

GENERAL DYNAMICS/GRUMMAN EF-111A RAVENS OF THE 42nd ELECTRONIC COMBAT SQN, 66th ELECTRONIC COMBAT WING, BASED AT RAF UPPER HEYFORD, ENGLAND, THE 42nd ECS IS UNDER JOINT CONTROL OF ITS OPERATIONAL HQ UNIT AT SEMBACH, WEST GERMANY & THE 20th TFW AT UPPER HEYFORD.

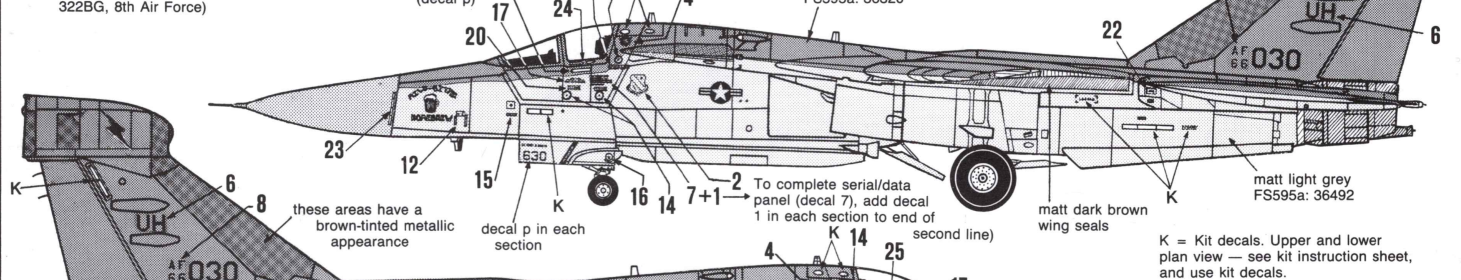
1. 66-030 'MILD-N-BITTER HOMEBREW' (named after B-26B of the 452BS, 322BG, 8th Air Force)

normal position of aircrew name (decals p)

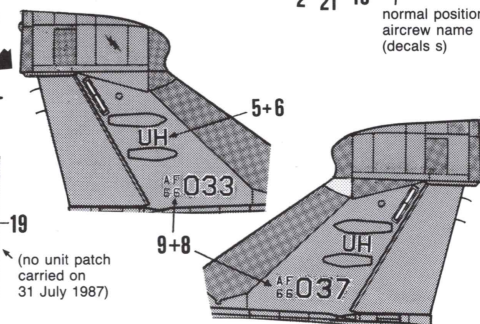
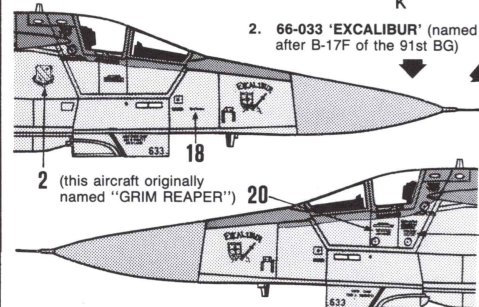
matt blue grey FS595a: 36320

This set depicts all 13 machines of the 42nd ECS as they appeared on 31 July 1987.

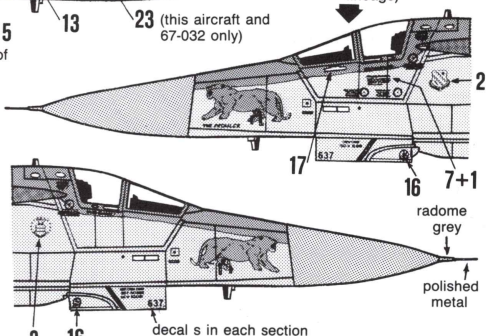
(66-030 originally named "SPARKY'S DEVIL")



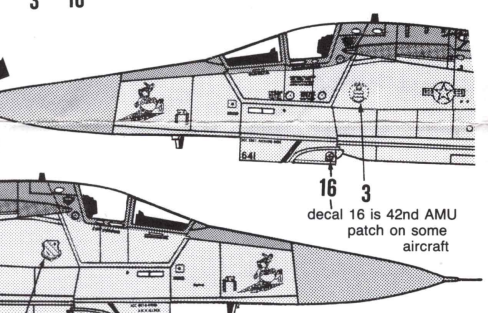
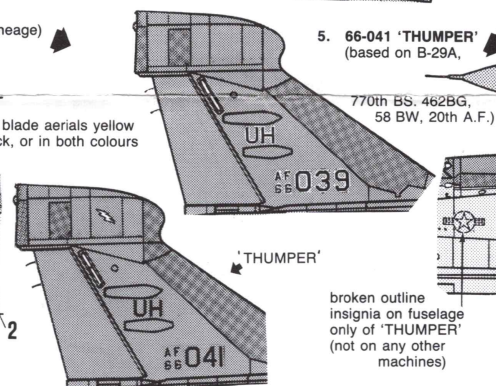
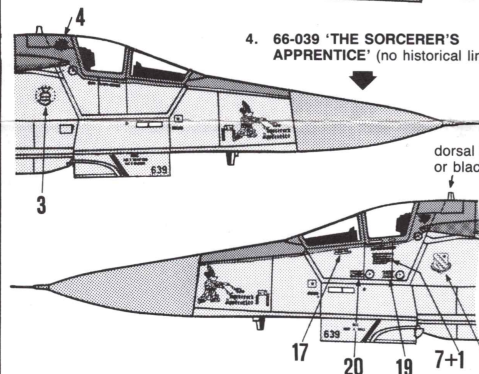
2. 66-033 'EXCALIBUR' (named after B-17F of the 91st BG)



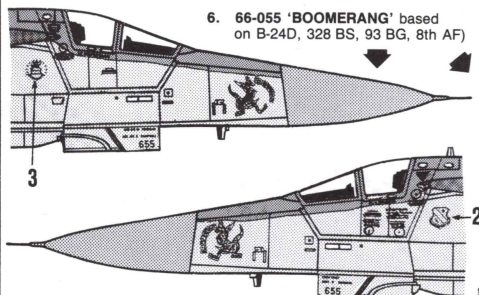
3. 66-037 'THE PROWLER' (no historical lineage)



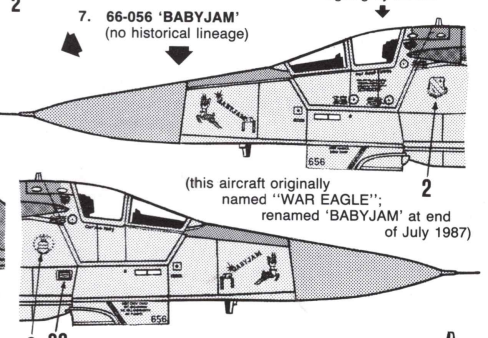
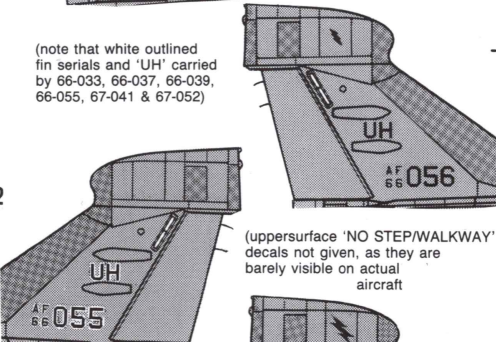
4. 66-039 'THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE' (no historical lineage)



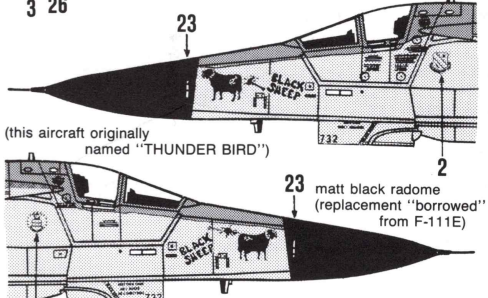
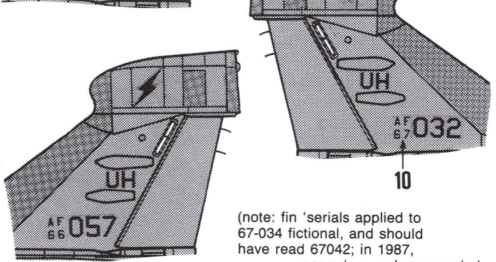
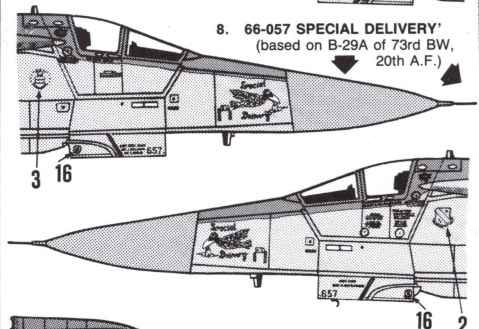
6. 66-055 'BOOMERANG' based on B-24D, 328 BS, 93 BG, 8th AF)



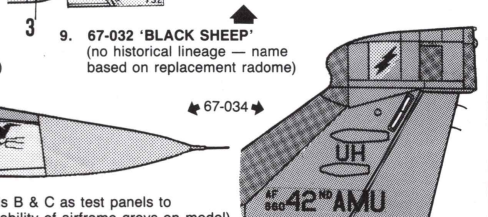
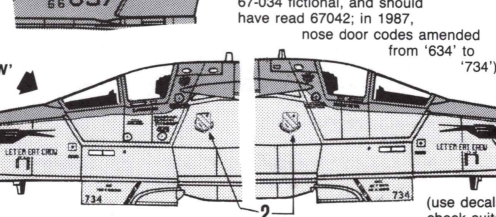
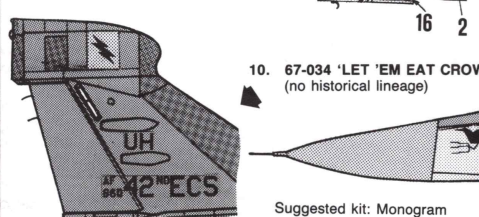
(note that white outlined fin serials and 'UH' carried by 66-033, 66-037, 66-039, 66-055, 67-041 & 67-052)



8. 66-057 'SPECIAL DELIVERY' (based on B-29A of 73rd BW, 20th A.F.)



10. 67-034 'LET 'EM EAT CROW' (no historical lineage)

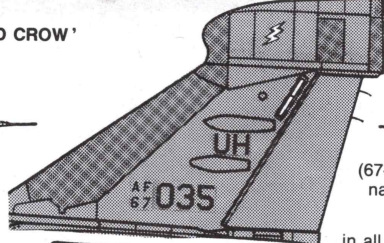
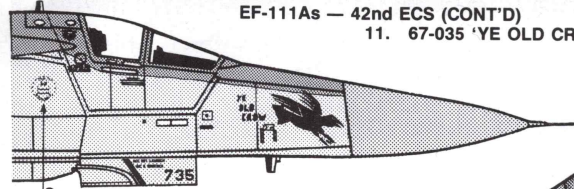


Suggested kit: Monogram

(use decals B & C as test panels to check suitability of airframe greys on model)



EF-111As — 42nd ECS (CONT'D)  
11. 67-035 'YE OLD CROW'

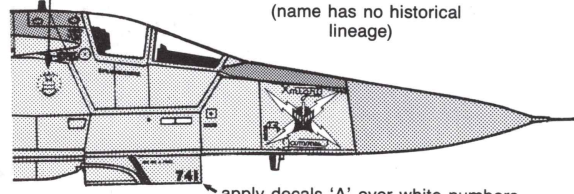


(name has no direct historical lineage, but based on 'OLD CROW', a P-51D of the 363FS, 357FG, 8AF)

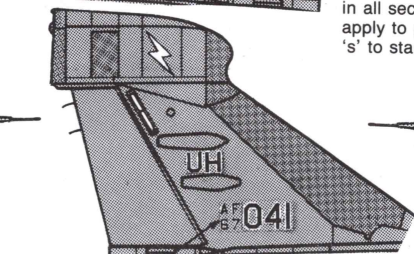
(67-035 originally named "PHOENIX")

in all sections, decals marked 'p' apply to port side, those marked 's' to starboard

12. 67-041 'KNIGHT JAMMER'  
(name has no historical lineage)

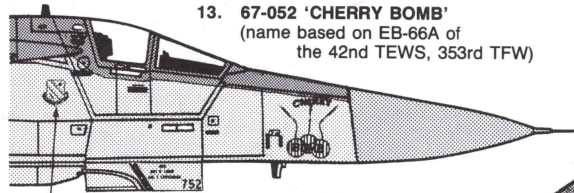


apply decals 'A' over white numbers



(note: nose emblem 'CHERRY BOMB' was amended at end of July 1987)

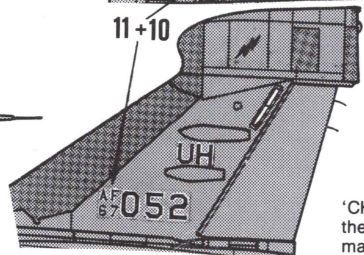
13. 67-052 'CHERRY BOMB'  
(name based on EB-66A of the 42nd TEWS, 353rd TFW)



(prior to July 1987, this emblem carried)



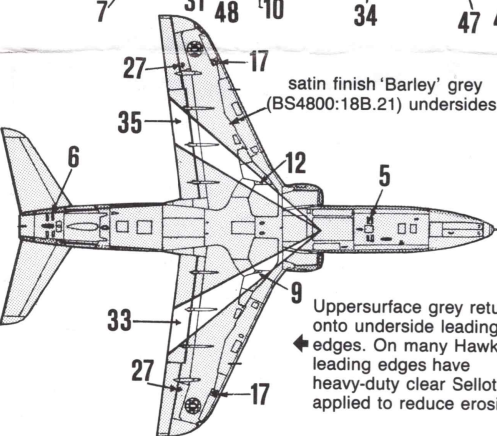
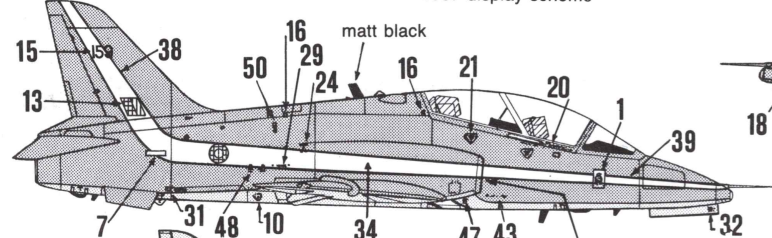
note some stencilled details around cockpit area both sides vary in position, and in some cases are omitted



(prior to July 1987, this emblem carried)  
'CHERRY BOMB' is probably the most publicised machine of all 13 aircraft)

position roundel centrally on small cross

B Ae HAWK T.1, XX159, 1 T.W.U., RAF BRAWDY, 1987  
1987 display scheme

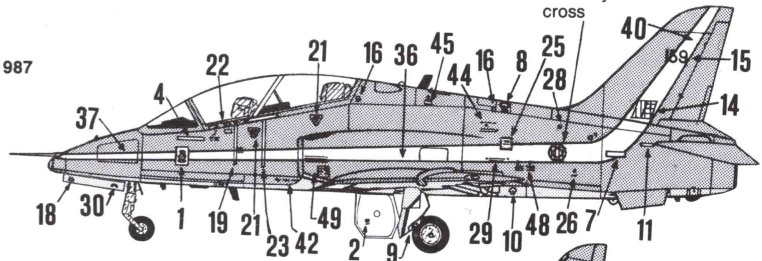


(decals 41 are applied to intake splitter plates)

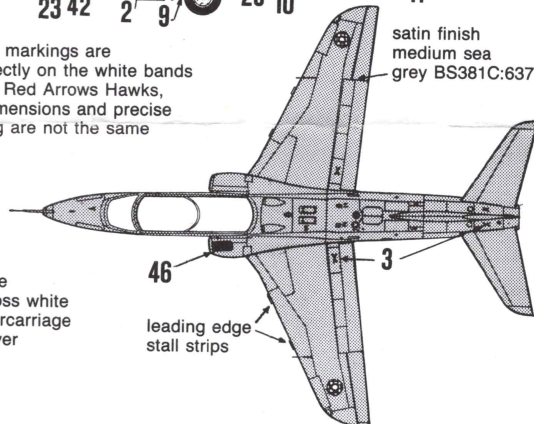
Great care should be taken in correctly aligning the fuselage and fin bands, and also in cutting and fitting the underwing bands where coinciding with the undercarriage doors

General interior surfaces of undercarriage bays, doors, legs and wheels — semi-gloss white for EF-111As; similar for Hawk, but undercarriage legs light blue-grey, mainwheels matt silver and nosewheel light grey

Suggested kits: Airfix, Matchbox or Fujimi



the yellow markings are based directly on the white bands applied to Red Arrows Hawks, though dimensions and precise positioning are not the same



leading edge stall strips

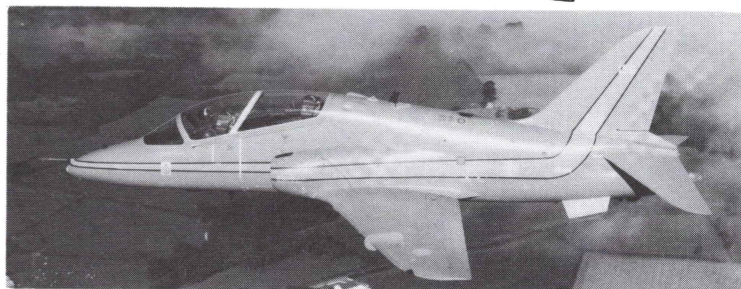
satin finish medium sea grey BS381C:637

Uppersurface grey returns onto underside leading edges. On many Hawks, leading edges have heavy-duty clear Sellotape applied to reduce erosion.

GENERAL NOTES: cockpit interiors of the EF-111A and Hawk are generally matt medium grey, including ejection seat frames. Coamings under windscreens and panels containing instruments, switches etc. on both the main panels and side consoles are matt black. Ejection seats in Hawk are Martin Baker Type 10B; seat safety harnessing black, parachute harnessing tan and olive drab, seat cushions and back pads olive drab, leg restraint lines blue, headrest pad black. Crew seats in the EF-111A module have similar colouring, with matt red headrest pads. If you wish to super detail cockpit areas, you will need to research further. Instrument panel decals (Hawk): paint a small area of thin plastic card gloss medium grey; when dry, apply decal, cut panel to shape and fit to model.

With no F-111Es based in continental Europe, the EF-111As of the 42nd ECS, 66th ECW were conveniently housed at Upper Heyford in England, joining the F-111Es of the 20th TFW. In line with recent Air Force policy — and contrary to current US Navy practice of even greater invisibility! — decoration by way of nose and fin 'art' is actively encouraged in order to improve *esprit de corps* and maintain a sense of historic traditions. Such adornments are however governed by certain restrictions, so that (for example) some of the more suggestive examples seen in WW2 are not to be repeated.

Units are encouraged to research their own histories, and choose examples of nose art seen on previous generations of their aircraft; these will come from WW2 in many cases, but also the subsequent Korean and Vietnam wars. For the 42nd ECS, Capt. Kent Malcolm and some of his colleagues had difficulty in finding anything more historical than an EB-66A of the 42nd TEWS during the Vietnam war period, this example giving rise to 'CHERRY BOMB' — to date the best known of EF-111As following its appearances at the 1987 Mildenhall Air Fete and IAT Fairford. Being a keen modeller, Capt. Malcolm invited us to consider doing decals for one or two of the Ravens; when he confirmed it was their intention to eventually give all thirteen aircraft nose art, we said we'd do the lot! We believe this set of decals to be rather unique, in that it gives markings for all the aircraft of a particular unit on a particular day. It is worth adding that much of the artwork is of a 'toned-down' nature, in that the two greys used in many items are the standard uppersurface blue-grey 36320 and lower surfaces light grey 36402; however, with the latter grey, the artwork is merely given an outline on the standard airframe finish, and then varnished over which gives a fractionally darker appearance. With the relevant decals, we have included these light grey areas as clear varnish only, so that the paint on the model will show through... in effect the same method used for the real aircraft. Many of the subjects chosen as nose art have appropriately been given an electronic connotation, and some also based on the crew chiefs' opinion of 'his' aircraft... 'BLACK SHEEP' being a self-evident expression of something! When modelling any of the EF-111As, note that there are considerable variations in stencil placement around the cockpit areas, and that items such as crew names below the canopies or on the nosewheel doors are always

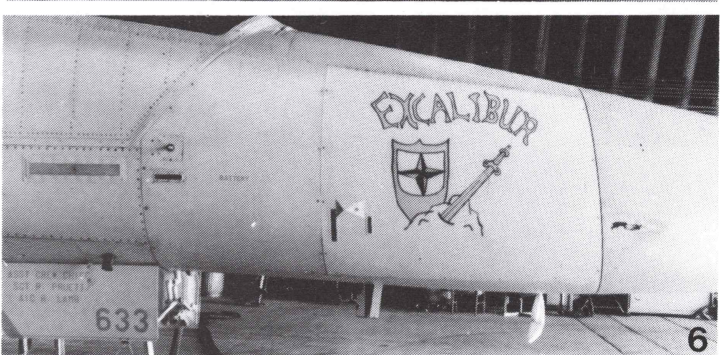
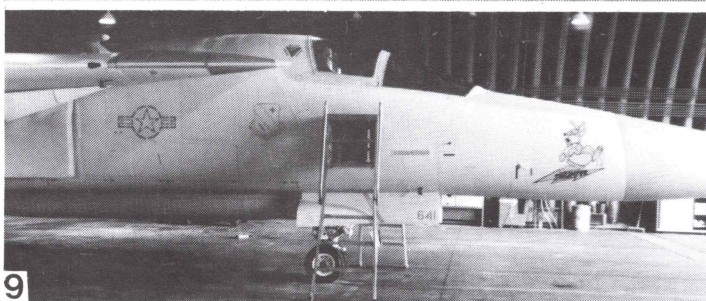
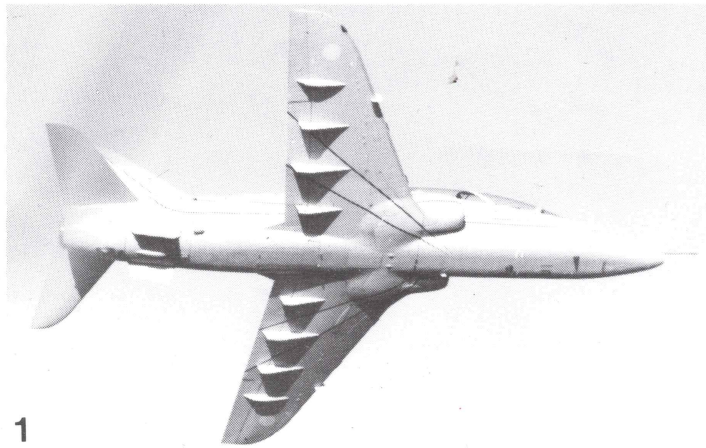


subject to change. Some of the Ravens have their mainwheel axle hub caps painted in different colours, e.g. green on 66-030, blue with three small white lightning flashes and the embossed titles F-111 picked out in white on 66-039, while those on 67-052 'CHERRY BOMB' are red, with the three embossed titles amended in white to 'EF-111', the central recessed end of the axle being white complete with three red cherries on stalks and two green leaves. As the diameter of this latter area is approximately .4mm on the kit wheel, decals could be problematic!

Application of decals: cut out each subject and wet backing in warm water for a few seconds to release decal; prolonged soaking will impair adhesion. Place item close to required position and slide decal into location, gently press on with a damp cloth to remove excess moisture and allow to dry. The thin tough varnish will allow the decal to 'bed down' on raised or sunken detail. We do not guarantee the successful use of special decal application systems involving solvents etc., as these may not be compatible with the varnish coatings we use; apart from standard varnish sealing coats before and after application if desired, no other steps are necessary or recommended.

Modeldecals gratefully acknowledge the kind assistance of the following during the preparation of these decals: Capt. K. Malcolm, M/Sgt. McReynolds and staff of the 42nd ECS, RAF Upper Heyford; M. D. Howley, Sqn. Ldr. M. J. Dora, RAF Brawdy; P. Boyden, BAe; J. B. E. Hale, M. McEvoy and M. G. White. Decals and instruction sheets designed and produced in Great Britain by Modeldecals, and marketed through their sole distributors, Messrs. Modeltoys, 246 Kingston Road, Portsmouth, Hants. PO2 7LR, England, to whom all individual and overseas trade enquiries should be addressed. Modeltoys, who specialise solely in plastic kits and associated technical references for the scale modeller, operate a retail shop at the above address, and a 'by return' mail order service for both UK and overseas customers. For the latest additions to the Modeldecals range, and sets currently available, please refer to Modeltoys advertisements.

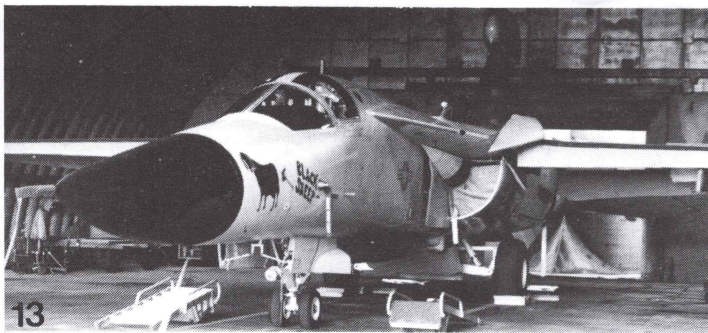




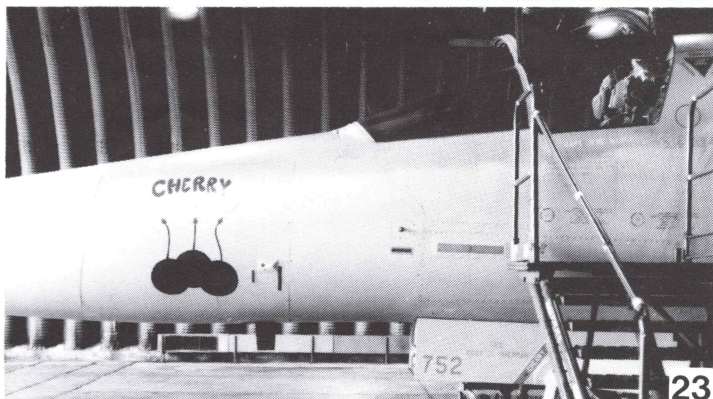
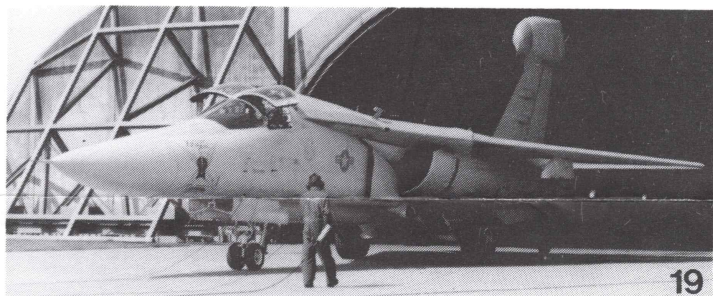
1. The 1987 display season Hawk of No. 1 TWU at Brawdy, XX159, showing its undersides and the adaptation of the Red Arrows arrowhead design. These items on the decals will require careful application due to the design taking in the undercarriage doors and flap actuating fairings. Photo: G. Lee, BAe Kingston. 2-4: General views of XX159 while displayed at the 1987 International Air Tattoo at RAF Fairford in July. Schemes such as this one make very attractive modelling subjects — there is no doubt that the universal light and medium grey schemes lend themselves to colourful adornments! Photos: RLW. 5. Nose aspect of EF-111A 66-030 'Mild-n-Bitter Homebrew' of the 42nd. ECS, 66th ECW/20th TFW at RAF Upper Heyford on 31 July 1987. (Unless stated, all the EF-111A photos were taken on this date.) 6. Starboard nose view of 66-033 'Excalibur', showing the more usual style of nosewheel door code number. As mentioned in the main text, this is an example of the

artwork being applied partially in outline form over the airframe light grey finish. Photos: RLW. 7. 66-037 'The Prowler' taxis at Upper Heyford in June 1987, showing the large size of its nose art. Photo: J. Hale. 8. Close-up of the starboard nose artwork on 66-039 'The Sorcerer's Apprentice'. 9. The forward end of 66-041 'Thumper', showing the outline form of the national insignia peculiar to this aircraft, and only applied to the fuselage. It is likely that this particular style will become standard on the EF-111As as it has done on other types. 10. Port nose view of 66-055 'Boomerang', and 11. the nose of 66-056 'Babyjam' — no need to guess at the historic significance of this emblem! 12. 66-057 'Special Delivery' in the maintenance hangar of the 42nd AMU at Upper Heyford — somewhat more airy surroundings than the usual hardened shelters they lurk in. Photos: RLW.





13. Frontal view of 67-032 'Black Sheep' in its shelter, displaying its borrowed F-111E radome, and 14. a closer view of the sizeable nose art and other smaller details. 15. '66042' (in fact 67-034) 'Let 'em Eat Crow' on display at Upper Heyford's open day in August 1986. At this time it carried the nose door code '634', and is believed to have been the C.O.'s aircraft. Later, the door code was amended to '734' . . . one wonders who was getting confused! Photo: J. Hale. 16. The port fin of '66042' showing its different title (for the 42nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit) and other details. Photo: M/Sgt. McReynolds, 42nd AMU. 17. Nose view of 'Ye Old Crow', serial 67-035, and its black nosewheel door markings and 20th TFW patch. Most machines carry both the 20th and 66th patches (not the 42nd ECS patch), but position one side or the other varies. 18. 67-041 'Knight Jammer' shutting down at the end of a mission, and 19. being



slowly retrieved into its shelter by means of a powered winch and steel cable. 20. Starboard view of 67-041 and the wing glove pen-nib fairing and leading edge slats deployed, which could make for some interesting modelling. 21. 67-052 'Cherry Bomb' attracted a lot of enthusiastic attention when it appeared at the 1987 Mildenhall Air Fete in May. 22. Port view of 'Cherry Bomb' at Mildenhall; this machine was also part of the heavily-fenced 'specials' at IAT Fairford in July 1987, and is one of the few Ravens well known to enthusiasts. 23. Between the IAT at Fairford and 31 July, Cherry Bomb's nose art was revised so that the bombs looked more like cherries, this favourite machine of the 42nd being chosen for special viewing during a unit inspection. Both the early and later nose emblems are included in the decals. Photos: RLW.