

Northrop M2-F2 Lifting body

1/72 scale resin model kit

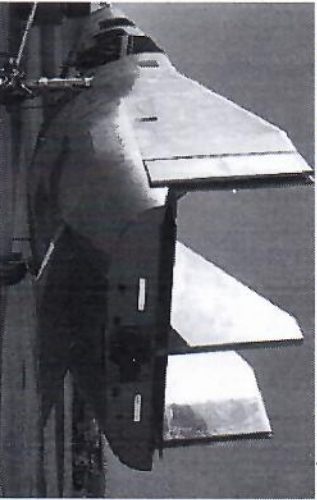
#AA-2015

In 1957, NASA had investigated the problems associated with re-entry from space of missile nose cone. Engineers conceived the lifting body idea that by modifying a cone shape, aerodynamic lift could be produced to fly back from space rather than plunge to the earth. This study led to the design known as the M-2, a "modified half-cone, rounded on bottom and flat on top, with twin tail-fins. This configuration allowed lifting body to be landing on a runway rather than parachuting into the ocean. In 1962, NASA built the first lifting prototype, the unpowered M2-F1. With the success of M2-F1 program, NASA signed contract to Northrop to build the M2-F2. The first glide flight was tested in 1966. The following flights had been unqualified success until the 16th flight at Edwards AFB, a control accident took place on landing that resulted in crash and pilot injuries. Northrop disassembled the M2-F2 and repaired to service as the M2-F3. In 1970, U. S. Air Force joined the program. The Air Force pilot tested several powered flights and made the first supersonic flight in 1971. Over a year later, M2-F3 was completed 27 flights and then retired at the end of 1972.

Specifications:

Wingspan- 10ft.
 Length- 22ft.
 Power- XLR-11 four-chambers rocket engine x1
 Crew- 1
 Max speed- Mach 1.6

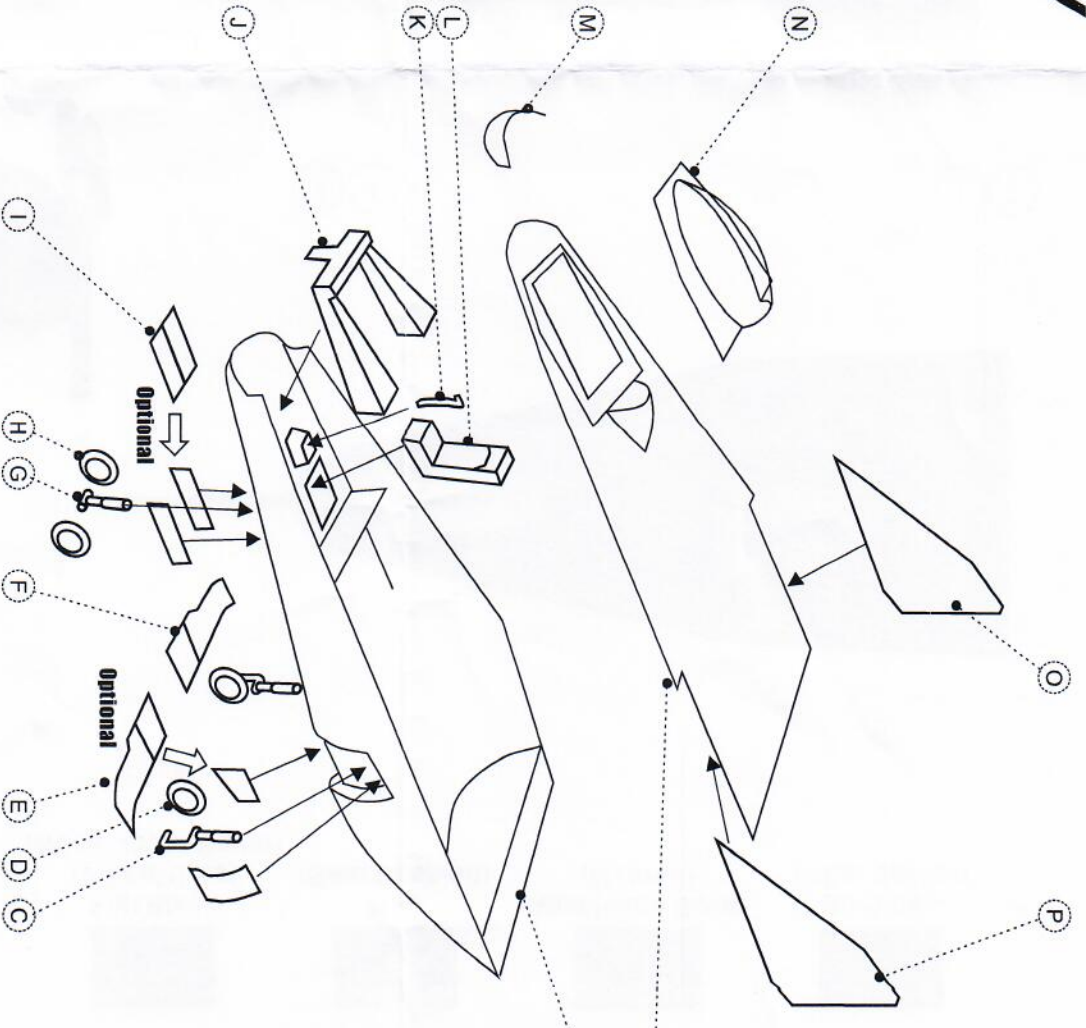
The M2-F3 was fitted with central vertical fin to improve yaw control.



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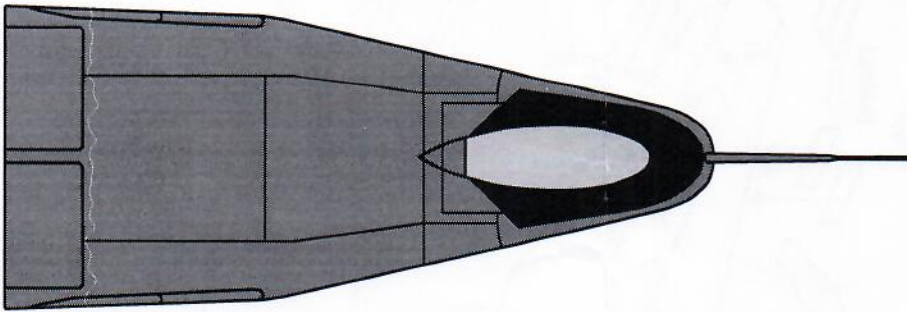
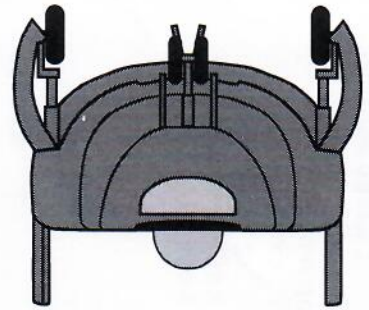
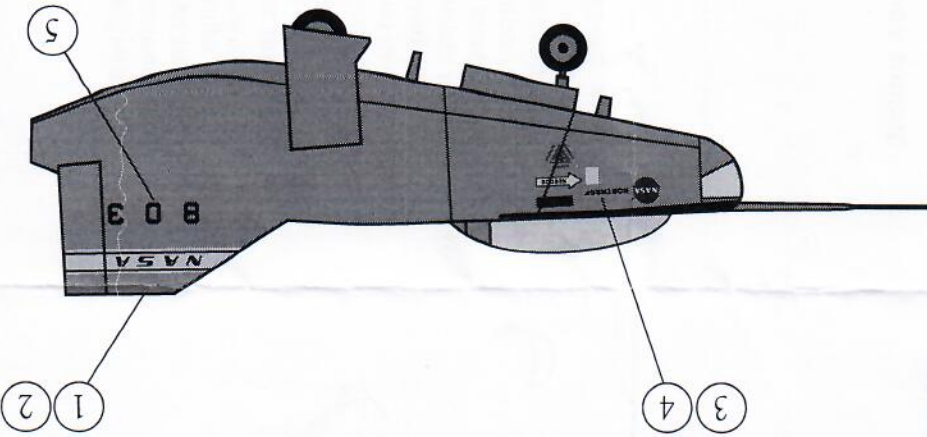
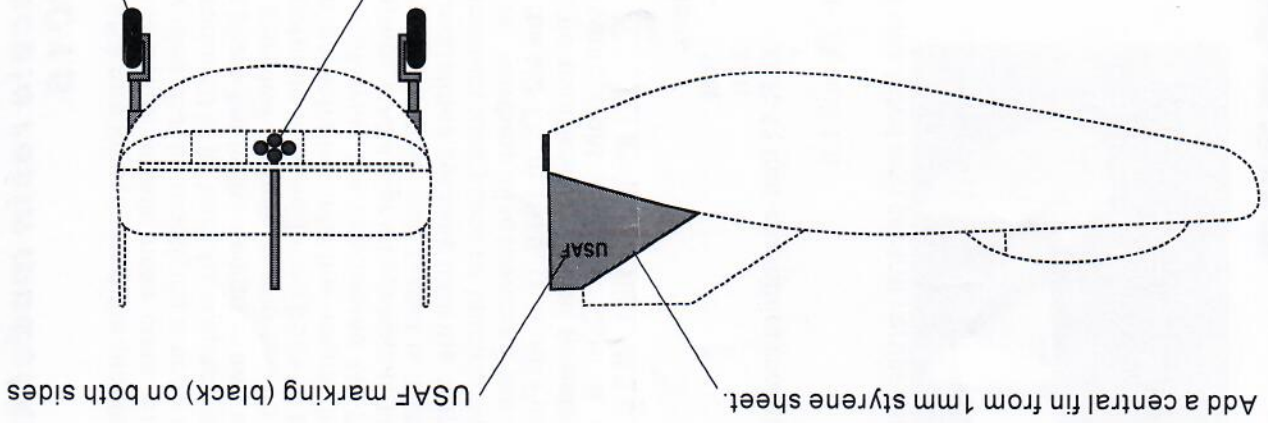
CRAFTSWORK

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- (A) Upper fuselage x 1
- (B) Lower fuselage x 1
- (C) Main gear x 2
- (D) Main wheel x 2
- (E) Port main gear door x 1
- (F) Starboard main gear door x 1
- (G) Nose gear x 1
- (H) Nose wheel x 2
- (I) Nose gear door x 1
- (J) Instrument panels x 1
- (K) Control lever x 1
- (L) Pilot seat x 1
- (M) Nose canopy x 1 (clear blister)
- (N) Canopy x 1 (clear blister)
- (O) Left fin x 1
- (P) Right fin x 1

M2-F3 Instructions



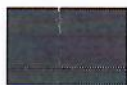
Burn Iron
(After burner)



Aluminum Silver
(Overall)



Red
(Seat Cushion)



Flat Black
(Wheel tires)
(Nose Upper Panel)



Mid Grey
(Cockpit Interior)

