

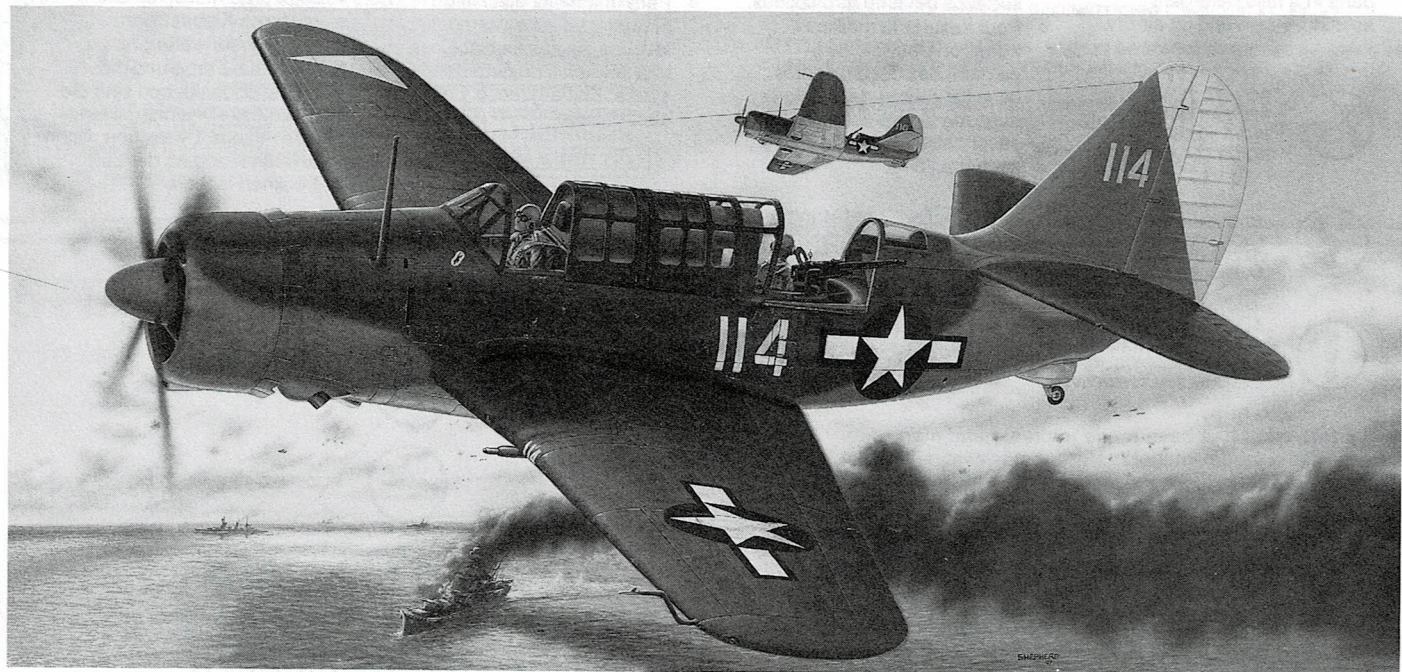
PRO MODELER™

by Revell-Monogram

KIT 5935

SB2C-4 HELLDIVER

1/48 SCALE MASSTAB 1:48 ESCALA 1/48 1/48 ECHELLE



The development of what would become the last dive bomber to be placed in operational service by the U. S. Navy began in response to a Request for Proposals issued in August 1938. Six aircraft manufacturers responded to this RFP, and the Curtiss XSB2C design was selected for production. To carry on a tradition begun by an earlier Curtiss biplane, the new dive bomber was named the Helldiver. Because of its large vertical tail, its handling characteristics, and its big heavy design, it was also called the "Big Tailed Beast" or simply the "Beast" for short.

After a lengthy development, the Helldiver saw its first combat on November 11, 1943, when VB-17 launched from the USS BUNKER HILL, CV-17, on a raid against Rabaul. By the middle of 1944, it had replaced the famous SBD Dauntless as the Navy's primary dive bomber aboard fleet carriers. A few Marine units also began to operate the Helldiver from land bases.

The SB2C-4, which your ProModeler kit represents, was produced in greater quantities than any other Helldiver variant. It was powered by the Wright R-2600-20 radial engine, which produced 1900 horsepower for take off. The SB2C-4 was also

fitted with perforated dive flaps which had been introduced late in the production of the earlier SB2C-3, and these improved performance and handling characteristics during dives on the target.

Helldivers participated in every major naval action in the Pacific during World War II, and they continued in service with the U. S. Navy until 1949. France, Italy, Greece, Portugal, and Thailand also operated SB2Cs in the post-war years. The French used them in combat in Indo-China during the mid-1950s, and this marked the end of the Helldiver's service life.

Your ProModeler kit comes with two sets of markings used by the U. S. Navy during World War II. One aircraft is from VB-3 which operated from the USS YORKTOWN, CV-10. It is painted in the earlier tri-color scheme. In the closing months of the war, the overall Sea Blue scheme was directed for carrier-based aircraft. Markings for an SB2C-4 of VB-85 and the USS SHANGRI-LA, CV-38, are included for an aircraft in this later scheme. Additionally, ProModeler produces an after-market decal sheet for this kit which provides markings for Helldivers from three other units. Ask for ProModeler decal sheet number 88-1018.

READ THIS BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- Study the assembly drawings.
- Each plastic part is identified by a number.
- Scrape plating from areas to be cemented.
- Check the fit of each piece before cementing into place.
- Do not use too much cement to join parts.
- Use only cement for polystyrene plastic.
- Models may be painted to match photos on box.
- Allow paint to dry thoroughly before handling parts.
- Scrape paint from areas to be cemented.
- For better paint and decal adhesion, wash the plastic parts in a mild detergent solution. Rinse and let air dry.



**DO NOT CEMENT
NES PAS COLLER
NICHT KLEBEN
NO US PEGAMENTO**



**OPTIONAL PARTS
PIECES EN OPTION
PIEZAS OPCIONALES
BAUTEILE NACH WAHL**



**ALTERNATIVE ASSEMBLY
ENSEMBLAGE ALTERNATIVE
EINE ANDERE MÖGLICHKEIT
ENSAMBLE ALTERNATIVO**

LISEZ CE QUI SUIT AVANT DE COMMENCER LE MONTAGE

- Etudier les schémas d'assemblage.
- Chaque pièce plastique porte un numéro d'identification.
- Grattez le chromage sur les surfaces à coller.
- Contrôler que chaque pièce soit bien cinfirmé avant de la coller à sa place.
- N'utilisez pas trop de colle pour réunir les pièces.
- Utilisez uniquement une colle spéciale pour polystyrène.
- Le modèle peut être peint conformément aux photos surboite.
- Laissez sécher la peinture complètement avant de manipuler les pièces.
- Grattez la peinture sur les surfaces devant être collées.
- Pour assurer la meilleure adhésion possible de la peinture des décalomanies, lavez les pièces de plastique avec une légère solution savonneuse. Rinse et laissez sécher à l'air.



**DECAL (DIP IN WATER)
DECALCOMANIE (À PLONGER DANS L'EAU)
DECALCOMANIA (MOJE CON AGUA)
ABZIEHBILD**



**REMOVE AND THROW AWAY
À RETIRER ET JETER
QUITE Y TIRE
ENTFERNEN (ABFALL)**

LEA ESTO ANTES DE EMPEZAR

- Estudie los dibujos de ensamble.
- Cada pieza de plástico se identificó por un número.
- Raspe el laminado de las superficies que serán pegadas.
- Verifique que cada pieza encaje bien antes de posición.
- No use demasiado pegamento para unir las piezas.
- Use únicamente pegamento para plástico de poliestireno.
- El modelo puede pintarse de acuerdo con las fotografías de la caja.
- Permita que se seque la pintura completamente antes de tocar las piezas.
- Raspe la pintura de las superficies que serán pegadas.
- Para una mejor fijación de la pintura y de las calcomanías lávese las piezas plásticas en una solución de detergente suave. Enjuague y deje secar al aire.

ALLGEMEINE HINWEISE

- Die Anordnung der Bauteile ist den Zeichnungen der Anleitung ersichtlich.
- Jedes Plastikteil ist durch eine Nummer gekennzeichnet.
- Bei Beschichtung muss vorher Klebestellen entfernt werden.
- Die Teile vor dem Verkleben ungeleimt zusammenhalten um ihre Passung zu prüfen.
- Klebstoff nicht zu dick auftragen.
- Nur Modellbaukleber für Polystyrol verwenden.
- Man kann das Modell nach den Fotos auf der Schachtel anstreichen.
- Bemalte Teile vor der Weiterverwendung gut trocknen lassen.
- Die Farbe muss von allen späteren Klebestellen abgeschabt werden.
- Damit die Farbe und die Abziehbilder kleben sind die Plastikteile in einer milden Seifenlauge zu waschen. Dann abspülen und an der Luft trocknen lassen.



**REPEAT SEVERAL TIMES
À REPETER PLUSIEURS FOIS
REPITA VARIAS VECES
ARBEITSGANG MEHRMALS WIEDERHOLEN**



PAINTING TIPS AND NOTES



MODELING TIPS

Every effort has been made to create and manufacture a model kit that is the finest available. If a part is missing, please write to:

Revell-Monogram
Consumer Service Department
8601 Waukegan Road
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053

Be sure to include the kit number, part number, description, and your return address.

If you have any problems building this model, call our modeling tips hotline at:

(800) 833-3570

TO COMPLETE THIS KIT AS SHOWN, WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING PAINTS.

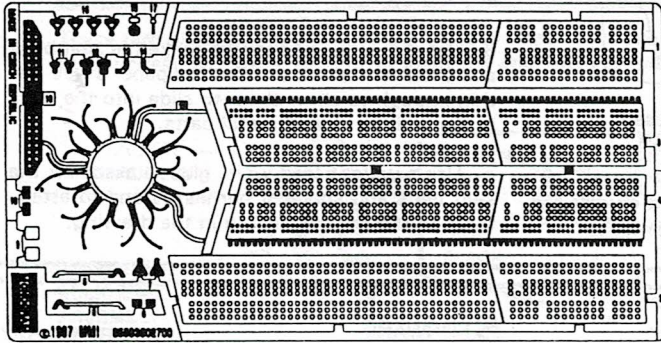
ENGLISH	FS EQUIVALENT	PROMODELER	GERMAN	SPANISH	FRENCH
DARK SEA BLUE	15042	88-0041	SCHWARZBLAU	AZUL MARINO OSCURO	BLUE MARINE FONCÉ
NS SEA BLUE	35042	88-0040	DUNKELBLAU	AZUL MARINO	BLUE MARINE NS
NS INTERMEDIATE BLUE	35164	88-0039	BLAUGRAU	AZUL INTERMEDIO	BLEU MOYEN
FLAT WHITE	37875	88-0023	MATT-WEISS	BLANCO	BLANC MAT
FLAT BLACK	37038	88-0022	MATT SCHWARZ	NEGRO APAGADO	NOIR MAT
YELLOW	33538	88-0005	GLEB	AMARILLO	JAUNE
GLOSS DARK GREEN	NONE	88-0007	DUNKELGRÜN-GLÄNZEND	VERDE OSCURO	VERT FONCÉ BRILLANT
GLOSS DARK BLUE	NONE	88-0009	DUNKELBLAU-GLÄNZEND	AZUL OSCURO	BLEU FONCÉ BRILLANT
GLOSS RED	11136	88-0003	ROT-GLÄNZEND	ROJO	ROUGE BRILLANT
SILVER	NONE	88-0013	SILBER	PLATA	ARGENTÉ
STEEL	NONE	88-0015	EISENFABIG	METALICO	ACIER
CHROMATE GREEN	34227	88-0031	ZINKCHROMATE-GRÜN	VERDE PLANTINADO	VERT CHROMATE
AMBER	NONE	88-0017	BERNSTEIN	AMBAR	AMBRÉ

NS = Non-Specular which is another term for flat (non-glossy) paint.

RECOMMENDED REFERENCE

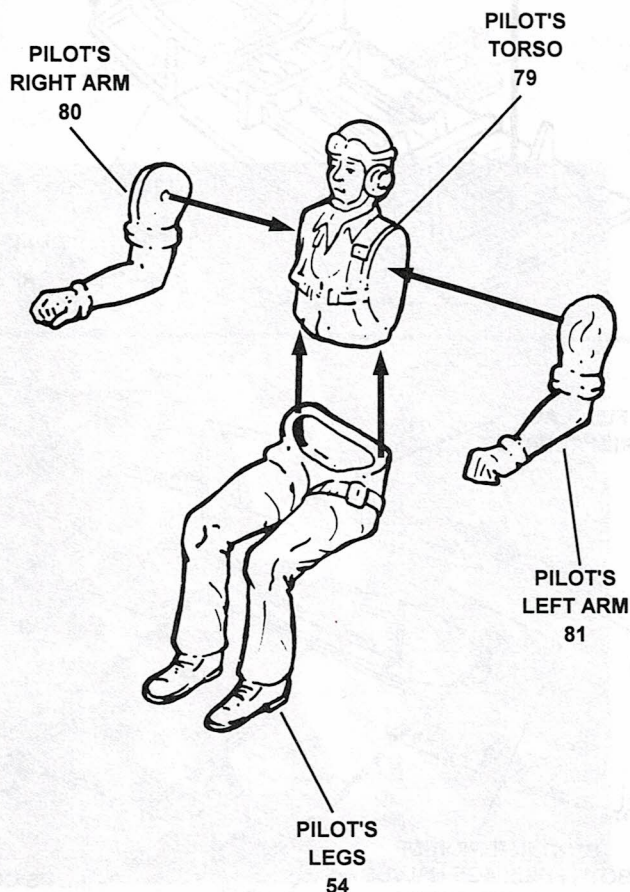
A reference book which will prove very helpful in building this model is, The SB2C Helldiver in Detail & Scale. This publication has scores of detailed photographs and drawings for all versions of the Helldiver. Every detail, from the cockpit interiors to the engine, and from the landing gear to the offensive and defensive armament, is illustrated. The book can be found at better hobby shops, aviation bookstores, and mail order houses. If it is not available in your area, contact Squadron/Signal Publications at 1115 Crowley Drive, Carrollton, Texas 75011-5010, or call (972) 242-8663.

ETCHED METAL PARTS



- ETCHED METAL PARTS WILL BE INDICATED IN THE ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS BY A DOT FOLLOWED BY A NUMBER, SUCH AS •1, •2, •3.
- GEATZE METALLTEILE SIND IN DER MONTAGENLEITUNG DURCH EINEN PUNKT MIT EINER NACHFOLGENDEN ZAL GEKENNZEICHNET, WIE Z.B. •1, •2, •3.
- GEETSTE METALEN ONDERDELEN WORDEN IN DE BOUWINSTRUCTIES AANGEVENMET EN STIP GEVOLGD DOOR EEN NUMMER, ZOALS B.V. •1, •2, •3.
- LES PIÈCES MÉTALLIQUES GRAVÉES SONT REPÉRÉES SUR LE PLAN DE MONTAGE PAR UN POINT SUIVI D'UN NOMBRE, COMME PAR EXEMPLE •1, •2, •3.

STEP 1, PILOT FIGURE



NOTE: A pilot figure is provided as an option to go in the forward cockpit of your Helldiver model. If you want to include this figure, complete the items in this step. If you do not wish to use the pilot figure, skip this step and proceed to Step 2 on the following page.

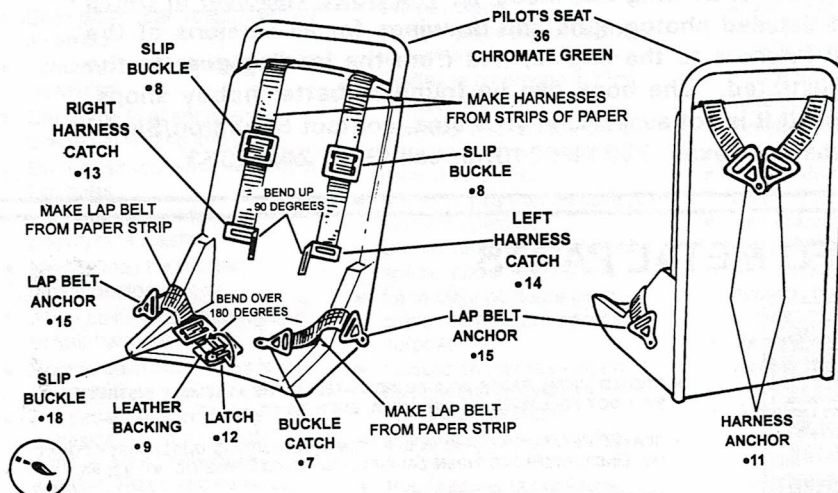
PAINT ALL PARTS AFTER ASSEMBLY.

1. Cement the PILOT'S LEGS (54) to the PILOT'S TORSO (79).
2. Glue the PILOT'S RIGHT ARM (80) to the PILOT'S TORSO (79).
3. Cement the PILOT'S LEFT ARM (81) to the PILOT'S TORSO (79).



PAINTING NOTES: The basic flight suit was khaki, and the Mae West life vest was yellow. The soft helmet was khaki, gray, or dark brown, and the goggles were gray or dark brown. The parachute straps and harness were off-white or light gray with silver buckles. The shoes were dark brown, and the gloves were gray or dark brown. The headphones were dark brown, gray, or black. Use a drop of clear gloss to represent each lens in the goggles.

STEP 2, SEAT BELTS AND SHOULDER HARNESSSES



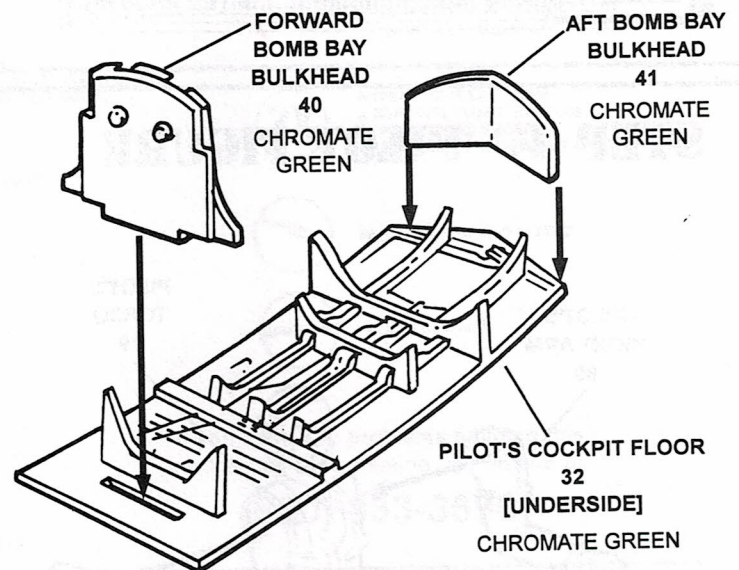
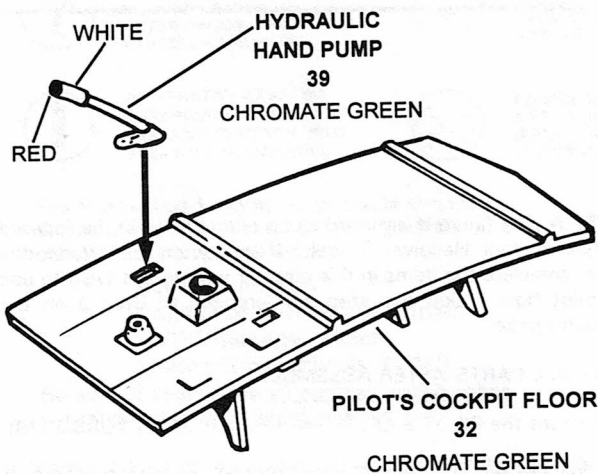
PAINTING NOTE: The basic seat is Chromate Green. Seat belts and shoulder harnesses are off-white or very light gray. The LEATHER BACKING (•9) is tan. All other metal parts are a steel or silver color.

NOTE: If you decided not to use the pilot figure in your model, proceed with the items in this step. If you are using the pilot figure, skip this step and continue with Step 3 below.

PAINT ALL PARTS BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

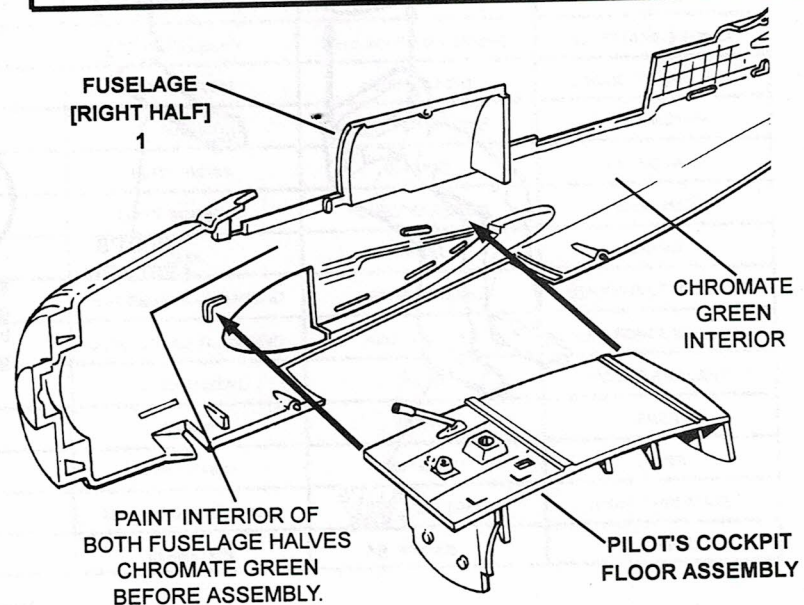
1. Refer to the drawing at left and remove the parts indicated from the tree of etched metal parts.
2. Bend parts •12, •13, and •14 as illustrated in the drawing.
3. Use thin strips of paper to make the seat belts and shoulder harnesses. Cut the paper strips just thin enough to allow them to slide into the slots in the various etched metal parts.
4. Use a water-based white glue to assemble the seat belts and shoulder harnesses and to attach them to the seat as shown in the drawing.

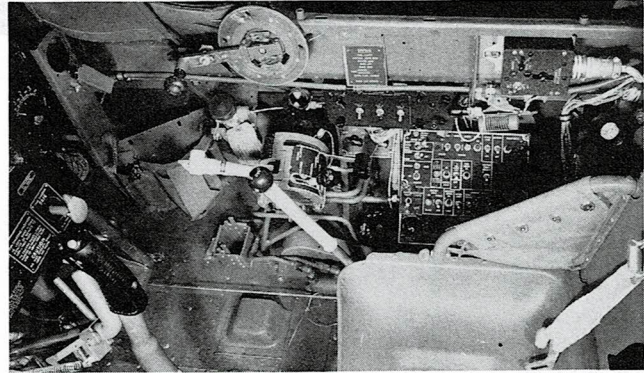
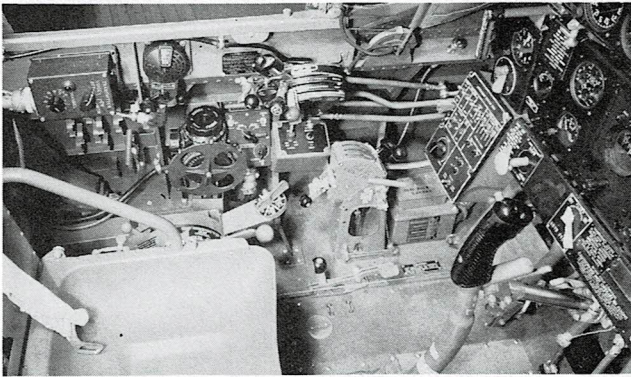
STEP 3, PILOT'S COCKPIT



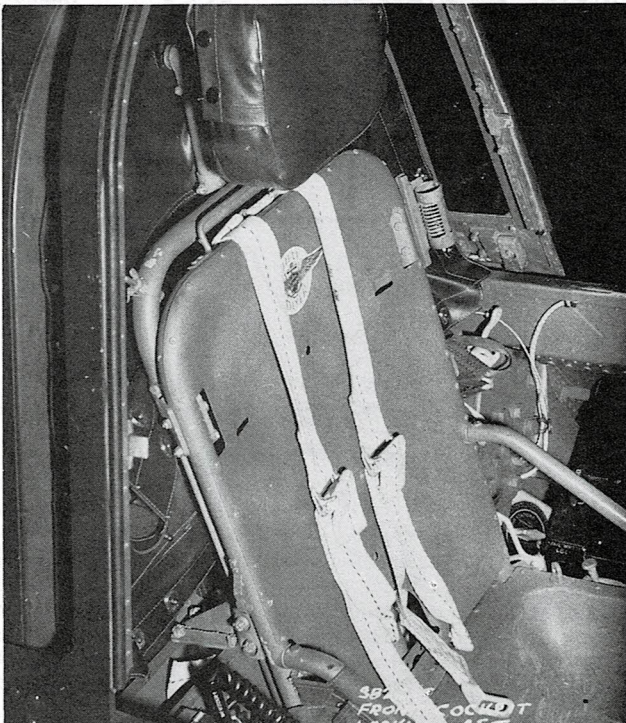
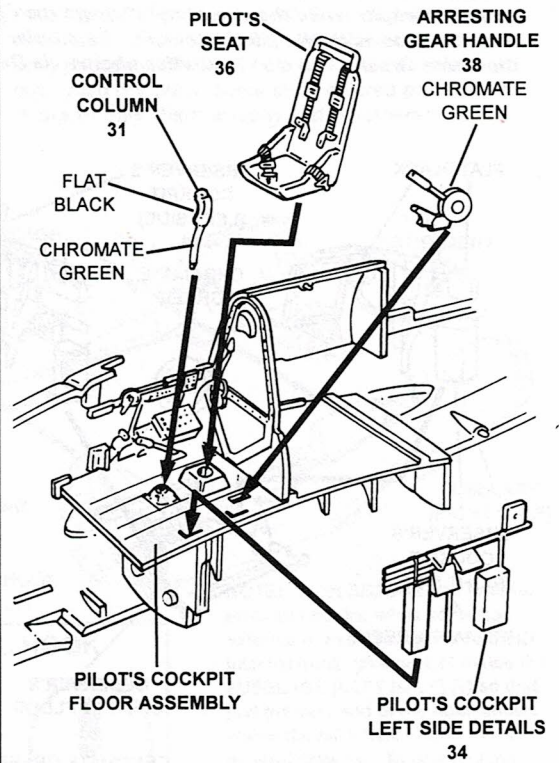
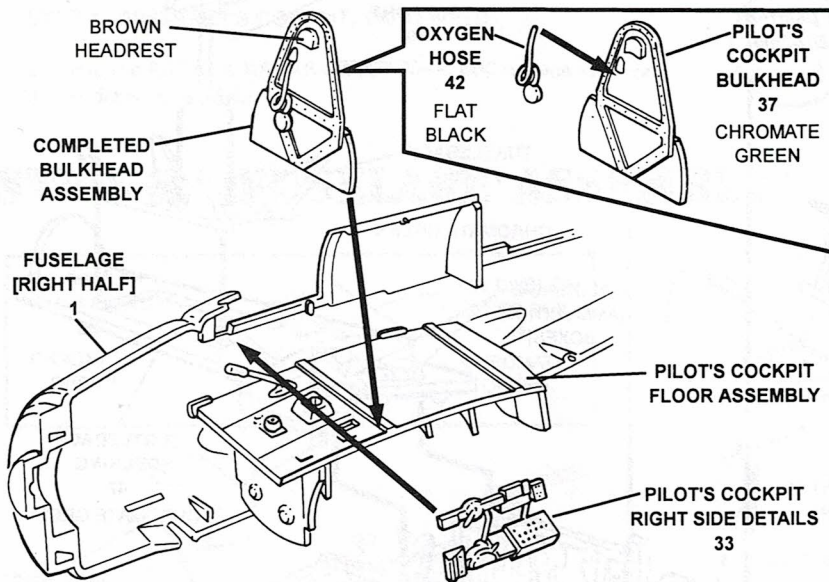
PAINT ALL PARTS BEFORE ASSEMBLY. THIS INCLUDES PAINTING THE INTERIOR OF BOTH FUSELAGE HALVES (PARTS 1 & 2) CHROMATE GREEN.

1. Cement the HYDRAULIC HAND PUMP (39) to the PILOT'S COCKPIT FLOOR (32).
2. Glue the FORWARD BOMB BAY BULKHEAD (40) to the underside of the PILOT'S COCKPIT FLOOR (32).
3. Cement the AFT BOMB BAY BULKHEAD (41) to the PILOT'S COCKPIT FLOOR (32).
4. Glue the PILOT'S COCKPIT FLOOR ASSEMBLY to the inside of the FUSELAGE [RIGHT HALF] (1).





These two photographs show details on both sides of the pilot's cockpit. The basic color of the cockpit was Chromate Green. Panels were usually flat black with silver switches and white lettering. (Curtiss photos via Detail & Scale)

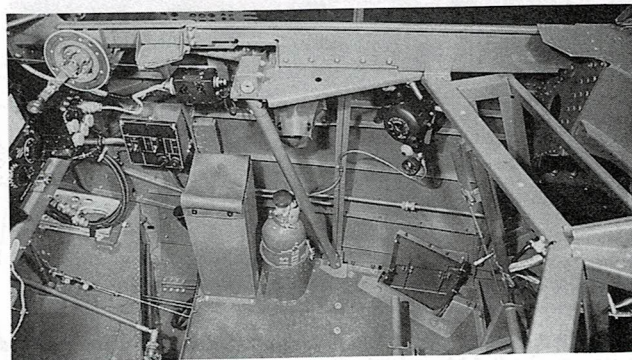
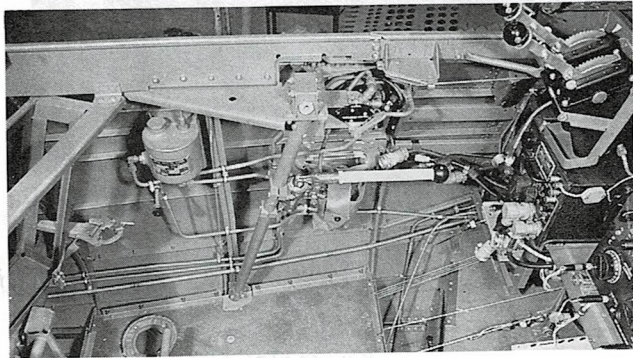


Details of the pilot's seat can be seen here. Note the headrest and the shoulder harnesses. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)

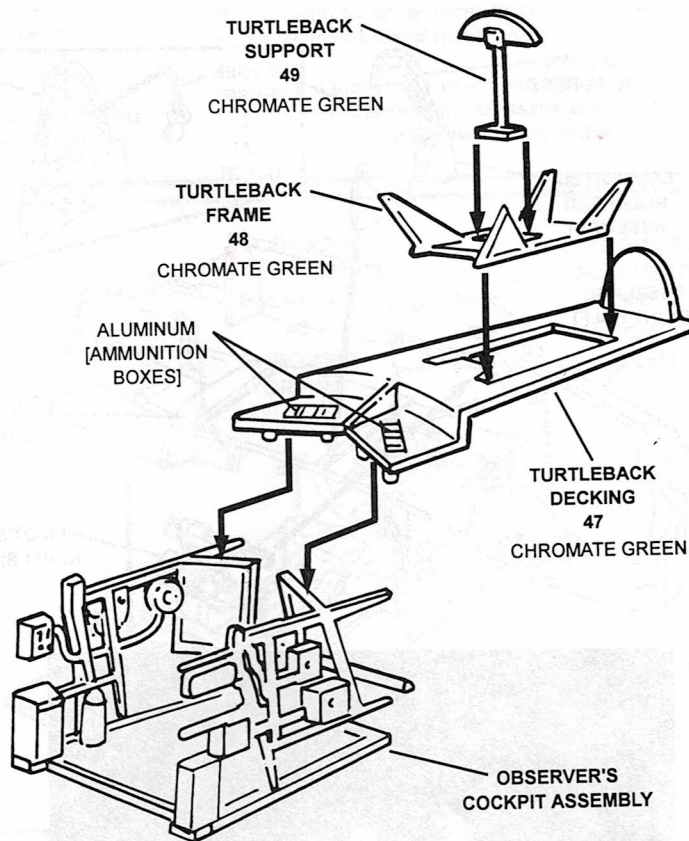
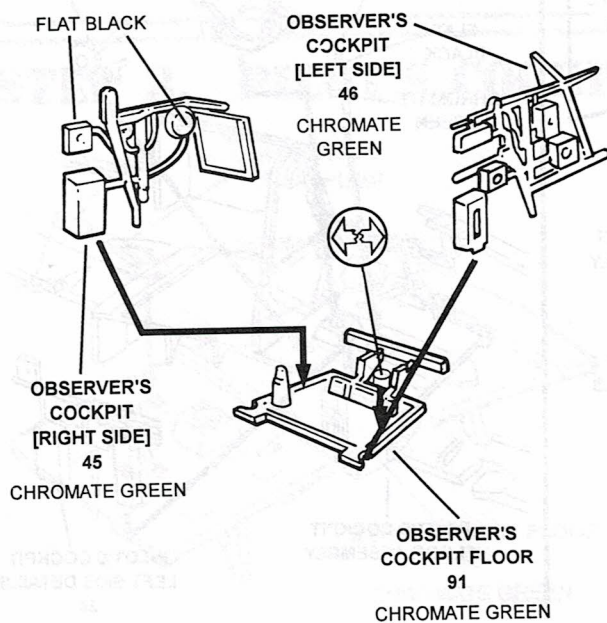
STEP 3, PILOT'S COCKPIT, CONTINUED

5. Glue the OXYGEN HOSE (42) to the PILOT'S COCKPIT BULKHEAD (37).
6. Cement the COMPLETED BULKHEAD ASSEMBLY to the PILOT'S COCKPIT FLOOR ASSEMBLY and the FUSELAGE [RIGHT HALF] (1).
7. Cement PILOT'S COCKPIT RIGHT SIDE DETAILS (33) to the cockpit floor and interior of the FUSELAGE [RIGHT HALF] (1) as shown in the drawing at left.
8. Cement the PILOT'S SEAT (36) to the PILOT'S COCKPIT FLOOR ASSEMBLY.
9. Glue the CONTROL COLUMN (31) and the ARRESTING GEAR HANDLE (38) to the PILOT'S COCKPIT FLOOR ASSEMBLY.
10. Cement the PILOT'S COCKPIT LEFT SIDE DETAILS (34) to the PILOT'S COCKPIT FLOOR ASSEMBLY.

STEP 4, OBSERVER'S COCKPIT

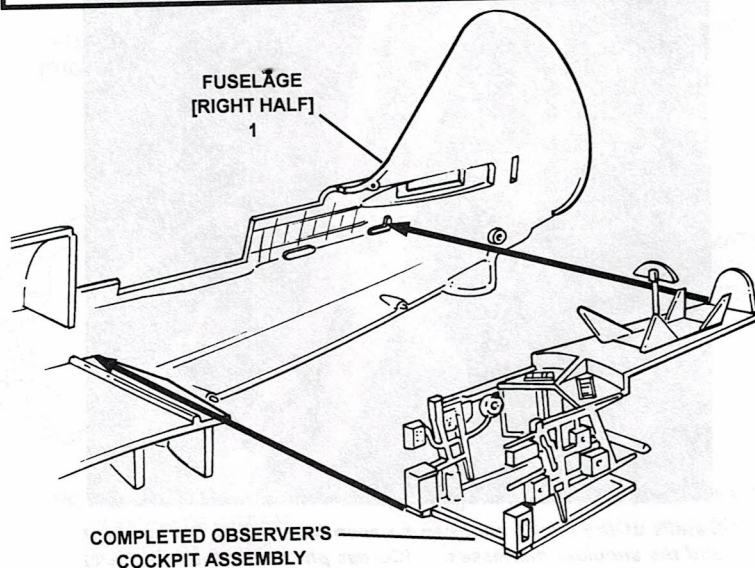


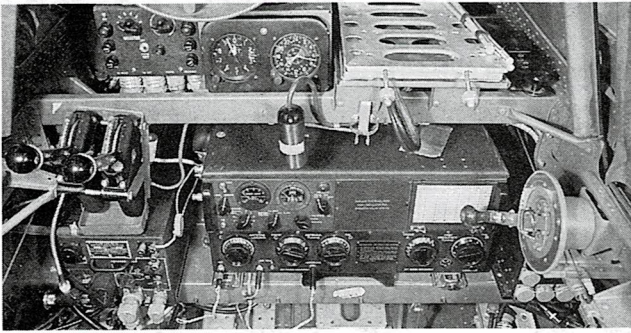
The photo above reveals the details on the left side of the observer's cockpit, while the one at right shows the right side. As was the case with the pilot's cockpit, the interior was painted Chromate Green. (Curtiss photos via Detail & Scale)



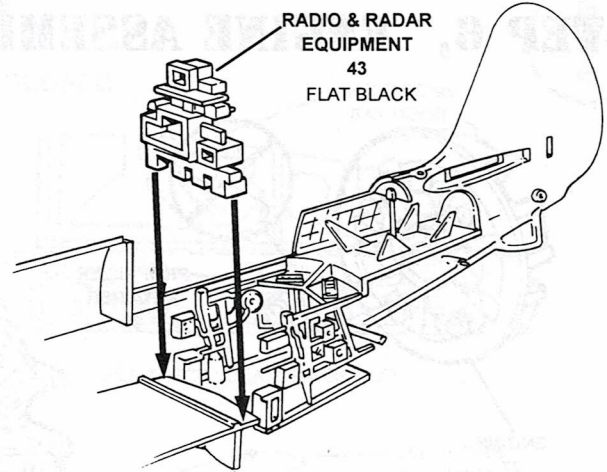
PAINT ALL PARTS BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

1. Remove the excess piece of plastic from the OBSERVER'S COCKPIT FLOOR (91).
2. Glue the OBSERVER'S COCKPIT [RIGHT SIDE] (45) to the OBSERVER'S COCKPIT FLOOR (91).
3. Cement the OBSERVER'S COCKPIT [LEFT SIDE] (46) to the OBSERVER'S COCKPIT FLOOR (91).
4. Glue the TURTLEBACK SUPPORT (49) to the TURTLEBACK FRAME (48).
5. Cement the TURTLEBACK FRAME (48) to the TURTLEBACK DECKING (47).
6. Glue the TURTLEBACK FRAME (48) to the OBSERVER'S COCKPIT ASSEMBLY.
7. Cement the COMPLETED OBSERVER'S COCKPIT ASSEMBLY to the inside of the FUSELAGE [RIGHT HALF] (1).





*This photo shows some of the radio gear at the forward end of the observer's cockpit. The box for the ASB radar has been removed from its mount in the top left corner. This item was classified at the time this photograph was taken.
(Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)*



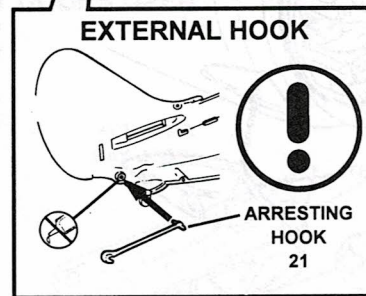
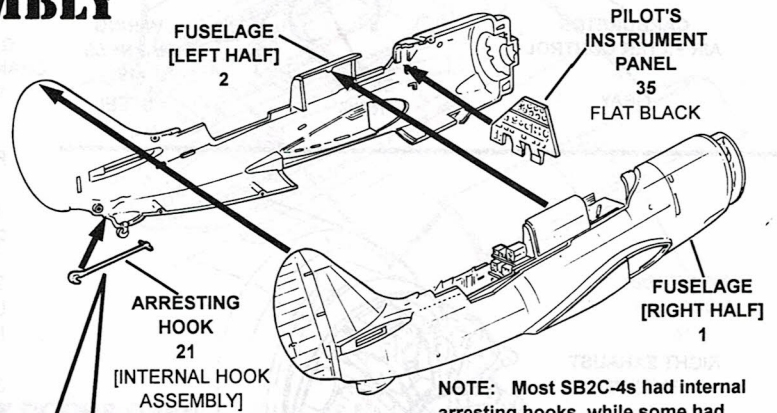
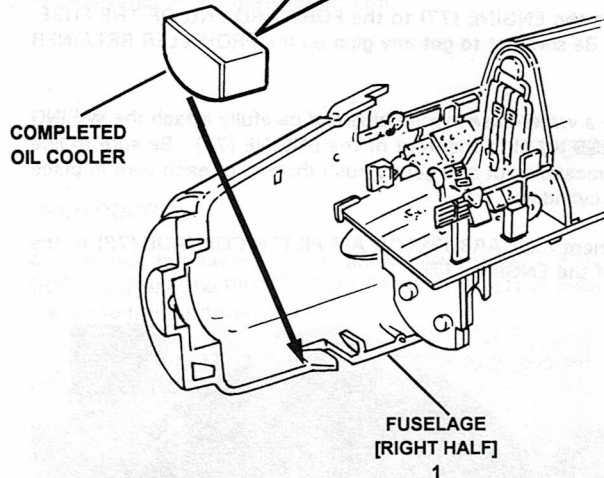
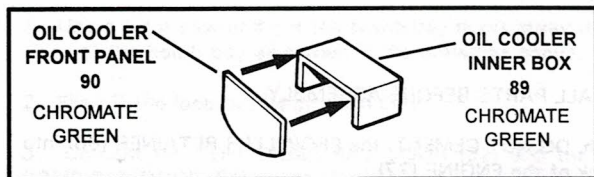
STEP 4, OBSERVER'S COCKPIT, CONTINUED

8. *Glue the RADIO & RADAR EQUIPMENT (43) in place as shown in the drawing at right.



PAINTING TIP: Use the point of a small brush to run a little black wash around the raised features in both cockpits. This will help make the details stand out. Also dry brush some steel colored paint on the floors to give them a worn and weathered look.

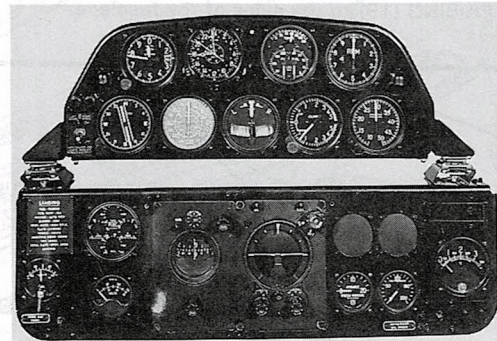
STEP 5, FUSELAGE ASSEMBLY



NOTE: Most SB2C-4s had internal arresting hooks, while some had external hooks. To represent the internal hook, glue part 21 inside the FUSELAGE [LEFT HALF] (2) so that just the very end of the hook shows above the tail wheel. Refer to the general drawing. To represent the external hook, place, do not cement, the pin on the shaft end of the hook inside the locating hole as shown in the detail drawing at left. All SB2C-4s represented on the decal sheet in this kit have the internal hook.

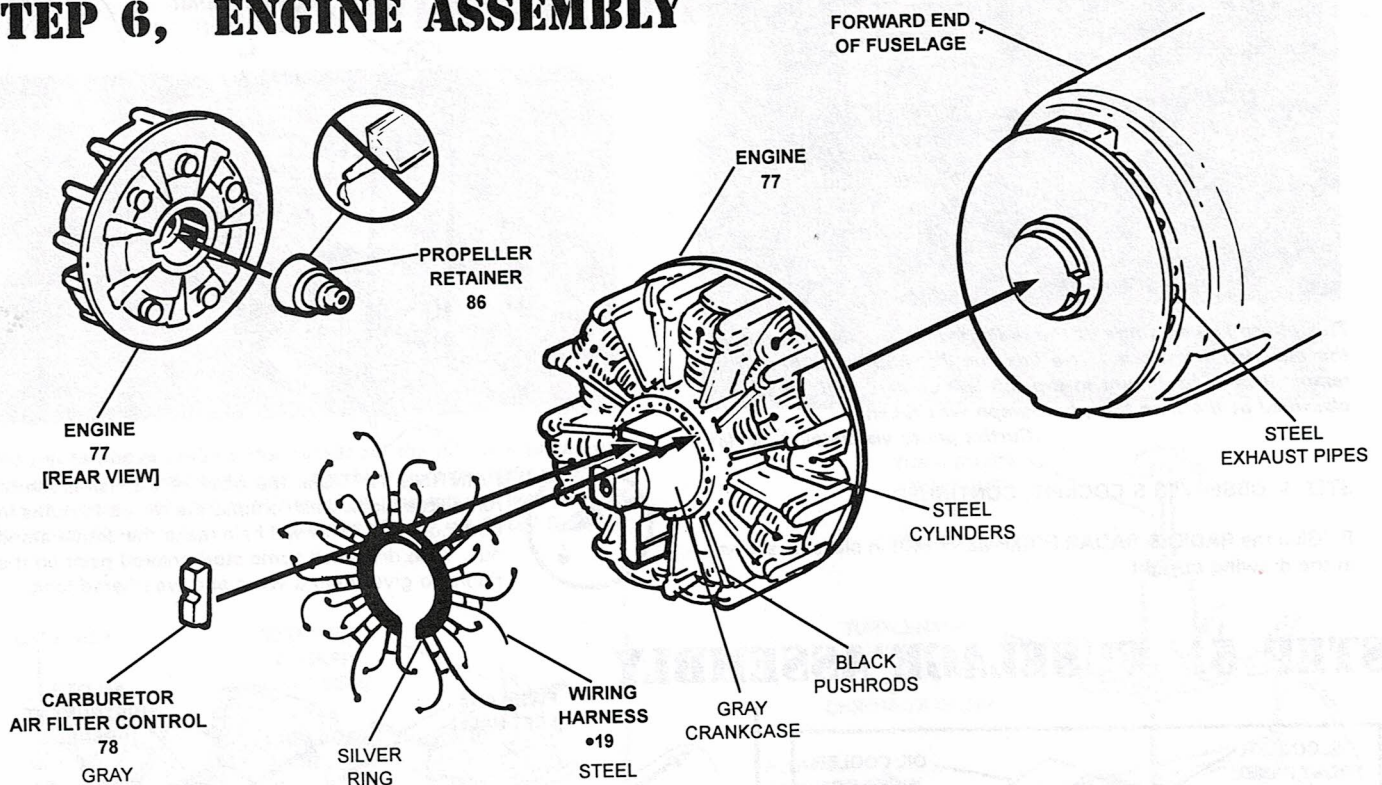
PAINT ALL PARTS BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

1. Glue the OIL COOLER FRONT PANEL (90) to the OIL COOLER INNER BOX (89) as indicated in the drawing at left.
2. Cement the COMPLETED OIL COOLER in place inside the FUSELAGE [RIGHT HALF] (1).
3. Refer to the drawing at right, and glue the PILOT'S INSTRUMENT PANEL (35) in place inside the FUSELAGE [LEFT HALF] (2).
4. Determine whether you want to use an internal or external arresting hook, then attach the ARRESTING HOOK (21) to the FUSELAGE [LEFT HALF] (2). Cement the hook in place for the internal hook, but do not use glue for the external hook.
5. If you plan to use the PILOT FIGURE from Step 1, glue it to the PILOT'S SEAT (36) at this time.
6. Glue the fuselage halves together



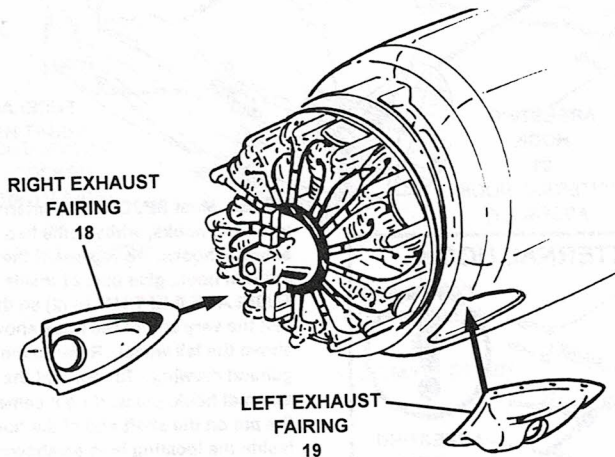
*Details of the pilot's instrument panel as used in the SB2C-4 are shown here. The basic panel was flat black, and the lettering and needles on the instruments were off-white or a very pale yellow.
(Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)*

STEP 6, ENGINE ASSEMBLY

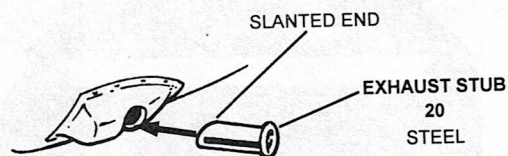


PAINT ALL PARTS BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

1. Push, DO NOT CEMENT, the PROPELLER RETAINER (86) into the back of the ENGINE (77).
2. Glue the ENGINE (77) to the FORWARD END OF THE FUSELAGE. Be sure not to get any glue on the PROPELLER RETAINER (86).
3. Use a water-based white glue and carefully attach the WIRING HARNESS (#19) to the front of the ENGINE (77). Be sure to line up the location slot and gently push the end of each wire in place on the cylinders.
4. Cement the CARBURETOR AIR FILTER CONTROL (78) to the front of the ENGINE (77).

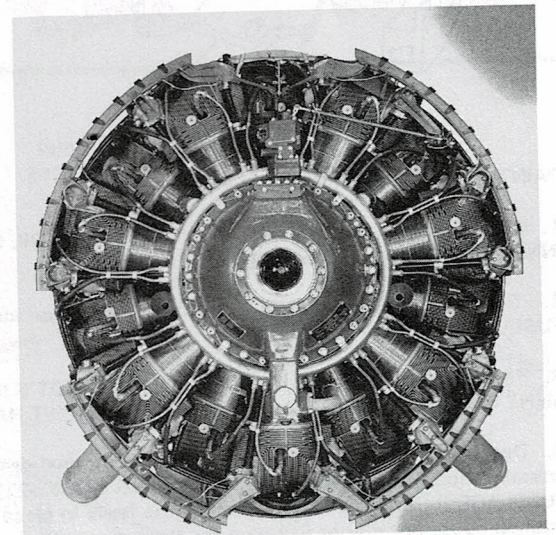


5. Glue the RIGHT EXHAUST FAIRING (18) and the LEFT EXHAUST FAIRING (19) to the sides of the fuselage.



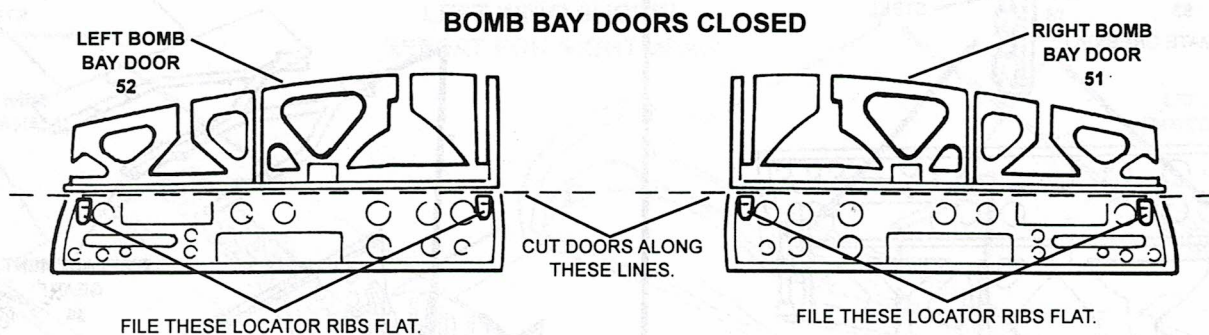
LEFT SIDE SHOWN, REPEAT FOR RIGHT SIDE.

6. Cement an EXHAUST STUB (20) inside each EXHAUST FAIRING. Be sure that the slanted end of each EXHAUST STUB fits flush against the side of the fuselage inside the EXHAUST FAIRING.



*This front view of a Wright R-2600 Cyclone engine illustrates how the individual wires of the wiring harness were attached to the cylinders.
(Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)*

STEP 7, BOMB BAY ASSEMBLY

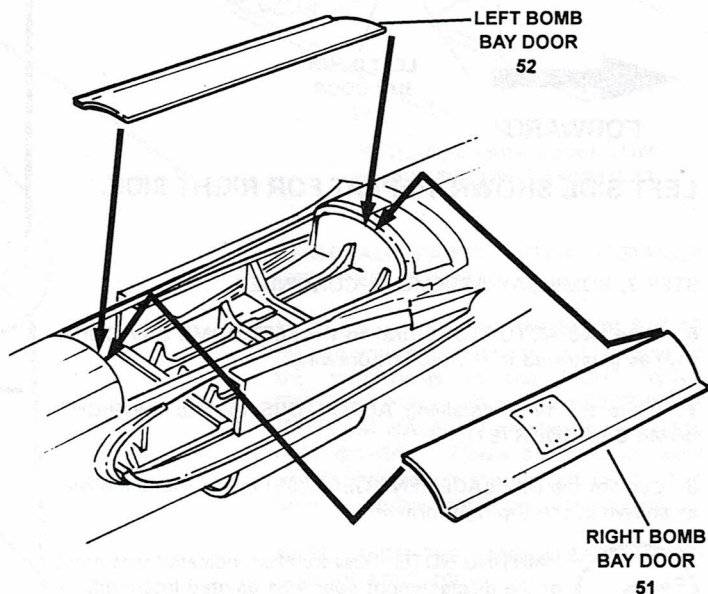


PAINT ALL PARTS EXCEPT THE BOMB HALVES (56 & 57) BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

NOTE: You may build your model with the bomb bay doors open or closed. To build them in the closed position, follow items 1 through 3 below. To build them in the open position, skip items 1 and 3 and begin with item 4.

CLOSED DOORS

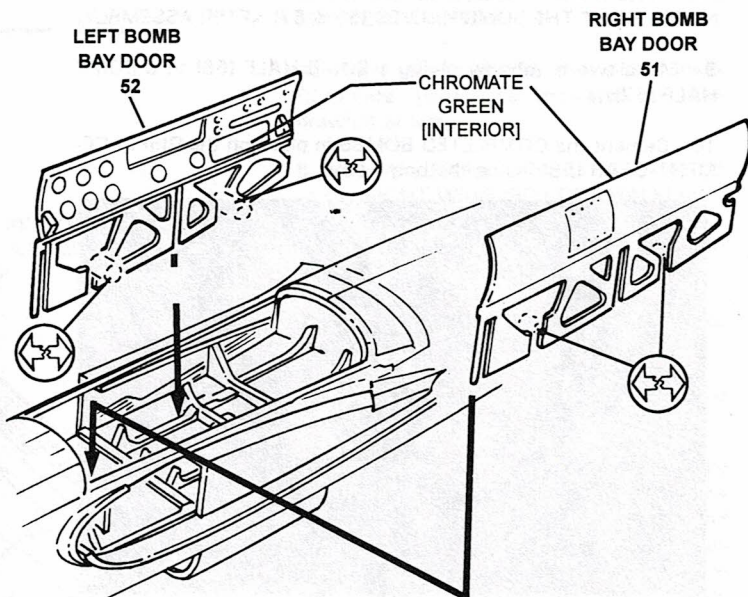
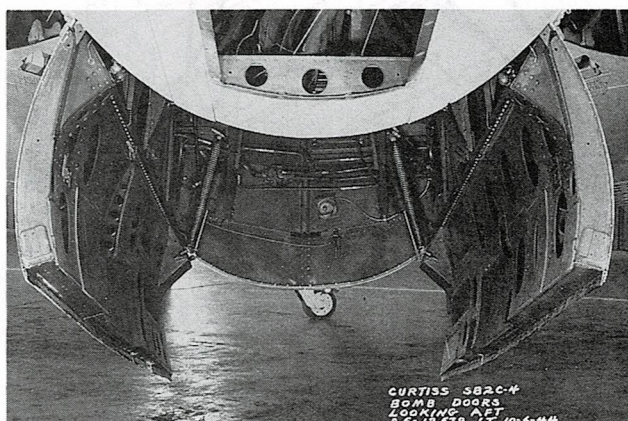
1. Use a razor saw and cut the bomb bay doors away from the sides of the bomb bay as shown in the drawings above.
2. File off the locator ribs on each door.
3. Cement the LEFT BOMB BAY DOOR (52) and the RIGHT BOMB BAY DOOR (51) in the closed position over the bomb bay as illustrated in the drawing at right.



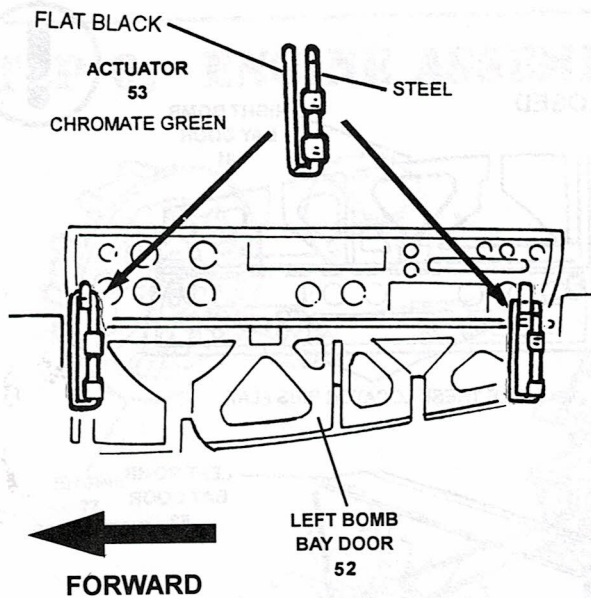
BOMB BAY DOORS OPEN

OPEN DOORS

4. Remove the excess plastic parts from the LEFT BOMB BAY DOOR (52) and the RIGHT BOMB BAY DOOR (51) as indicated in the bottom right drawing.
5. Cement the LEFT BOMB BAY DOOR (52) and the RIGHT BOMB BAY DOOR (51) in place.



The correct alignment of the open bomb bay doors can be seen in this front view. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)



LEFT SIDE SHOWN, REPEAT FOR RIGHT SIDE.

STEP 7, BOMB BAY ASSEMBLY, CONTINUED

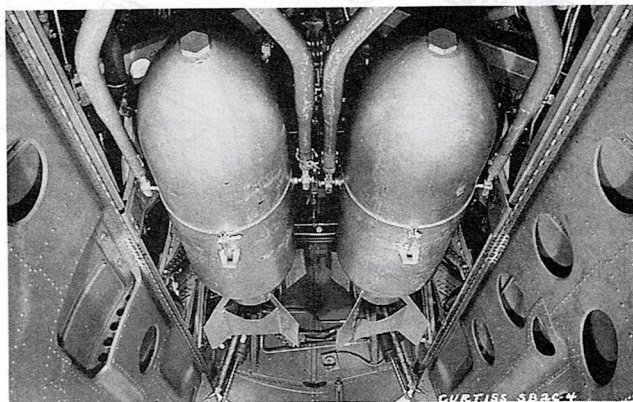
6. Glue two ACTUATORS (53) to the LEFT BOMB BAY DOOR (52) as illustrated in the top left drawing.
7. Glue the two remaining ACTUATORS (53) to the RIGHT BOMB BAY DOOR (51).
8. Cement the DISPLACEMENT GEAR (55) inside the bomb bay as shown in the top right drawing.



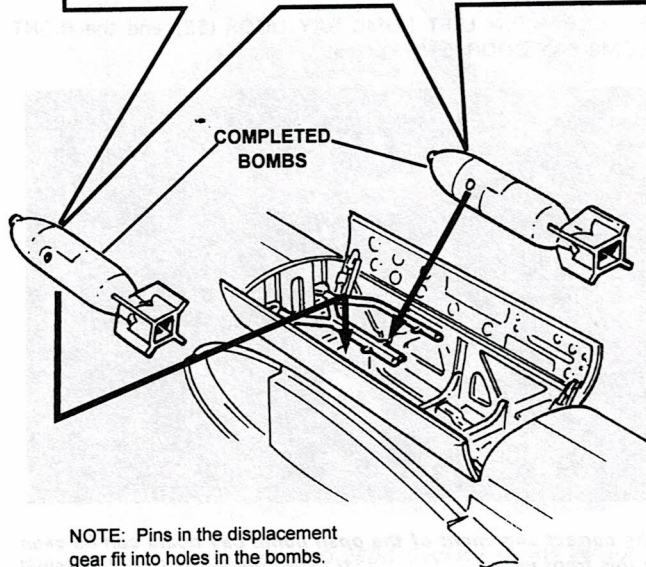
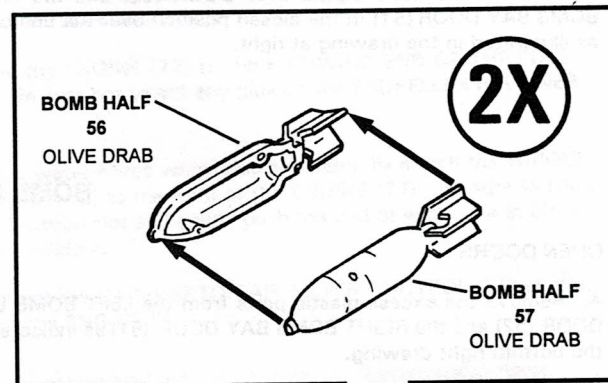
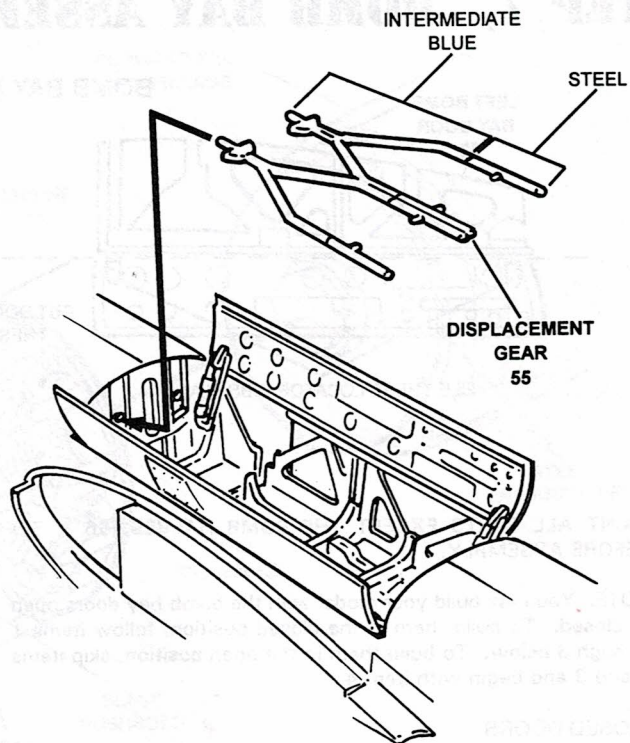
PAINTING NOTE: Research has indicated that most of the displacement gear was painted Intermediate Blue as indicated in the top right drawing. This is true even for aircraft painted in the overall Sea Blue paint scheme. The practice of using Intermediate Blue on this item continued even on post-war Helldivers as evidenced by parts recovered from wrecks.

NOTE: PAINT THE BOMB HALVES (56 & 57) AFTER ASSEMBLY.

9. Make two bombs by gluing a BOMB HALF (56) to a BOMB HALF (57).
10. Cement the COMPLETED BOMBS in place on the DISPLACEMENT GEAR (55) inside the bomb bay.



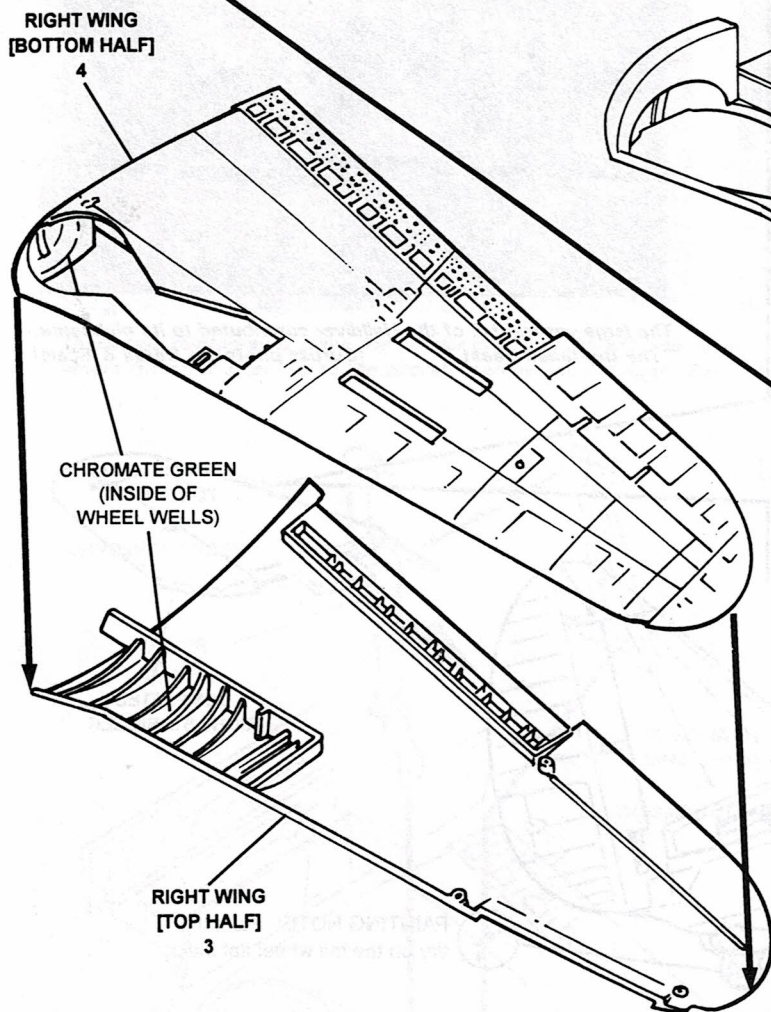
Two 500-pound bombs can be seen on the dual displacement gear inside the bomb bay of this SB2C-4.
(Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)



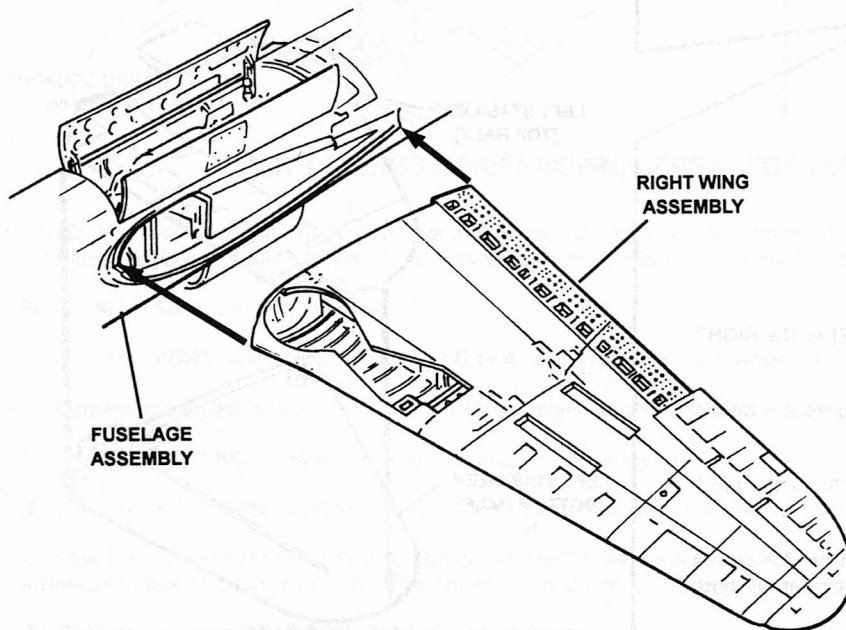
NOTE: Pins in the displacement gear fit into holes in the bombs.

STEP 8, WING ASSEMBLY

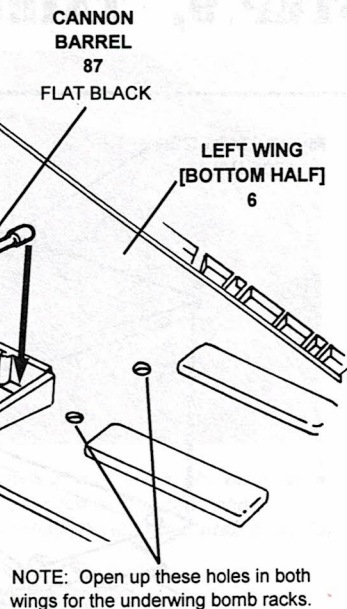
LEFT WING SHOWN,
REPEAT FOR RIGHT WING.



RIGHT WING SHOWN, REPEAT FOR LEFT WING.



RIGHT WING SHOWN, REPEAT FOR LEFT WING.



PAINT ALL PARTS AFTER ASSEMBLY EXCEPTED AS NOTED.

1. If you plan to use the BOMB RACKS (58) on your model (see Step 11), open up the two holes in the RIGHT WING [BOTTOM HALF] (4) and the LEFT WING [BOTTOM HALF] (6) as shown in the top right drawing. These bomb racks were usually carried on the aircraft even when bombs or other stores were not loaded.

NOTE: PAINT THE CANNON BARRELS (87) BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

2. Glue a CANNON BARREL (87) in place on the LEFT WING [BOTTOM HALF] (6) as illustrated in the top right drawing.

3. Cement a second CANNON BARREL (87) to the same place on the RIGHT WING [BOTTOM HALF] (4).

4. Paint the inside of the wheel wells Chromate Green as indicated on the drawing at left.

5. Glue the RIGHT WING [TOP HALF] (3) to the RIGHT WING [BOTTOM HALF] (4).

6. Cement the LEFT WING [TOP HALF] (5) to the LEFT WING [BOTTOM HALF] (6).

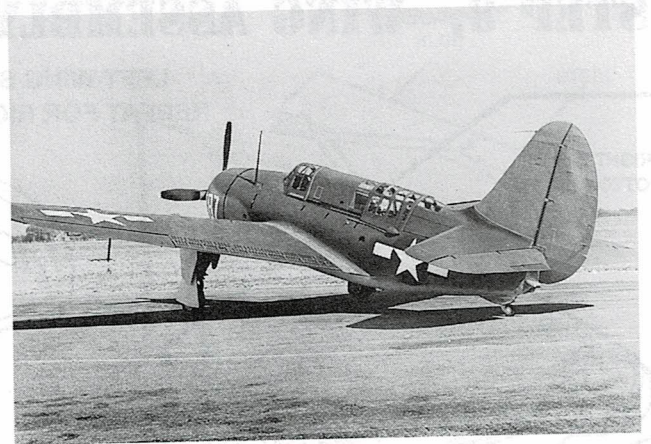
7. Glue the RIGHT WING ASSEMBLY to the FUSELAGE ASSEMBLY.

8. Cement the LEFT WING ASSEMBLY to the FUSELAGE ASSEMBLY.

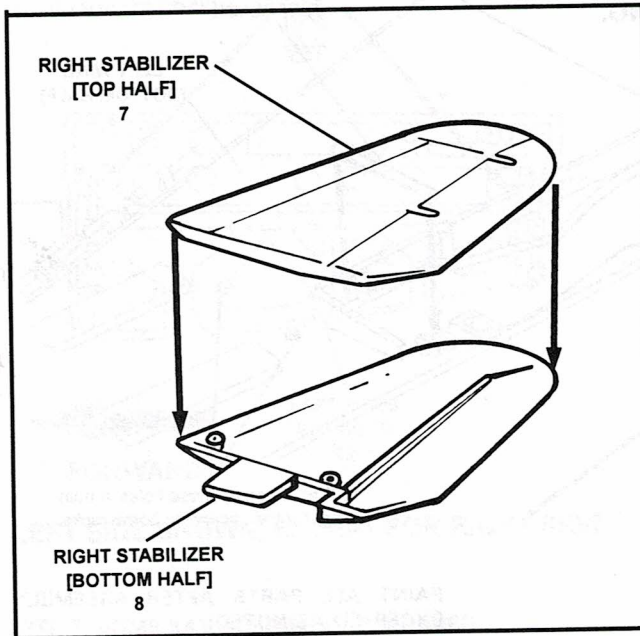


MODELING TIP: Carefully check the alignment of the wing-to-fuselage joints and make any adjustments as necessary. Fill any cracks in the assembly with modeling putty. Once the putty has dried, sand it smooth with fine modeling sandpaper. For additional detail, drill out the holes on the wing flaps.

STEP 9, TAIL ASSEMBLY

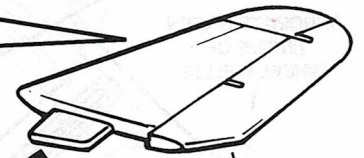


The large vertical tail of the Helldiver contributed to its nickname, "The Big-tailed Beast." (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)

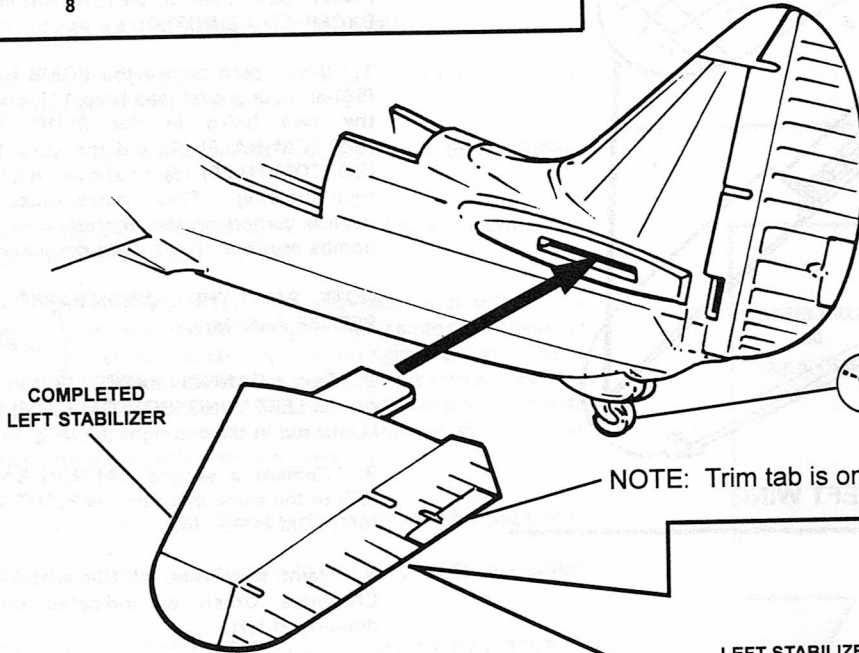


RIGHT STABILIZER [TOP HALF] 7

RIGHT STABILIZER [BOTTOM HALF] 8



COMPLETED RIGHT STABILIZER

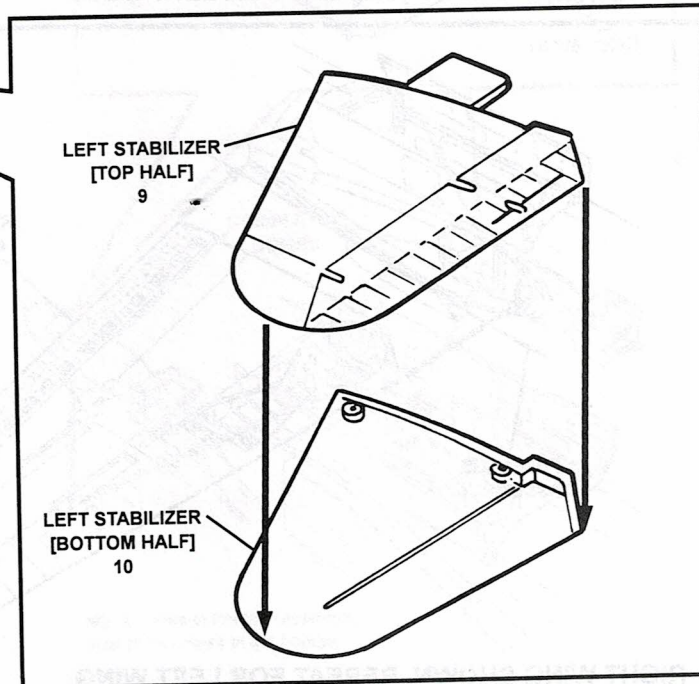


COMPLETED LEFT STABILIZER



PAINTING NOTE: Paint the tire on the tail wheel flat black.

NOTE: Trim tab is on left stabilizer.



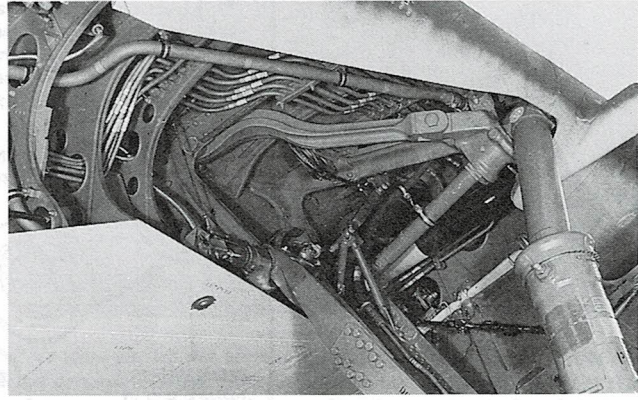
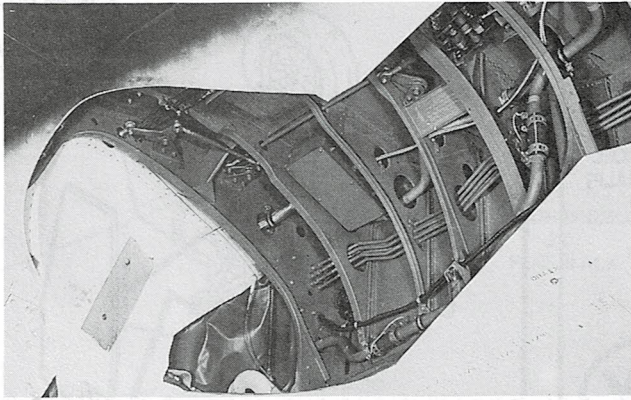
LEFT STABILIZER [TOP HALF] 9

LEFT STABILIZER [BOTTOM HALF] 10

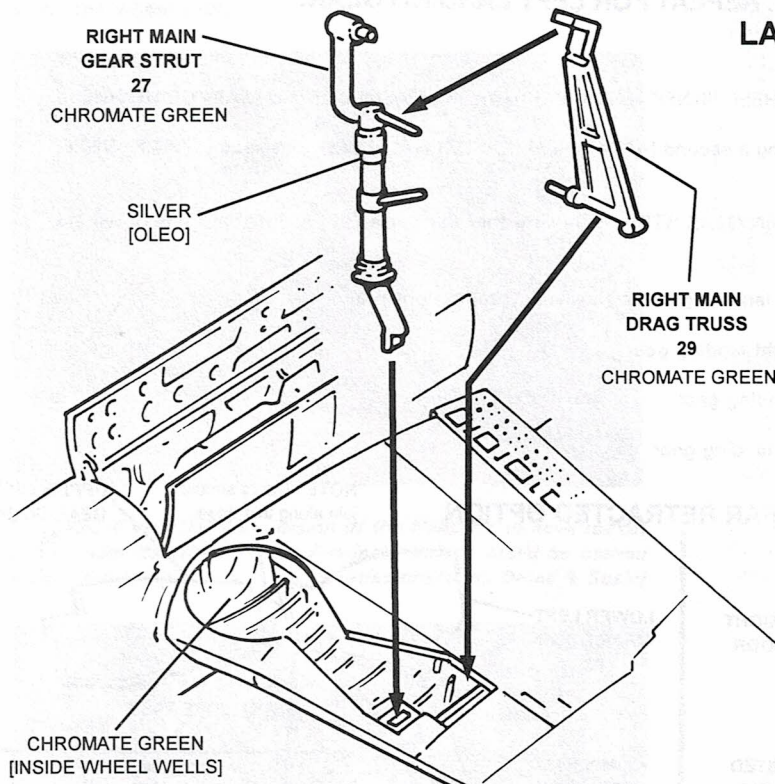
PAINT ALL PARTS AFTER ASSEMBLY.

1. Cement the RIGHT STABILIZER [TOP HALF] (7) to the RIGHT STABILIZER [BOTTOM HALF] (8).
2. Glue the COMPLETED RIGHT STABILIZER into its slot on the right side of the aft fuselage.
3. Cement the LEFT STABILIZER [TOP HALF] (9) to the LEFT STABILIZER [BOTTOM HALF] (10).
4. Glue the COMPLETED LEFT STABILIZER into its slot on the left side of the aft fuselage. Check the alignment of both stabilizers before the glue sets.

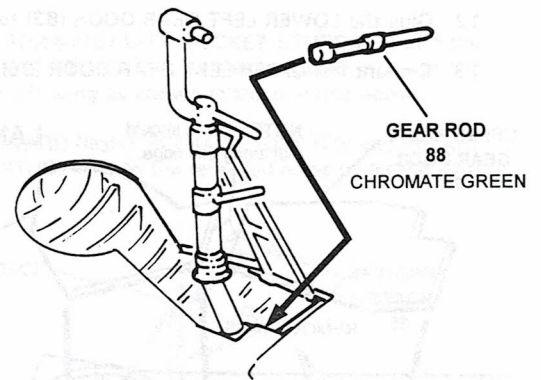
STEP 10, MAIN LANDING GEAR ASSEMBLY



These two photographs show the interior details of the left landing gear well. The inboard area is shown at left, while the outer area, where the strut attaches to the aircraft, can be seen at right. Particularly note the position of the gear rod in the right photo.
(Both are Curtiss photos via Detail & Scale)



LANDING GEAR EXTENDED

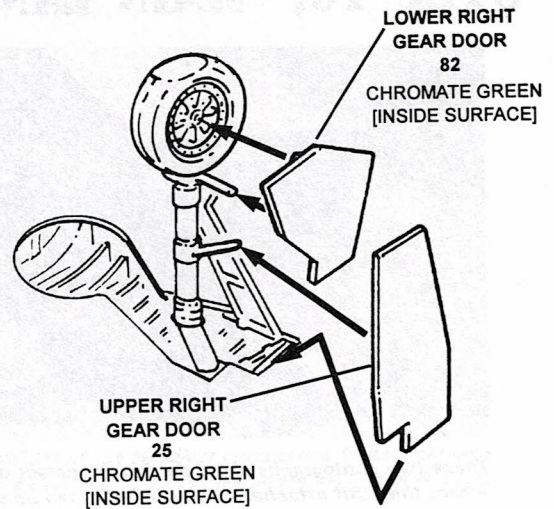
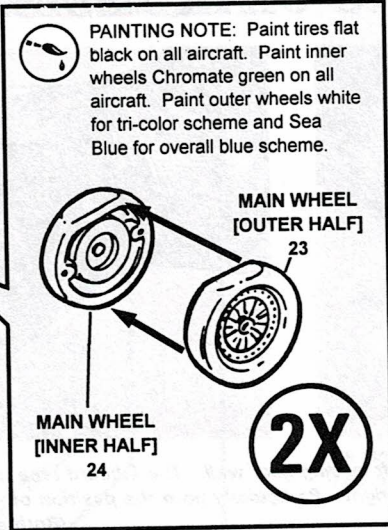
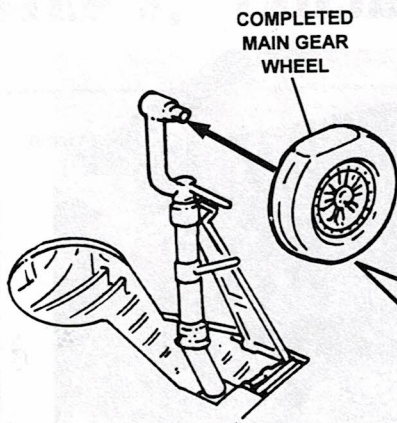


RIGHT LANDING GEAR SHOWN, REPEAT FOR LEFT LANDING GEAR.

NOTE: You may assemble the landing gear in the extended or retracted position. If you wish to build your model with the landing gear extended, begin with Item 1 below. If you prefer to have your landing gear retracted, skip to Item 14 at the bottom of the next page.

PAINT ALL PARTS BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

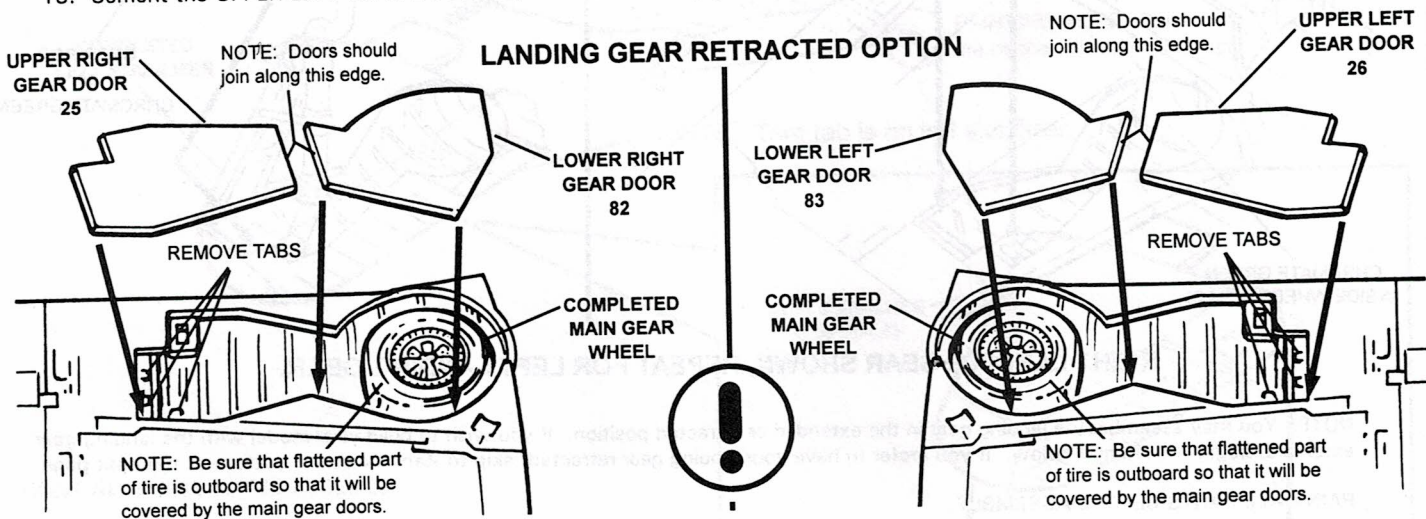
1. Glue the RIGHT MAIN GEAR STRUT (27) to its slot inside the right wheel well.
2. Cement the RIGHT MAIN DRAG TRUSS (29) in place as shown in the left drawing.
3. Glue the GEAR ROD (88) in place as indicated in the right drawing.
4. Cement the LEFT MAIN GEAR STRUT (28) to its slot inside the left wheel well.
5. Glue the LEFT MAIN DRAG TRUSS (30) to the LEFT MAIN GEAR STRUT (28) and the inside of the left gear well. This would be a reverse image of what is shown in the left drawing above.
6. Cement a second GEAR ROD (88) inside the left gear well.



RIGHT LANDING GEAR SHOWN, REPEAT FOR LEFT LANDING GEAR.

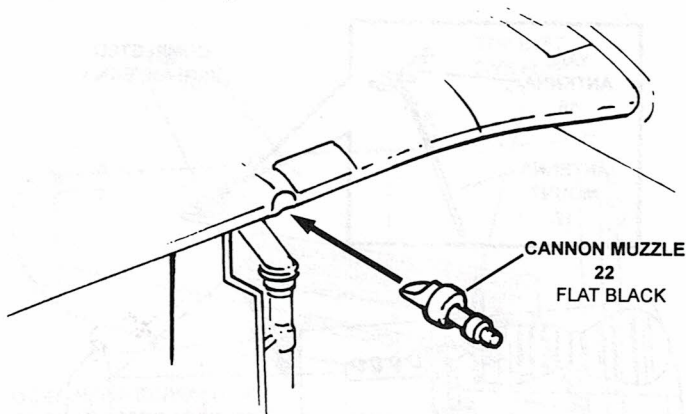
STEP 10, MAIN LANDING GEAR ASSEMBLY, CONTINUED

7. Glue a MAIN WHEEL [OUTER HALF] (23) to a MAIN WHEEL [INNER HALF] (24) to make one COMPLETED MAIN GEAR WHEEL.
8. Make a second COMPLETED MAIN GEAR WHEEL by gluing a second MAIN WHEEL [OUTER HALF] (23) to a second MAIN WHEEL [INNER HALF] (24).
9. Cement a COMPLETED MAIN GEAR WHEEL to each MAIN GEAR STRUT. Be sure that the flattened part of the tire is down and sits squarely on a flat surface.
10. Glue the LOWER RIGHT GEAR DOOR (82) to the right landing gear as shown in the top right drawing.
11. Cement the UPPER RIGHT GEAR DOOR (25) to the right landing gear.
12. Glue the LOWER LEFT GEAR DOOR (83) to the left landing gear.
13. Cement the UPPER LEFT GEAR DOOR (26) to the left landing gear.



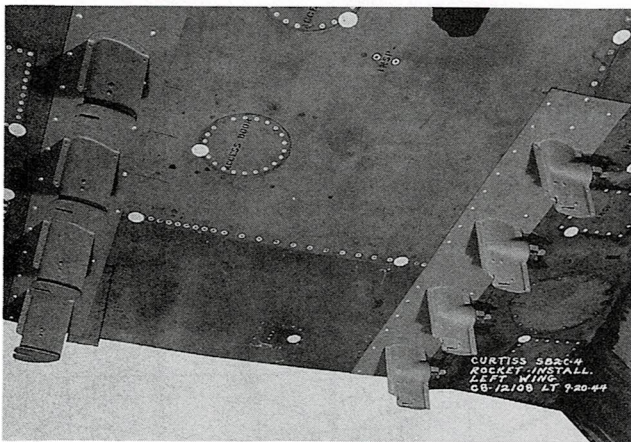
14. If you desire to build your model with the landing gear in the retracted position, begin by removing the three tabs at the outboard end of each wheel well as indicated in the drawings above.
15. Make two MAIN GEAR WHEELS by following Items 7 and 8 above.
16. Glue the COMPLETED MAIN GEAR WHEELS into the gear wells as shown. Be sure that the flattened part of the tire is outboard so that it will be covered by the main gear doors.
17. Cement the UPPER RIGHT GEAR DOOR (25) and the LOWER RIGHT GEAR DOOR (82) over the right wheel well as shown in the drawing at left. Be sure that the doors join along their edges as indicated.
18. Glue the UPPER LEFT GEAR DOOR (26) and the LOWER LEFT GEAR DOOR (83) over the left wheel well. Again, check the alignment of the doors before the glue sets.

STEP 11, WING DETAILS

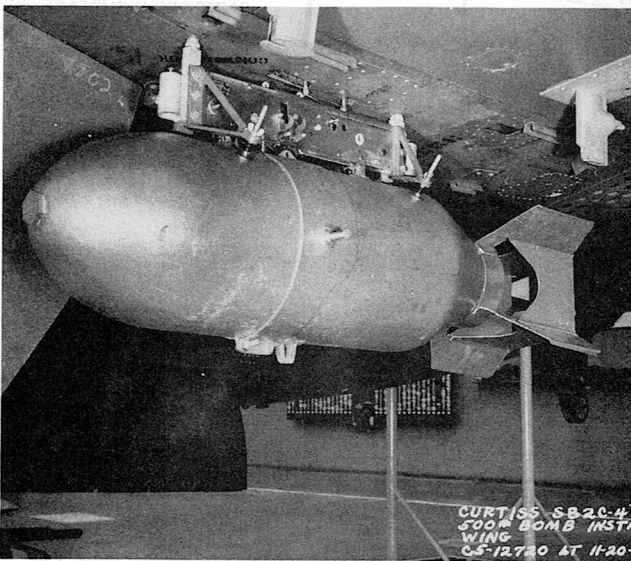


RIGHT SIDE SHOWN, REPEAT FOR LEFT SIDE.

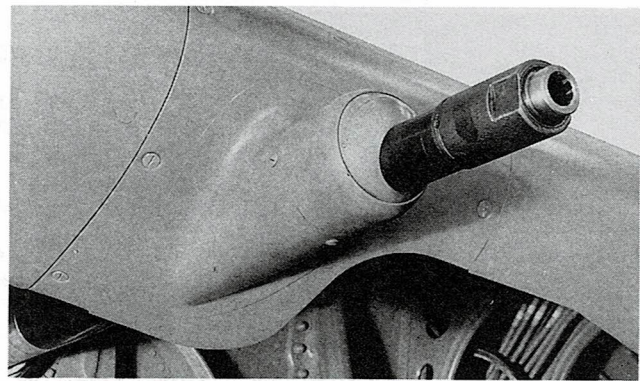
1. Glue a CANNON MUZZLE (22) to the leading edge of each wing. Make sure each muzzle lines up with the cannon barrel inside the wheel well.



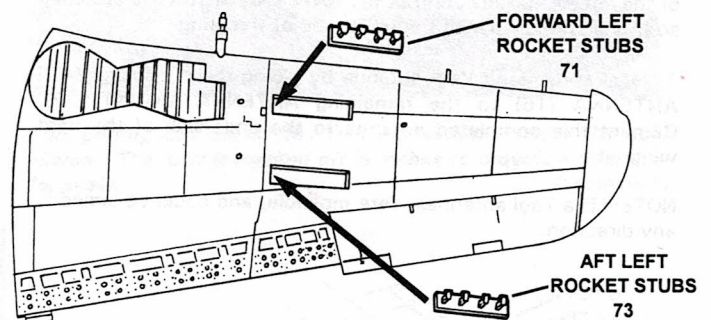
The SB2C-4 was the first version of the Helldiver to have rocket stubs under its wings. Four five-inch rockets could be carried under each wing. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)



Bombs and other stores could be carried on the bomb racks under each wing. If you built your bomb bay with the doors in the closed position, you might want to use the two bombs on these underwing racks. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)



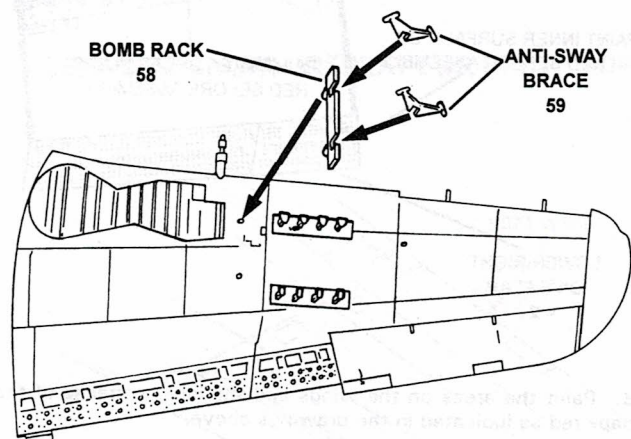
This view shows the cannon muzzle on the left wing. Note how the cannon was mounted just below the leading edge of the wing rather than directly on it. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)



LEFT SIDE SHOWN, REPEAT FOR RIGHT SIDE.

2. Cement the FORWARD LEFT ROCKET STUBS (71) and the AFT LEFT ROCKET STUBS (73) to the recessed areas in the underside of the left wing as shown in the drawing above.

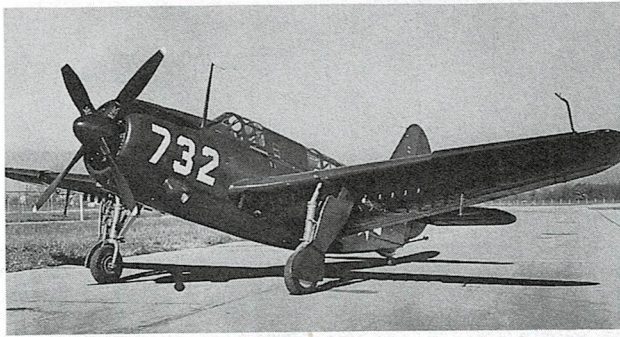
3. Glue the FORWARD RIGHT ROCKET STUBS (70) and the AFT RIGHT ROCKET STUBS (72) to the recessed areas under the right wing.



LEFT SIDE SHOWN, REPEAT FOR RIGHT SIDE.

4. If you opened up the holes in the bottom of each wing during Step 8, glue two ANTI-SWAY BRACES (59) to each of two BOMB RACKS (58).

5. Cement a COMPLETED BOMB RACK to the two locator holes under each wing.

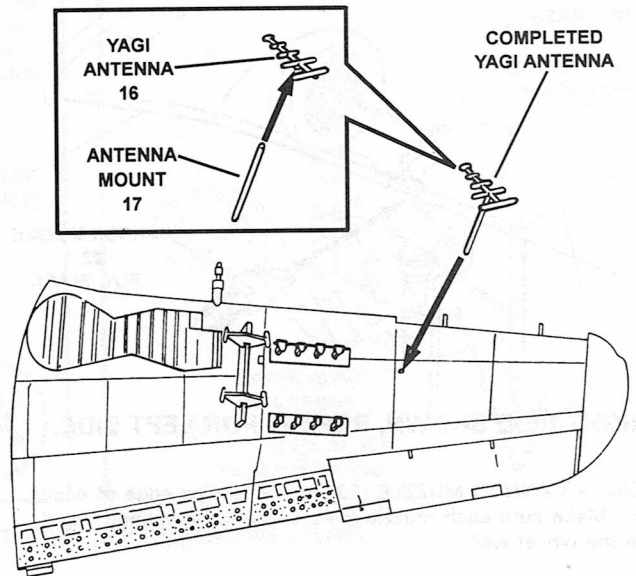


Yagi antennas, rocket launch stubs, and underwing bomb racks can be seen in this photograph of a factory fresh SB2C-4. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)

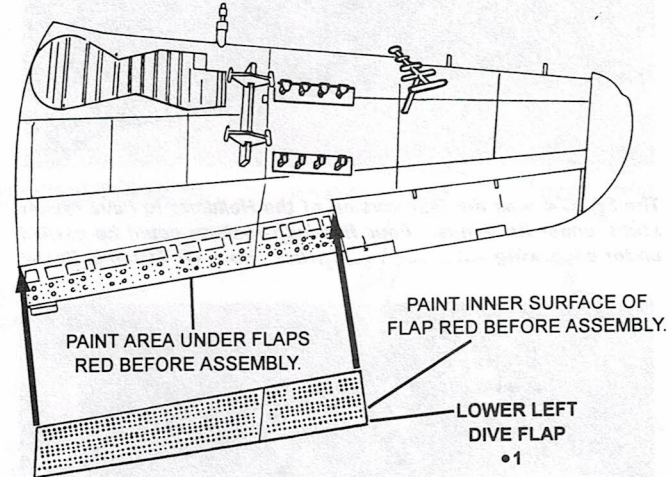
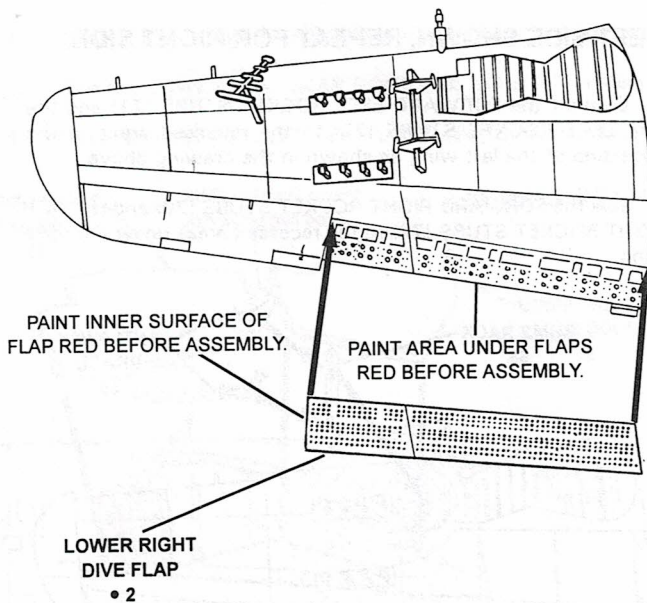
6. Glue a YAGI ANTENNA (16) to an ANTENNA MOUNT (17), then cement the COMPLETED YAGI ANTENNA to the underside of the left wing. Be sure that the ANTENNA MOUNT is attached so it is perpendicular to the underside of the wing.

7. Make a second Yagi antenna by gluing the remaining YAGI ANTENNA (16) to the remaining ANTENNA MOUNT (17). Cement this completed antenna to the underside of the right wing.

NOTE: The Yagi antennas were movable, and could be aimed in any direction.



LEFT SIDE SHOWN, REPEAT FOR RIGHT SIDE.

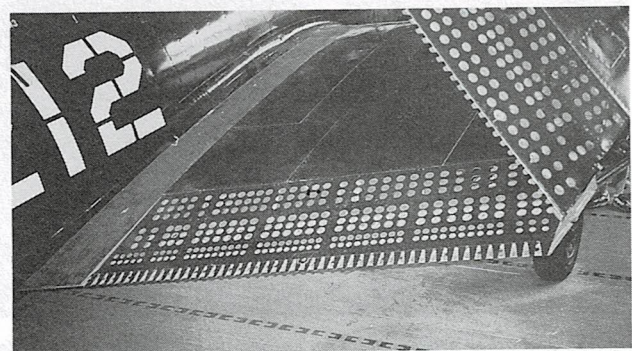


8. Paint the areas on the wings and the inner surfaces of the flaps red as indicated in the drawings above.

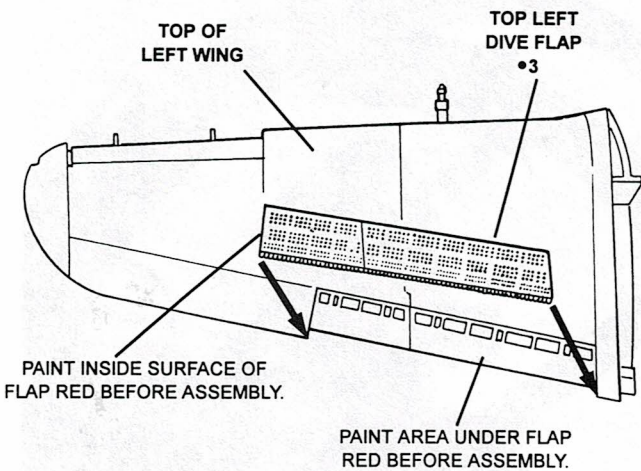
9. When the red paint has dried, glue the LOWER LEFT DIVE FLAP (•1) and the LOWER RIGHT DIVE FLAP (•2) to the underside of the appropriate wing.



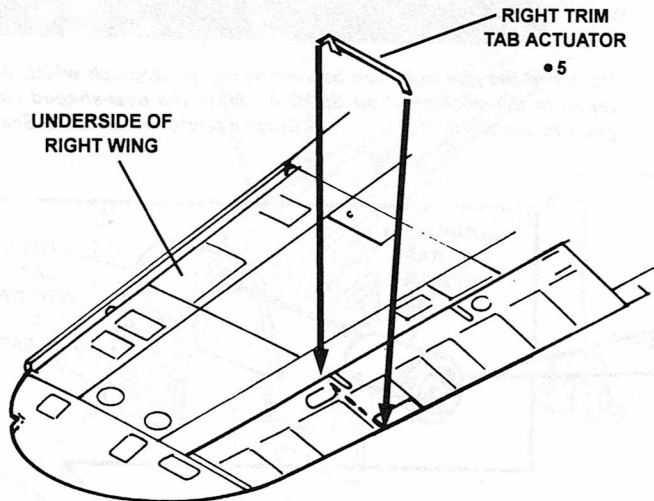
MODELING TIP: Regular modeling glue intended for plastics will not work well with the etched metal parts. A water-based white glue will prove more effective, and some modelers may prefer to use a cyanoacrylate glue for these parts.



Perforated dive flaps were introduced on late production SB2C-3 Helldivers and became standard on the SB2C-4. The top flap had a sawtooth trailing edge. (Detail & Scale photo by Bert Kinzey)



LEFT SIDE SHOWN, REPEAT FOR RIGHT SIDE.



RIGHT SIDE SHOWN, REPEAT FOR LEFT SIDE.

13. Cement the RIGHT TRIM TAB ACTUATOR (●5) to the underside of the right wing as shown in the left drawing above.
14. Glue the LEFT TRIM TAB ACTUATOR (●6) to the underside of the left wing.
15. Cement the LEFT LEADING EDGE SLAT (11) to the tabs on the leading edge of the left wing.
16. Glue the RIGHT LEADING EDGE SLAT (12) to the tabs on the leading edge of the right wing.

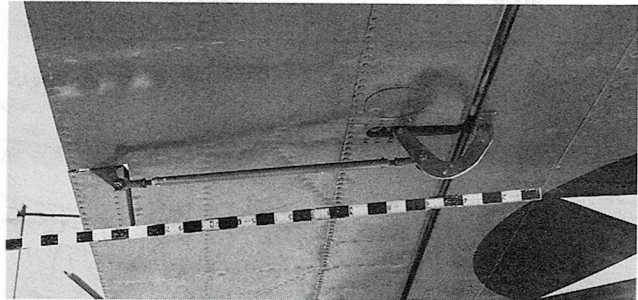


MODELING NOTE: The leading edge slats were mechanically linked to the landing gear. If you built your model with the landing gear in the retracted position, cut off the mounting tabs for the leading edge slats on each wing. Then glue the slats to the wings in the retracted position which is flush with the wing.

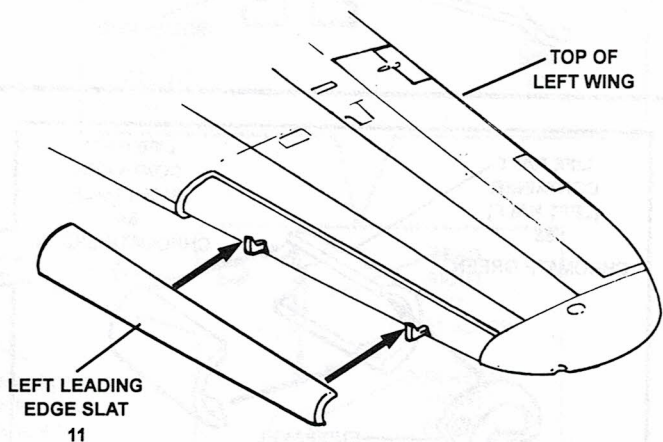
17. Cement the PITOT PROBE (14) to its locating hole near the tip of the left wing.

STEP 11, WING DETAILS, CONTINUED

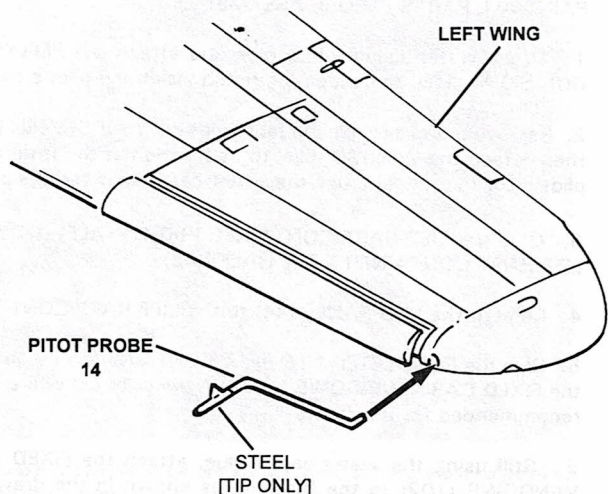
10. Paint the areas on the wings and the inner surfaces of the flaps red as indicated in the drawing to the left.
11. Glue the TOP LEFT DIVE FLAP (●3) in place on the top of the left wing.
12. Attach the TOP RIGHT DIVE FLAP (●4) to the top of the right wing.



This photograph shows the trim tab actuator under the right aileron. The ruler is marked off in inches to provide a reference for scale. (Lastovitch)



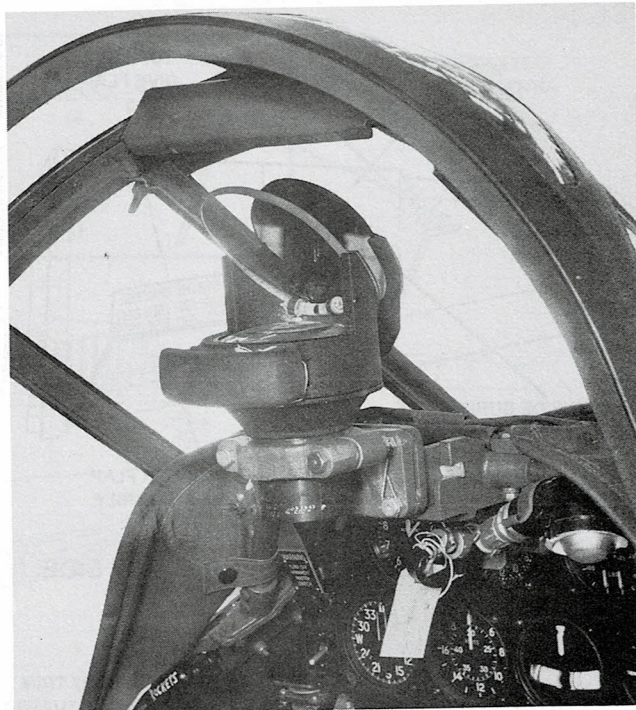
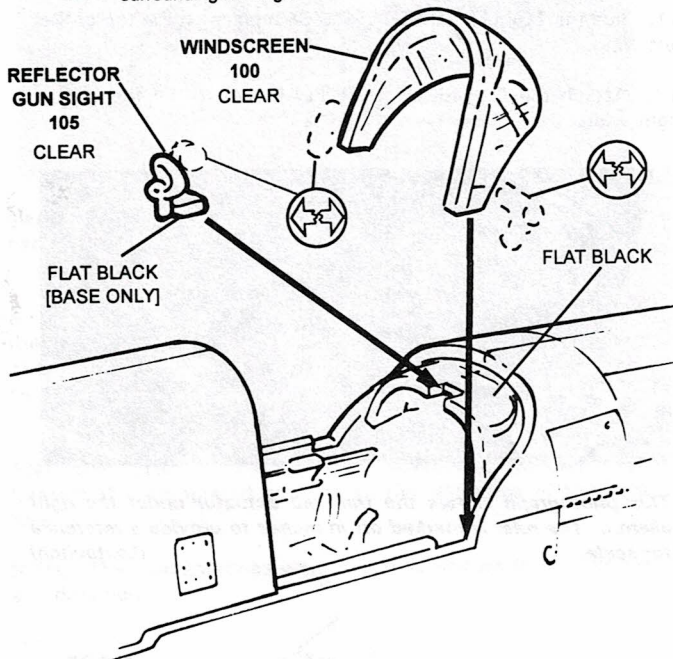
LEFT SIDE SHOWN, REPEAT FOR RIGHT SIDE.



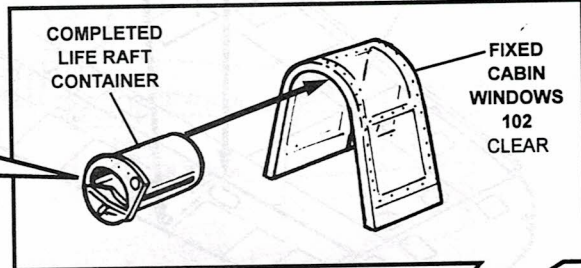
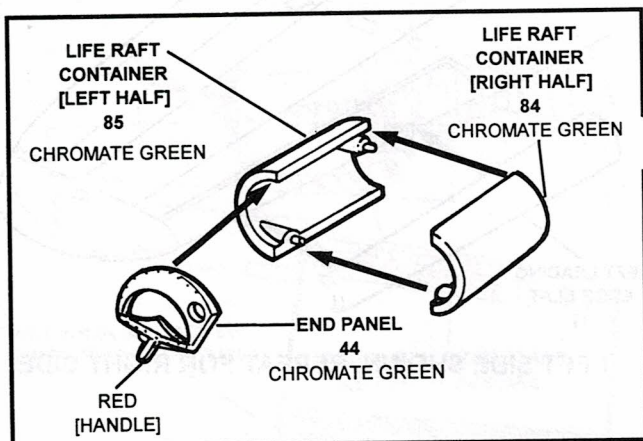
STEP 12, CABIN DETAILS



NOTE: The framework on the windscreen should be painted the same color as the surrounding fuselage.



Details of the gun sight can be seen in this photograph which was taken in the cockpit of an SB2C-4. Note the oval-shaped clear glass in the sight. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)

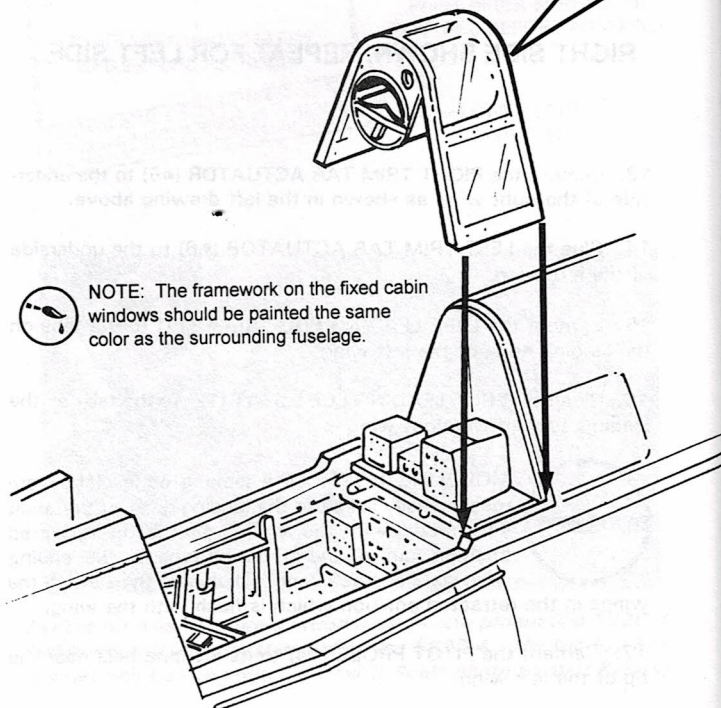


PAINT ALL PARTS BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

1. Use a water-based white glue and attach the REFLECTOR GUN SIGHT (105) to its locating notch inside the pilot's cockpit.
2. Remove the excess plastic tabs from the WINDSCREEN (100), then attach the WINDSCREEN to its location at the front of the pilot's cockpit. Again, use the water-based glue for this part.
3. Glue the LIFE RAFT CONTAINER [RIGHT HALF] (84) to the LIFE RAFT CONTAINER [LEFT HALF] (85).
4. Cement the END PANEL (44) to the LIFE RAFT CONTAINER.
5. Glue the COMPLETED LIFE RAFT CONTAINER to the inside of the FIXED CABIN WINDOWS (102). A water-based white glue is recommended for this item.
6. Still using the water-based glue, attach the FIXED CABIN WINDOWS (102) to the fuselage as shown in the drawing at right.



NOTE: The framework on the fixed cabin windows should be painted the same color as the surrounding fuselage.



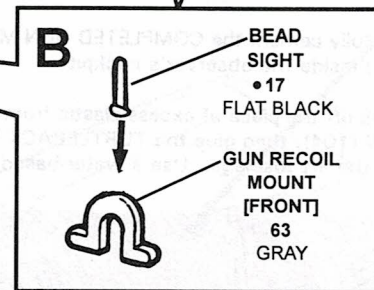
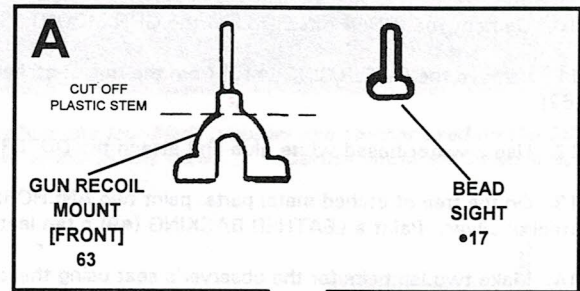
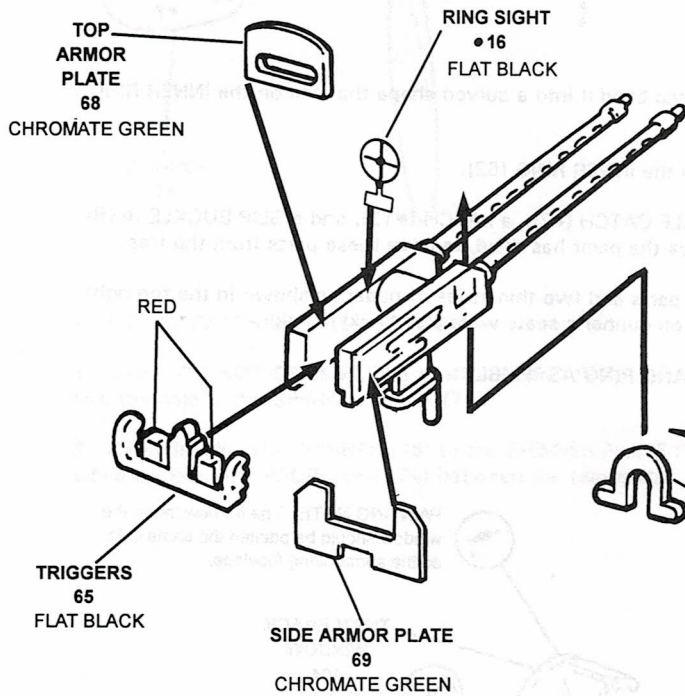
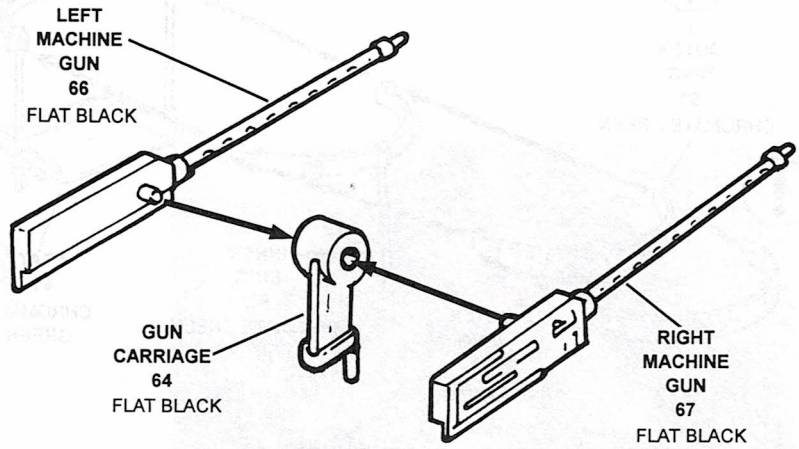
STEP 13, FLEXIBLE GUN MOUNT

PAINT ALL PARTS BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

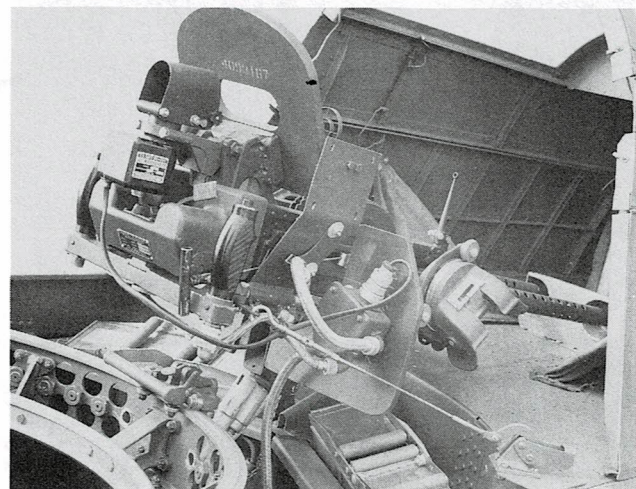
1. Cement the LEFT MACHINE GUN (66) and the RIGHT MACHINE GUN (67) to the GUN CARRIAGE (64).



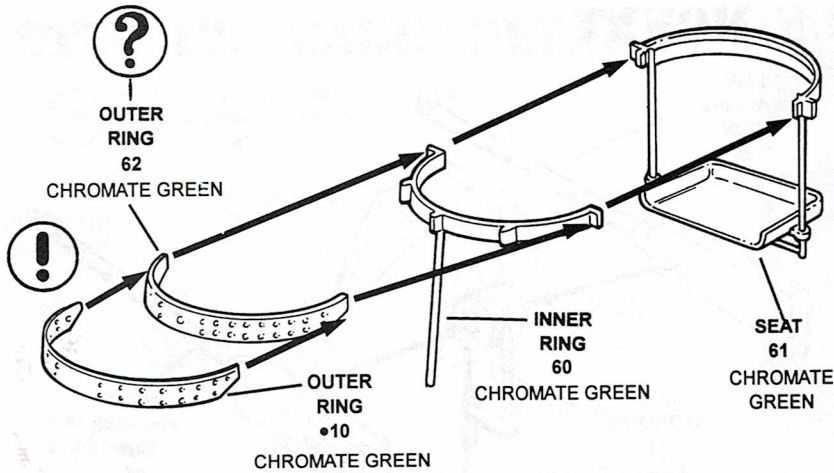
PAINTING TIP: Dry brush a little steel colored paint over each machine gun to represent a gunmetal effect.



2. Refer to detail drawing A and cut off the plastic stem on the GUN RECOIL MOUNT [FRONT] (63).
3. Remove the BEAD SIGHT (•17) from the tree of etched metal parts, and bend the tab 90 degrees as shown in detail drawing A.
4. Glue the BEAD SIGHT (•17) to the top of the GUN RECOIL MOUNT [FRONT] (63) as shown in detail drawing B.
5. Cement the COMPLETED GUN RECOIL MOUNT [FRONT] to the machine guns as illustrated in the drawing above.
6. Glue the TOP ARMOR PLATE (68) and the SIDE ARMOR PLATE (69) to the machine gun assembly.
7. Cement the TRIGGERS (65) to the end of the machine guns.
8. Use a water-based white glue to attach the RING SIGHT (•16) to the top of the machine gun assembly between the two guns.



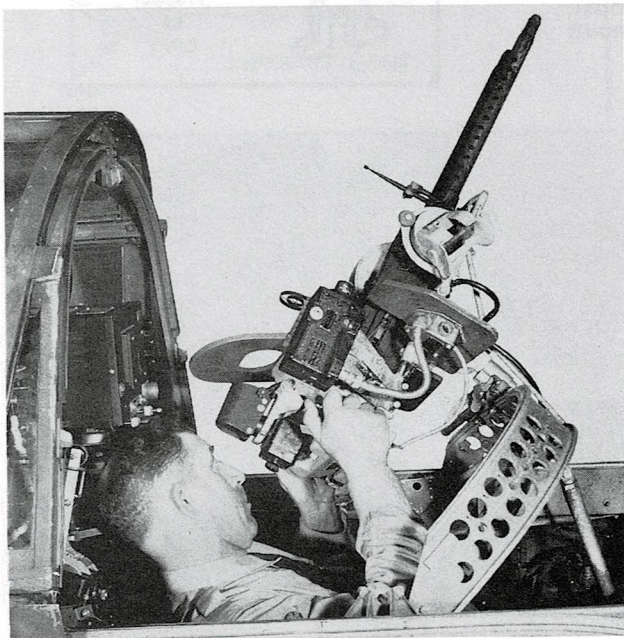
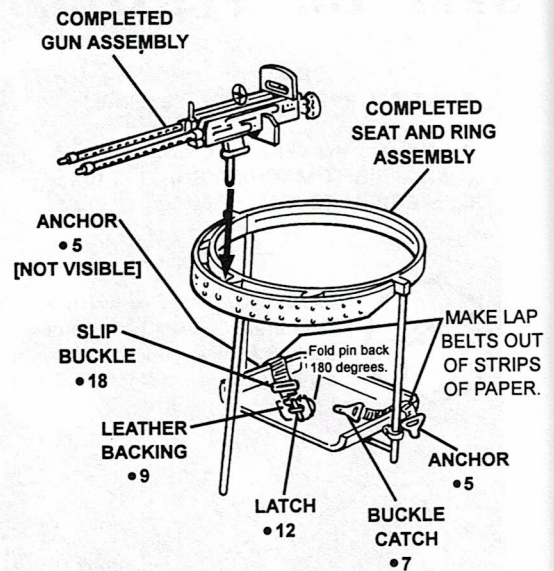
The flexible machine guns are shown here in their stowed position beneath the turtleback. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)



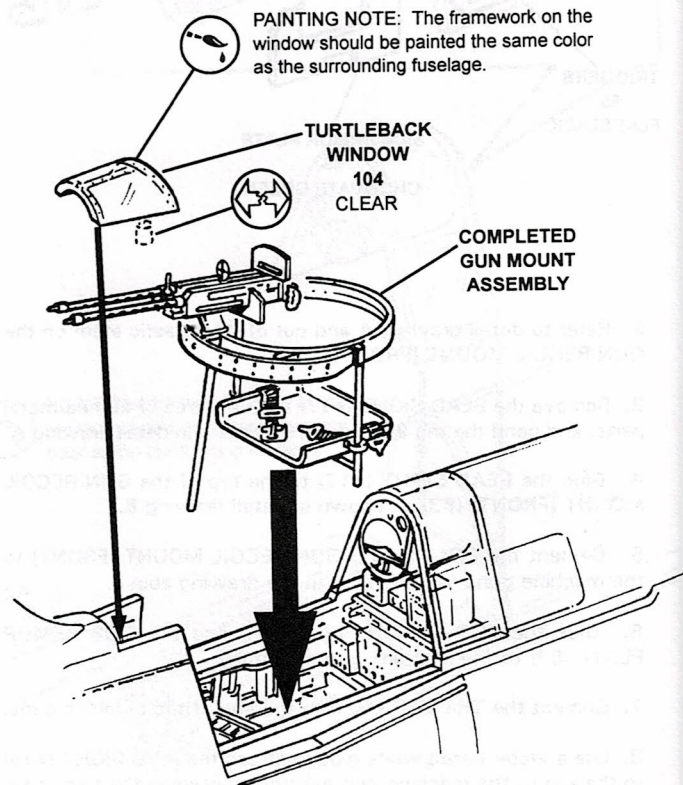
STEP 13, FLEXIBLE GUN MOUNT, CONTINUED

9. Glue the GUN MOUNT (60) to the SEAT (61).
10. Cement the INNER RING (62) to the GUN MOUNT (60).
11. Remove the OUTER RING (●10) from the tree of etched metal parts, and bend it into a curved shape that fits on the INNER RING (62).
12. Use a water-based white glue and attach the OUTER RING (●10) to the INNER RING (62).
13. On the tree of etched metal parts, paint two ANCHORS (●5), a BUCKLE CATCH (●7), a LATCH (●12), and a SLIP BUCKLE (●18) steel or silver. Paint a LEATHER BACKING (●9) a tan leather color. Once the paint has dried, remove these parts from the tree.
14. Make two lap belts for the observer's seat using these etched metal parts and two thin strips of paper as shown in the top right drawing. Paint the paper off-white or very light gray. Some belts used on gunner's seats were also khaki in color.
15. Glue the COMPLETED GUN ASSEMBLY to the COMPLETED SEAT AND RING ASSEMBLY.
16. Carefully cement the COMPLETED GUN MOUNT ASSEMBLY into place inside the observer's cockpit.

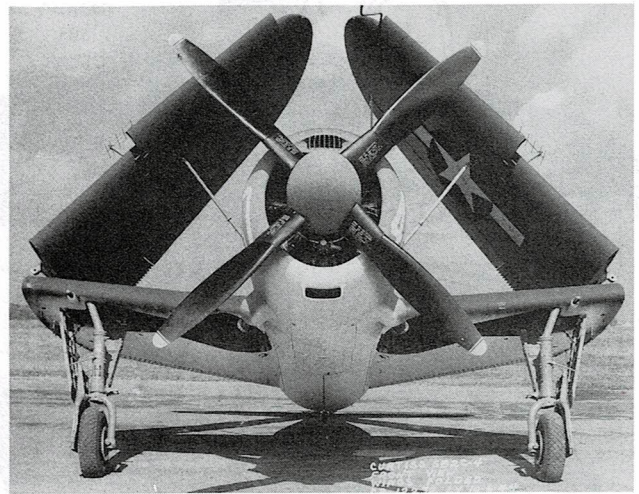
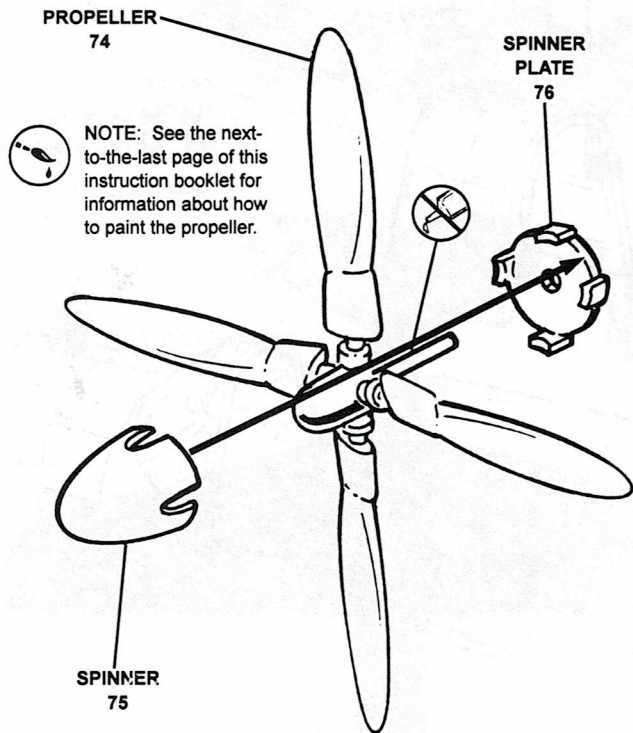
11. Break off the piece of excess plastic from the TURTLEBACK WINDOW (104), then glue the TURTLEBACK WINDOW (104) in place on the aft fuselage. Use a water-based glue for this part.



The completed flexible gun assembly is shown here in an SB2C-4. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)



STEP 14, PROPELLER & COWLING ASSEMBLY

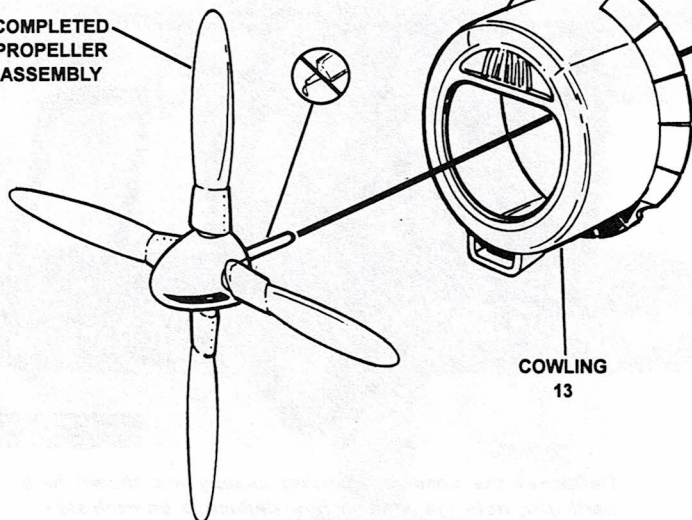


Details of the four-blade propeller and spinner used on the SB2C-4 are visible in this view. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)

PAINT ALL PARTS BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

1. Slide, **DO NOT CEMENT**, the shaft on the PROPELLER (74) into the hole in the SPINNER PLATE (76).
2. Carefully glue the SPINNER (75) to the SPINNER PLATE (76) while trapping the PROPELLER (74) between the two parts.

COMPLETED
PROPELLER
ASSEMBLY



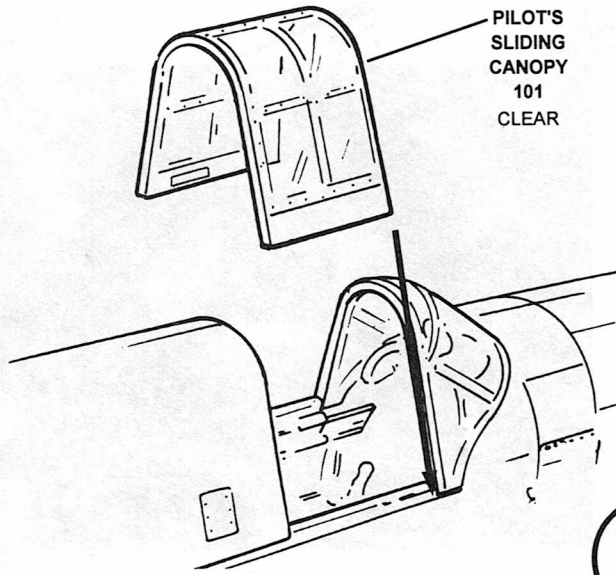
COWLING
13

ANTENNA
MAST
15

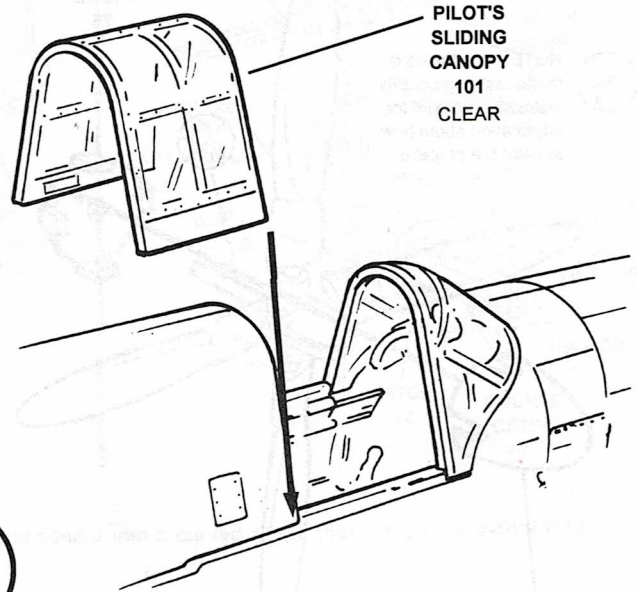
3. Glue the COWLING (13) to the front of the forward fuselage.
4. Slide, **DO NOT CEMENT**, the shaft on the COMPLETED PROPELLER ASSEMBLY into the hole on the front of the engine.
5. Cement the ANTENNA MAST (15) to the top left side of the forward fuselage.

STEP 15, SLIDING CANOPIES

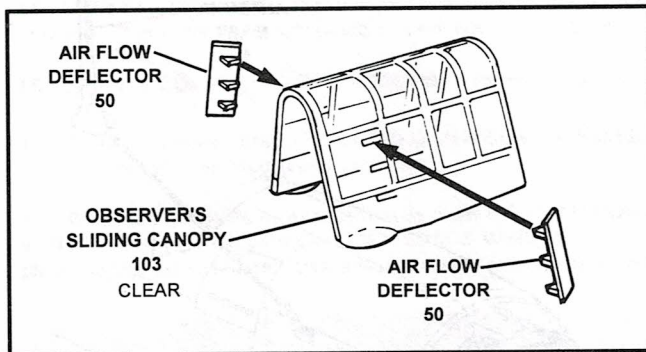
CLOSED POSITION



OPEN POSITION

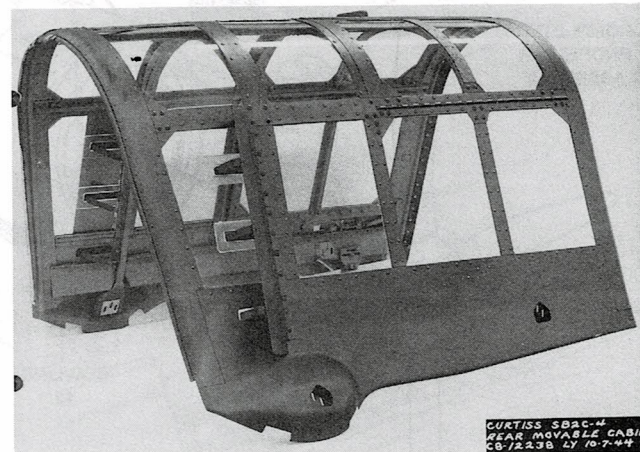
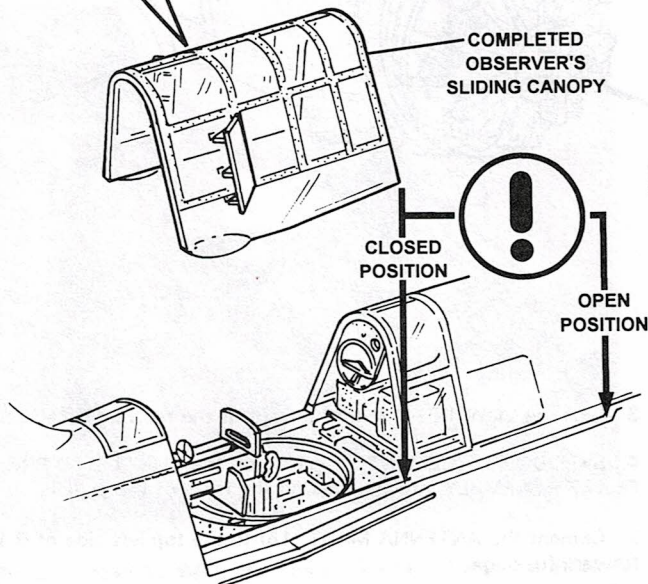


PAINTING NOTE: The framework on both the pilot's and the observer's sliding canopies should be painted the same color as the surrounding fuselage. The two air flow deflectors should also be painted the same color.



PAINT ALL PARTS BEFORE ASSEMBLY.

1. Using a water-based white glue, attach the PILOT'S SLIDING CANOPY (101) to the fuselage in the closed position, as shown in the top left drawing, or in the open position as illustrated above.
2. Still using the water-based white glue, attach two AIR FLOW DEFLECTORS (50) to the OBSERVER'S SLIDING CANOPY (103).
3. Decide whether you want to place the COMPLETED OBSERVER'S SLIDING CANOPY in the closed position or the open position, then attach it to the fuselage using water-based glue.

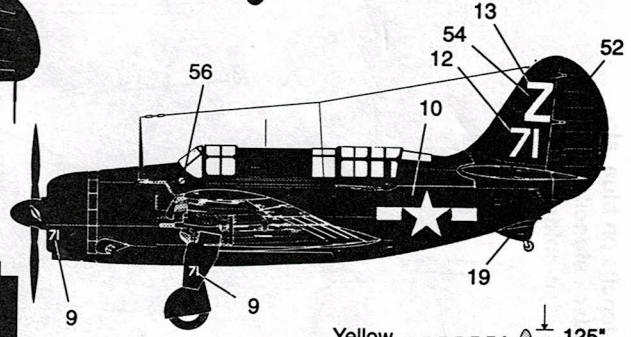
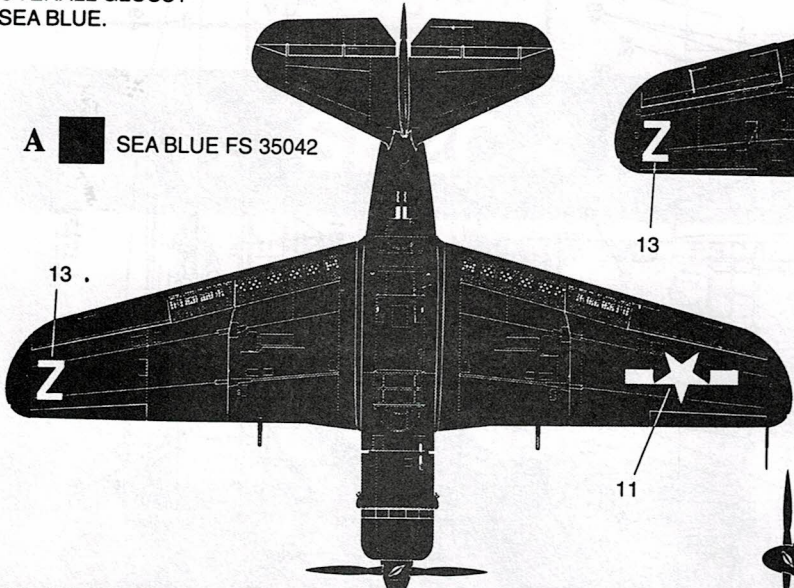
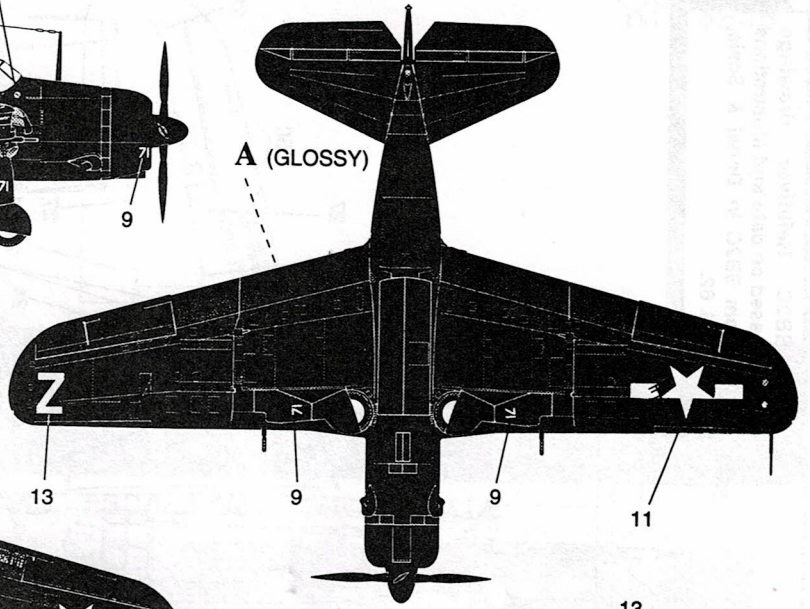
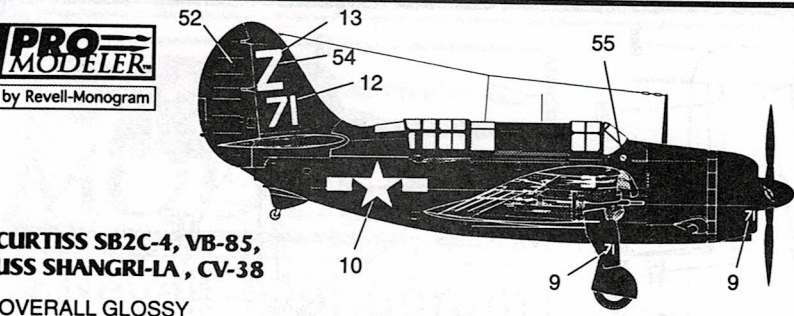


Details of the observer's sliding canopy are shown here. In particular, note the open air flow deflectors on each side. (Curtiss photo via Detail & Scale)

**CURTISS SB2C-4, VB-85,
USS SHANGRI-LA, CV-38**


OVERALL GLOSSY
SEA BLUE.

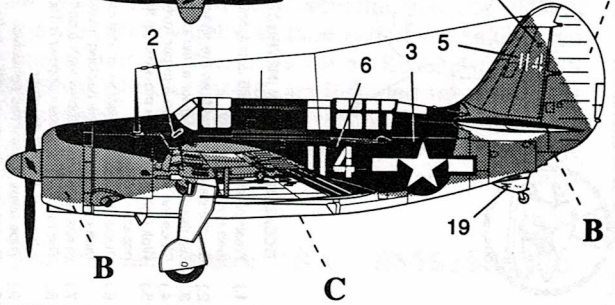
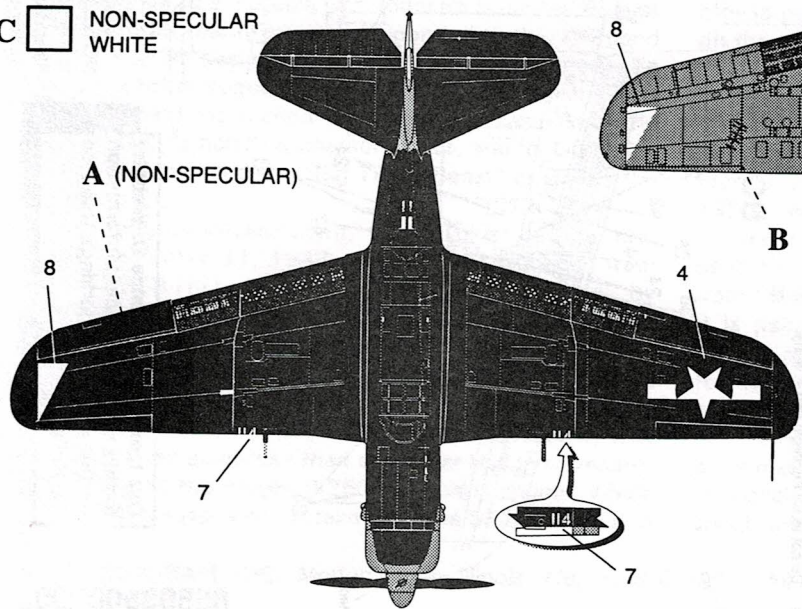
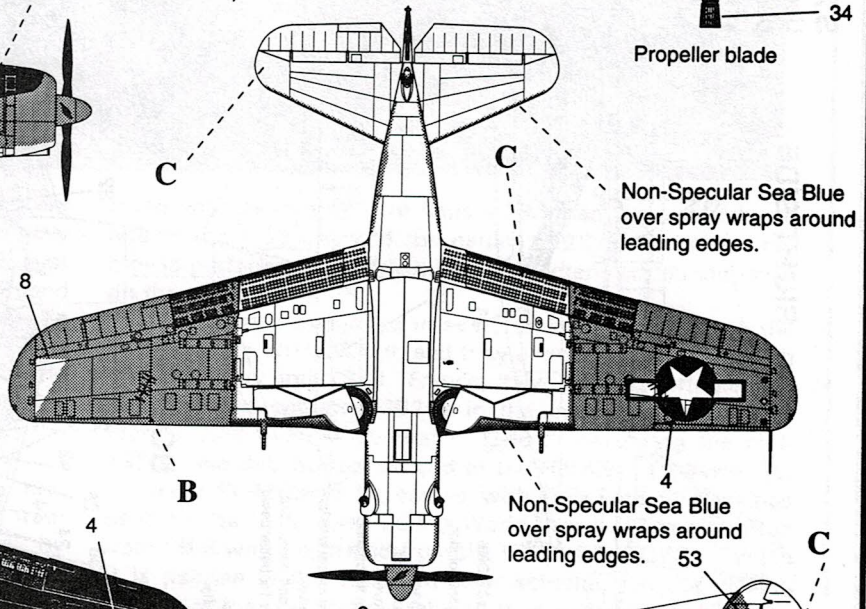
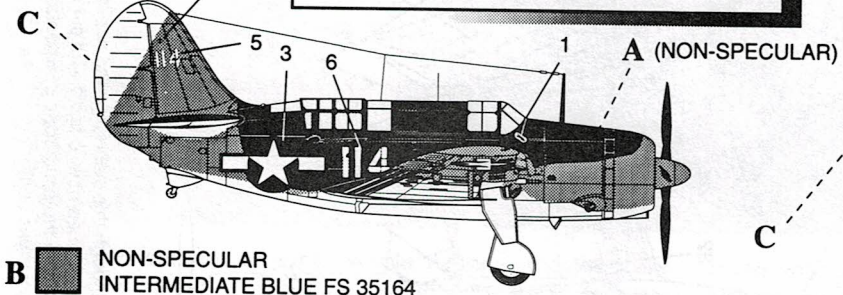
A  SEA BLUE FS 35042



**CURTISS SB2C-4, VB-3,
USS YORKTOWN, CV-10**
TRI-COLOR SCHEME.

Decal markings for Helldivers from Marine Squadron VMDS 224, and Navy VB-84 (Bunker Hill), and VB-83 (Essex) are available on the ProModeler Decal Set #1018.

Yellow ----- .125"
FS 13538
Flat black -----
 34
Propeller blade

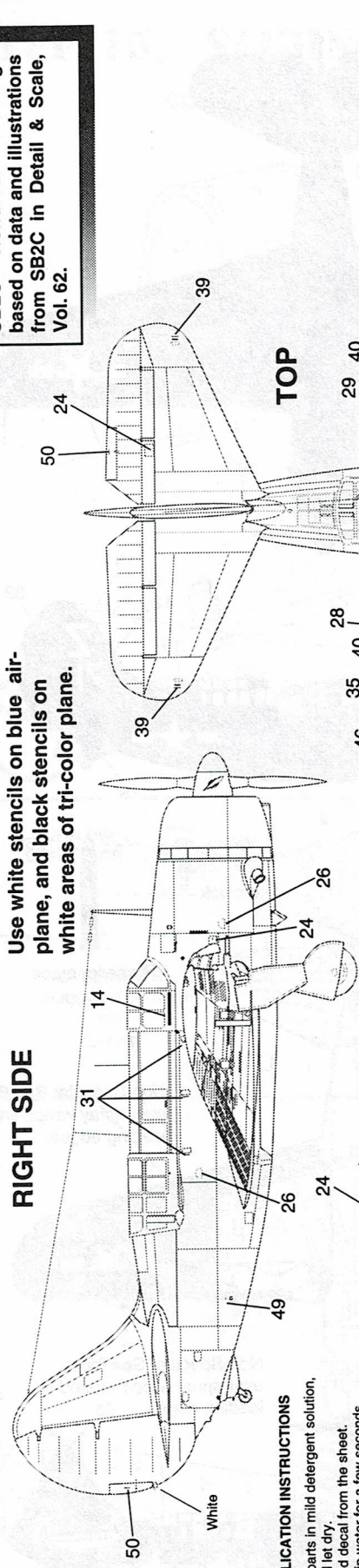


SB2C Helldiver drawings based on data and illustrations from SB2C in Detail & Scale, Vol. 62.

STENCIL LOCATIONS
Use white stencils on blue airplane, and black stencils on white areas of tri-color plane.



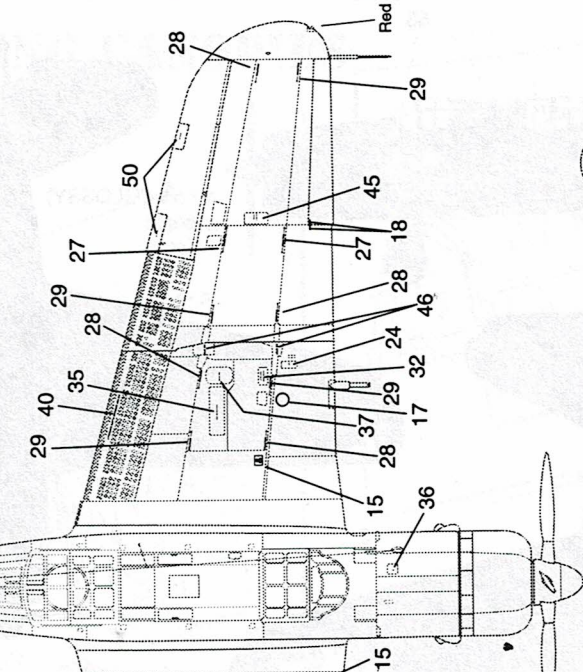
RIGHT SIDE



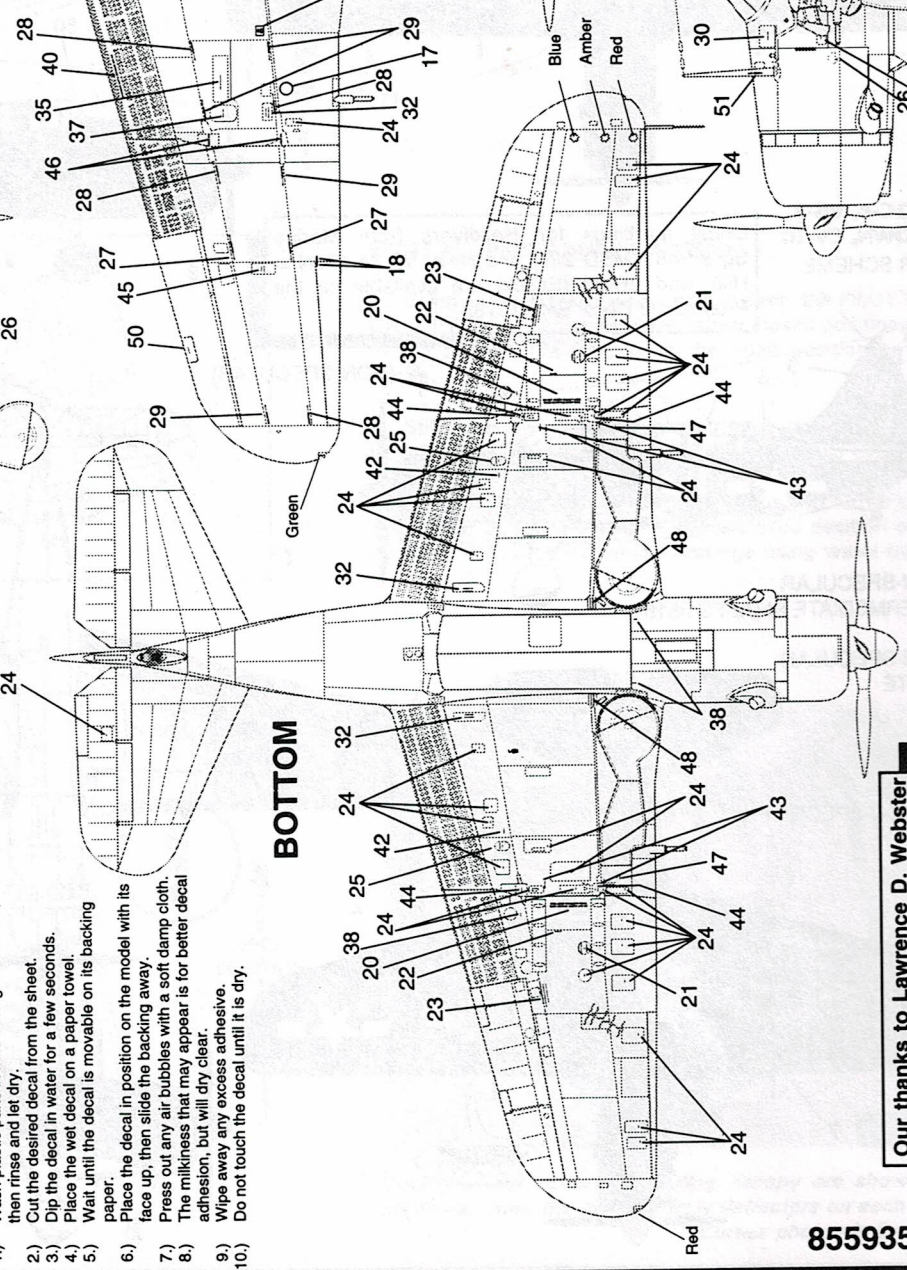
DECAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- 1.) Wash plastic parts in mild detergent solution, then rinse and let dry.
- 2.) Cut the desired decal from the sheet.
- 3.) Dip the decal in water for a few seconds.
- 4.) Place the wet decal on a paper towel.
- 5.) Wait until the decal is movable on its backing paper.
- 6.) Place the decal in position on the model with its face up, then slide the backing away.
- 7.) Press out any air bubbles with a soft damp cloth.
- 8.) The milkiness that may appear is for better decal adhesion, but will dry clear.
- 9.) Wipe away any excess adhesive.
- 10.) Do not touch the decal until it is dry.

TOP



BOTTOM



Our thanks to Lawrence D. Webster for his help in providing information on the extensive markings used on the Helldiver

NOTE: Although this stenciling was applied to the aircraft when new, often it was overpainted after delivery to the squadrons or when a new color scheme was applied.

LEFT SIDE

