

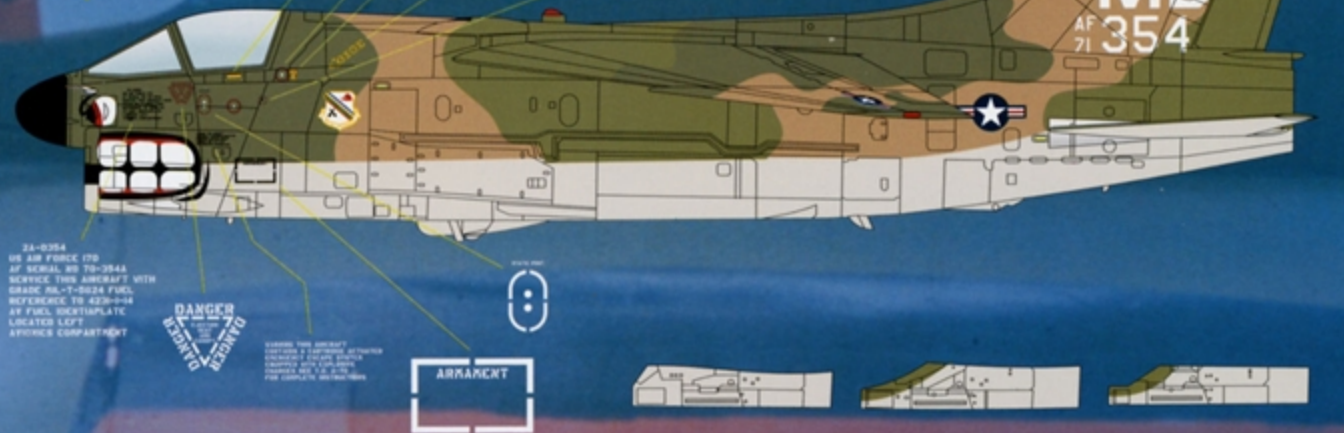
A-7 MOLAR A-7 MARAUDER

All of our decals are precisely printed by Micro-Sat. Using Micro-Sat and Micro-Sat will give you the best results when used with our decals.

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1/48th Hasegawa A-7D
1/32nd Trumpeter A-7D
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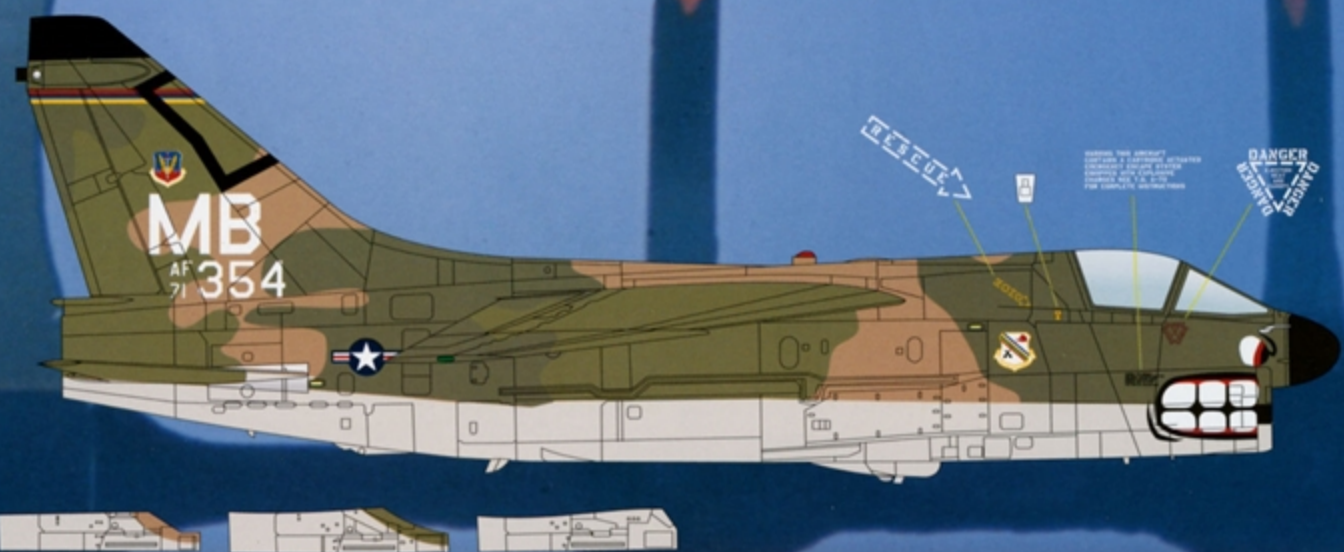
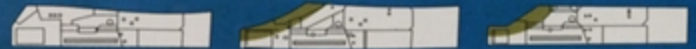
A-7D Corsair II, S/N 71-0354
354th TFW, Korat RTAFB
Linebacker II
1 June, 1973



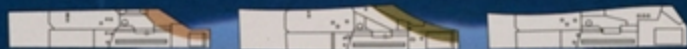
71-0354
US AIR FORCE 170
AF SERIAL NO 70-3544
SERVICE TAG AIRCRAFT WITH
ORANGE MULTI-COLOR FUEL
REFERENCE TO 420-1-14
AF FUEL IDENTIFICATION
LOCATED LEFT
APPROX COMPARTMENT



WARNING: THIS AIRCRAFT
CONTAINS A TOXIC SUBSTANCE
EXPOSED TO THIS SUBSTANCE
MAY BE HARMFUL TO YOUR
HEALTH. SEE THE SAFETY
DATA SHEET FOR COMPLETE
INSTRUCTIONS.



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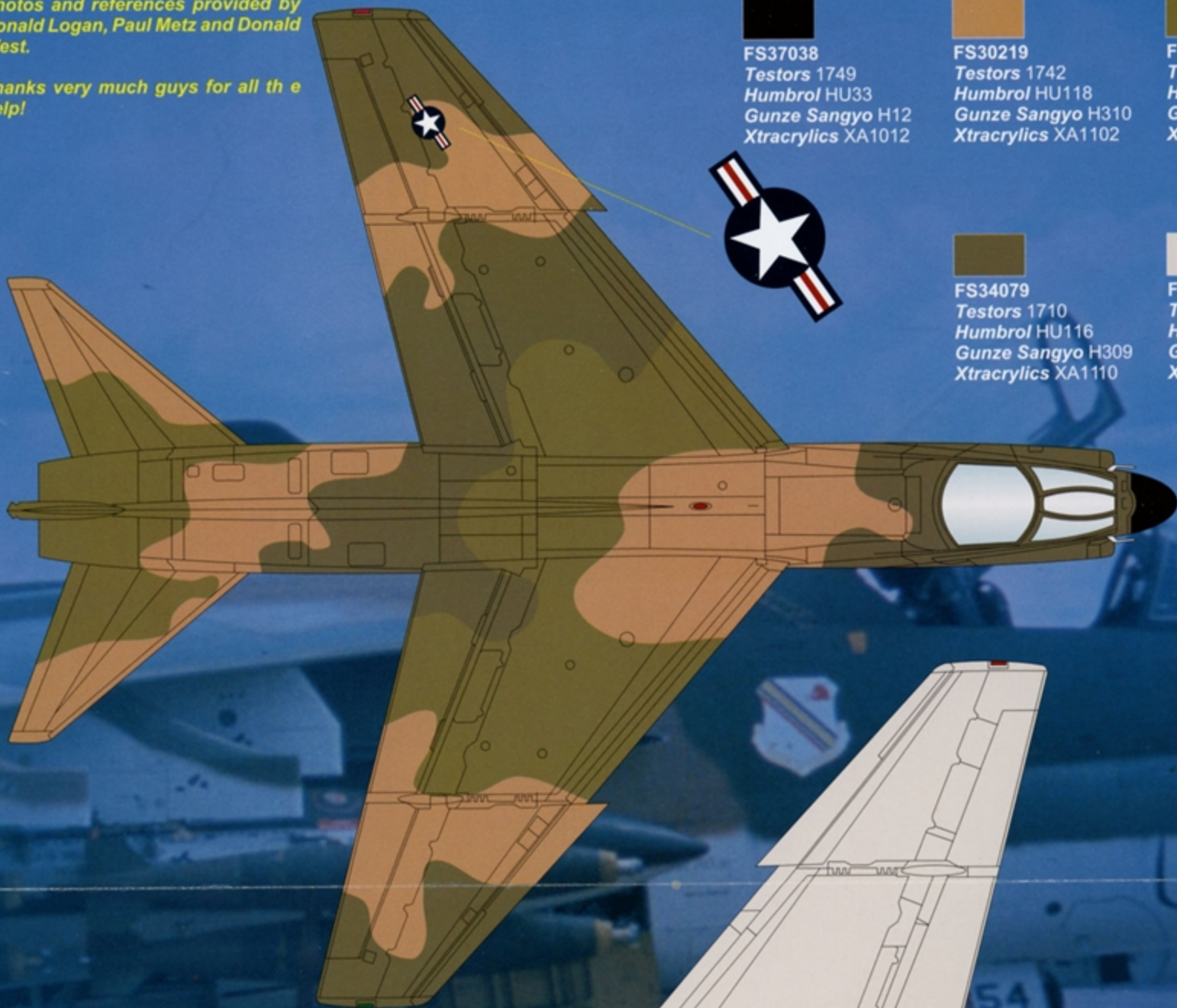


My name is Don West, Master Sergeant, USAF Retired. In early '73 I was TDY to Korat RTAFB supporting of the A-7D's assigned to the 355 & 354 TFW, for LINE BACKER II. I was the Supervisor of the Corrosion Control Shop (at the tender age of 22). One fine and steamy morning, as they all were, I was approached by a young A-7 pilot with drawing of some nose art for the Sqn. Commanders' aircraft. Let me interject that the permanent party Korat fighters included herds of F-4 Echo's and F-105's all sporting nasty, macho sharks teeth and I guess the A-7 drivers wanted to hang with the big boys. That being said I took one look at his drawing, of which he was terribly proud, and I pointedly asked him if he and his buddies had already got a real early morning start on the O' Club Happy Hour. I was a veteran of many a nose art creations and this was, in my estimation, the most idiotic, ludicrous, non-fear instilling abortion I'd ever laid eyes on. It looked like fluffy white curtains hung over a red hole with blue lips. And I let him know as much while also letting him know what he could do with his design. The poor young pilot was being bounced back and forth between Mom and Dad--my strong opinion vs the Sqn. Commanders wishes. After copious amounts of pleading, outright begging on his part (and the ole' reliable--two cases of Oly, still cold of course), I armed myself with a case of spray bombs, masking tape and headed out for the Commanders' bird. Now I know what DiVinci felt like when he was trying to knock out the Sistine Chapel.

The constant stream of ooglers, one of which was our young gopher pilot, certainly didn't help me work any quicker. The snide remarks from onlookers were many, varied and downright embarrassing for me. The things we do for freedom, liberty, the American Way---and free beer! Finally, in the late afternoon, I stood back to (try and) admire my art work---yup, just what I thought--white, fluffy curtains over a red hole with blue lips. Well, truthfully, and I'm being very kind, the bird looked like Walt Disney's "Goofy" and the radome was a perfect cartoon nose. Now for the coupe-de-gras--the Commander soon showed up with many young pilots in tow, to include of course his young project coordinator. One look at the boss's face and it was all too painfully clear--and I'm thinking to myself "Captain, I told you it would look like a barrel of smashed a**holes". Yup, this had been a career limiting move for him. The entourage was snickering and, in some cases, downright laughing their asses off. The Boss stared for some minutes (the drum roll) --not happy (definitely not happy), not sad, kinda shocked. I think he almost lost his composure for a second. Just as quickly he snapped to, did an about face towards our young coordinator and with that firm, non-smiling, commander stuff he told our man that this "creation" would be gone from his airplane by the close of this duty day---so it took me five minutes to paint over my eight hour creation. And that, gentlemen, is the rest of sordid details as I saw them that fine day.

Photos and references provided by Donald Logan, Paul Metz and Donald West.

Thanks very much guys for all the help!



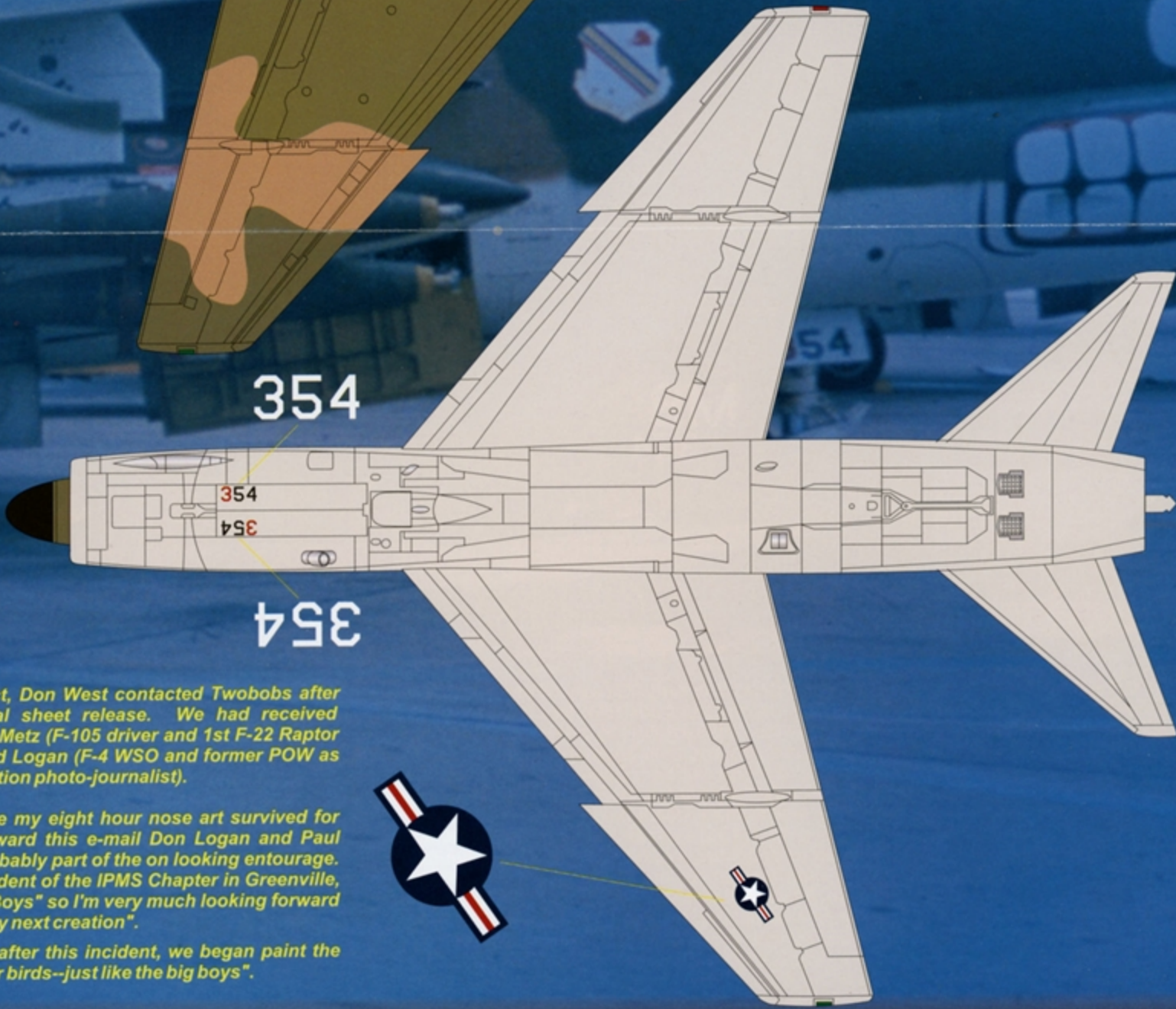
FS37038
Testors 1749
Humbrol HU33
Gunze Sangyo H12
Xtracrylics XA1012

FS30219
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Xtracrylics XA1102

FS34102
Testors 1713
Humbrol HU117
Gunze Sangyo H303
Xtracrylics XA1116

FS34079
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Humbrol HU116
Gunze Sangyo H309
Xtracrylics XA1110

FS36622
Testors 4766
Humbrol HU28
Gunze Sangyo H311
Xtracrylics XA1140



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40 years after the fact, Don West contacted Twobobs after hearing of this decal sheet release. We had received references from Paul Metz (F-105 driver and 1st F-22 Raptor Test Pilot) and Donald Logan (F-4 WSO and former POW as well as renowned aviation photo-journalist).

"It's really cool to see my eight hour nose art survived for posterity. Please forward this e-mail Don Logan and Paul Metz as they were probably part of the on looking entourage. Incidentally, I'm president of the IPMS Chapter in Greenville, SC, "The Greenville Boys" so I'm very much looking forward to your decal set for my next creation".

"By the way, shortly after this incident, we began paint the shark's teeth on all our birds--just like the big boys".

Twobobs' goal is to provide you with the most thoroughly researched decals that money can buy. We go beyond using traditional reference resources and many times speak with the actual aircrews and maintainers of our subject matter. Being modelers ourselves, we understand that there is no substitute for this painstaking research and we are proud to offer, what we feel, are the best decals on the market. If you have any subject matter that you feel should be the next Twobobs creation, let us know. We'll be happy to listen to any and all customer input.