yet decided to procure this version of the F-15.

There are several differences between TF-2 and production F-15B's. Externally, the TF-2 has the short speed brake, equal diameter antenna pods on the vertical stabilizers, and conformal fuel tanks ('FAST Packs'). There are also two plates fastened to the underside of each wing, approximately three-fourths out to the wingtip. TF-2 also uses the F-15C/D wheels, which are different from the F-15A/B wheels. There is no internal cannon and its opening is faired over. Internally, two ACES II ejection seats are installed instead of the ESCAPAC seats.

The colors used are the same as the A-10 lizard scheme. The drawings shown are based on photographs and drawings supplied by McDonnell Douglas.



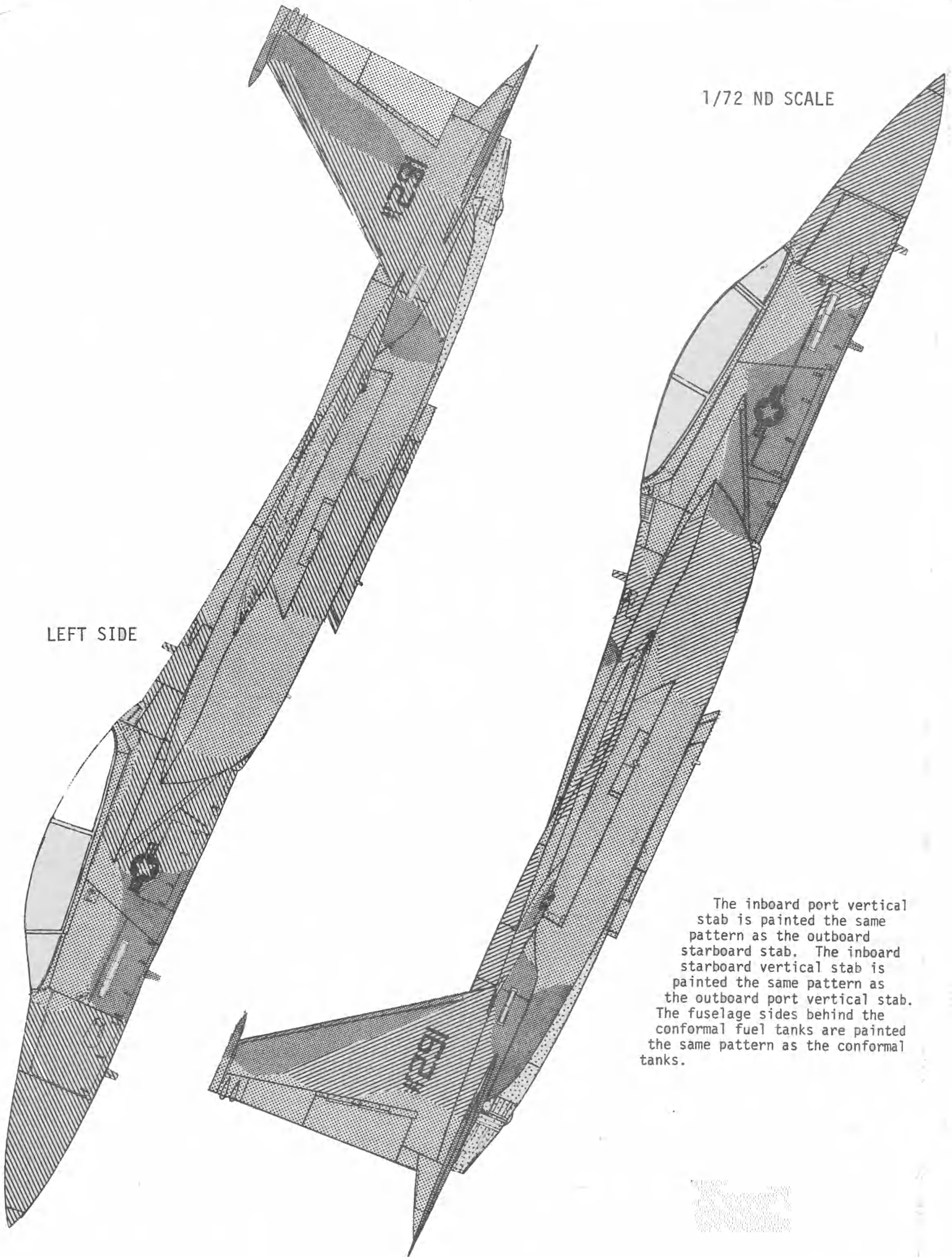
BOTTOM VIEW
1/72 ND SCALE

NATURAL BURNT METAL

1/72 ND SCALE

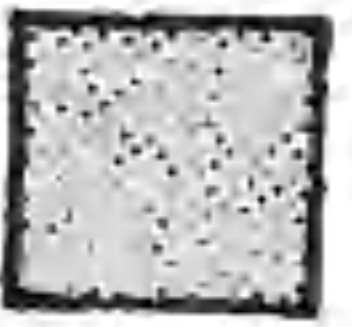
LEFT SIDE

The inboard port vertical stab is painted the same pattern as the outboard starboard stab. The inboard starboard vertical stab is painted the same pattern as the outboard port vertical stab. The fuselage sides behind the conformal fuel tanks are painted the same pattern as the conformal tanks.





34102
LIGHT GREEN



34092
DARK GREEN



36081
DARK GREY

TOP VIEW
1/72 ND SCALE

DARK RED FRAME

NATURAL METAL

WHITE OUTLINE

NATURAL BURNT METAL

