

IAI DAGGER A

K 072071

1/72 Scale Model Construction Kit

HISTORY

The Dassault Mirage is one of the most successful French aircraft designs of the post-war era, and an outstanding third generation jet fighter. The Mirage III prototype first flew in 1956 benefitting greatly from the work done on the experimental Fairey FD-2 Delta. It entered service with the French Air Force in 1961.

Following the experience operating the Mirage IIIC in the Middle East, the Israeli Air Force requested a new version from Dassault that had improved range and payload. Before they could be delivered the French government imposed an arms embargo. The Israelis later covertly obtained some aircraft, copies of the blueprints and began production locally as the Neshar (Eagle). Between 1969-1971 51 Neshar S aircraft were delivered.

The Neshar was phased out in Israeli service by the improved Kfir, and the remaining aircraft were refurbished and sold to Argentina. 35 were delivered between 1978 and 1980 and they served in the Fuerza Aérea Argentina as the Mirage M-5 Dagger A.

The FAA Dagger squadrons saw active service during the Falklands / Malvinas War when the British Task Force arrived at the islands. The Daggars could just reach the islands when flying from the airfields at San Julian and Rio Grande and the need to carry fuel limited the weapon loads. Despite the difficulties, the FAA pilots managed to score hits on six of the British Task Force ships but eleven aircraft were lost.

During the conflict the Dagger pilots carried up to three 1300 L tanks and iron bombs. The supersonic 500 L tanks were commonly used before and after the war but did not provide sufficient range to reach the Falklands / Malvinas.

From 1982 the Daggars were upgraded with new French & Israeli avionics and renamed Finger. The Finger is optimised for the air defence role but has retained ground attack capability.

COLOUR TABLE

KEY	COLOUR	SPECIFICATIONS	APPROXIMATE MATCH					
			GUNZE MR COLOR	HUMBROL	MODELMASTER	REVELL	TAMIYA	XTRACOLOR
A	BLACK		H2	21	1747	32107	X-01	X12
B	FOREST GREEN	FS 595A 24079	H73	116 / 75	1710	32165	XF-13	X110
C	GREEN	FS 595A 24102	H303	117	1713	32145	XF-58	X116
D	TAN	FS 595A 20219	H310	118 / 93	1742	32382	XF-52	X102
E	ALUMINIUM PAINT		H8	56	1781	32199	XF-16	-
F	STEEL		H18	53	1780	32191	XF-56	-
G	CLEAR RED		H90	91321	4630	-	X-27	-
H	GREY	FS 595A 26622	H311	99 / 28	1733	-	-	-
I	YELLOW	see notes	-	99	2023	-	XF-03	X108
J	GREEN - BLUE	see notes	90% H25 + 10% H5	80% 48 + 20% 15	~2012	-	80% X-14 + 20% X-4	-
K	WHITE		H11	34	1768	32105	XF-02	X405

The FAA Daggars are finished in matt/low sheen colours. They were painted in Israel prior to delivery where RAL equivalents of the FS colours were probably applied and refurbished on arrival with locally sourced paint.

The yellow ID bands were applied in May 1982 from local stocks and have a lemon hue. These were later toned down by misting on a light blue coat of locally sourced paints, resulting in a green - blue colour. This colour shows a lot of tonal variation in the period photos, perhaps due to wear.

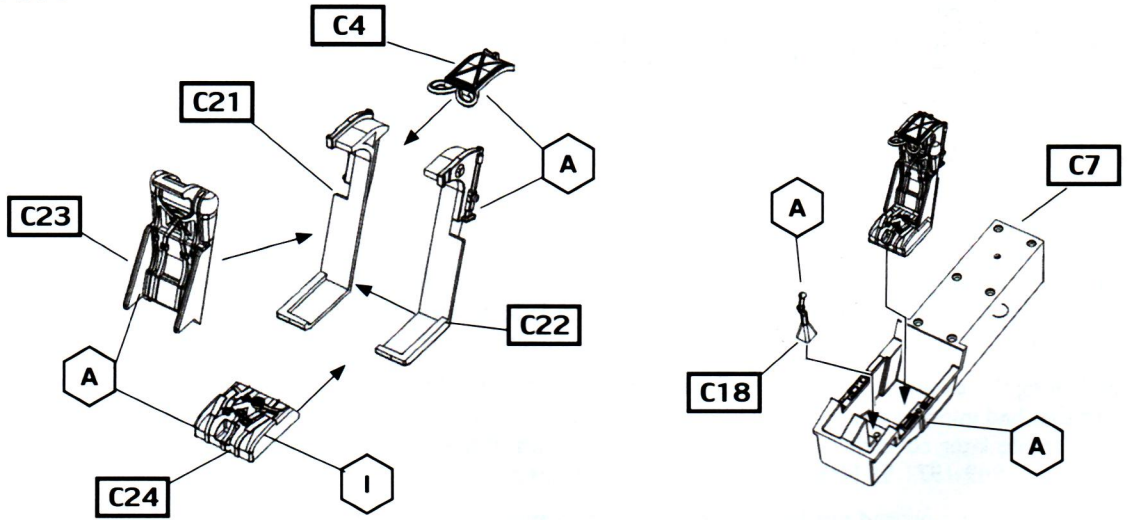
HPM Hobbies Pte Ltd © 2011

Suitable for ages 14 to adult

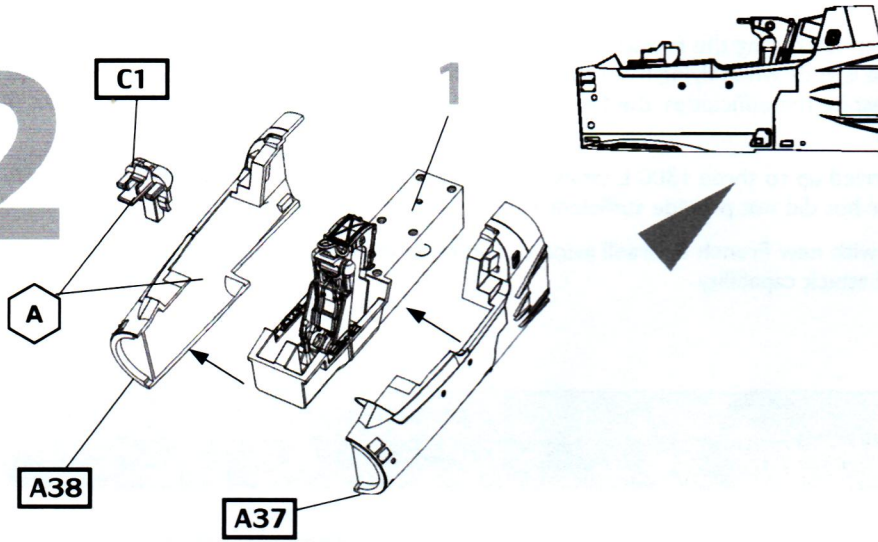
www.hpmhobbies.com Printed in Singapore

CONSTRUCTION

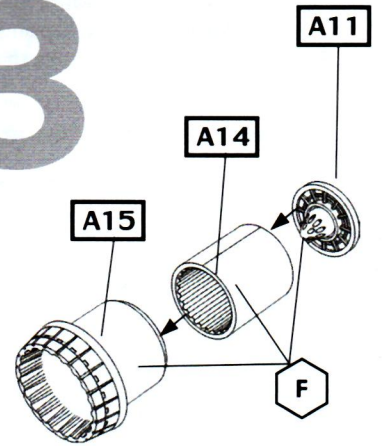
1



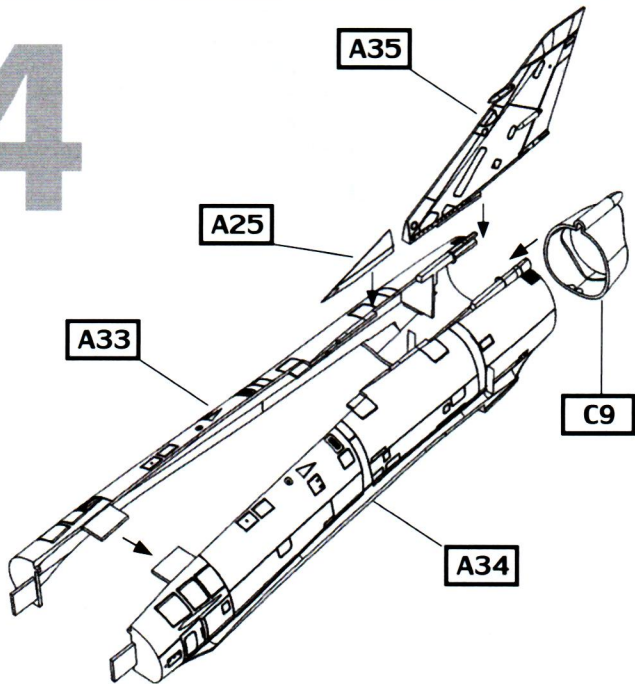
2



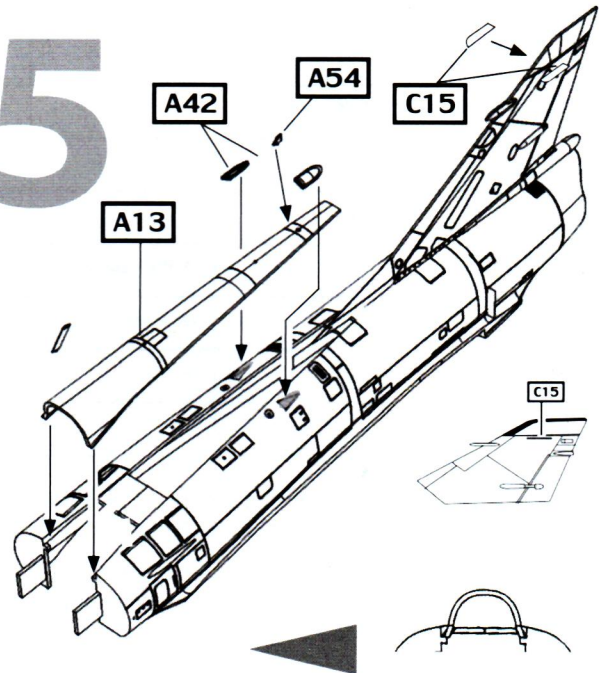
3



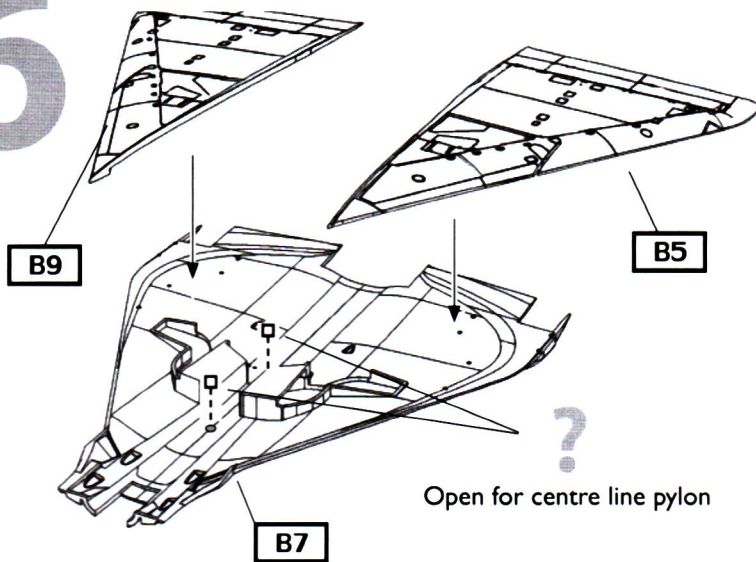
4



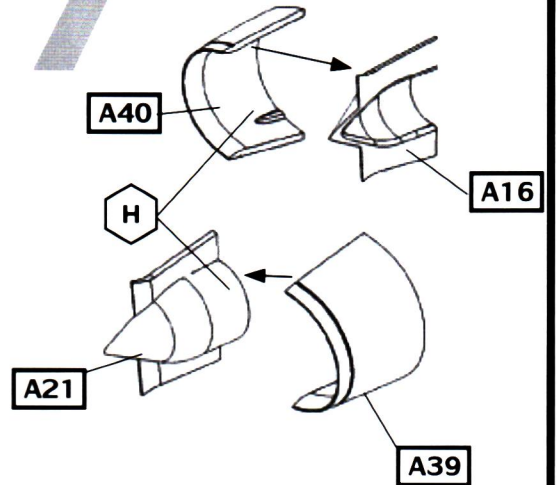
5



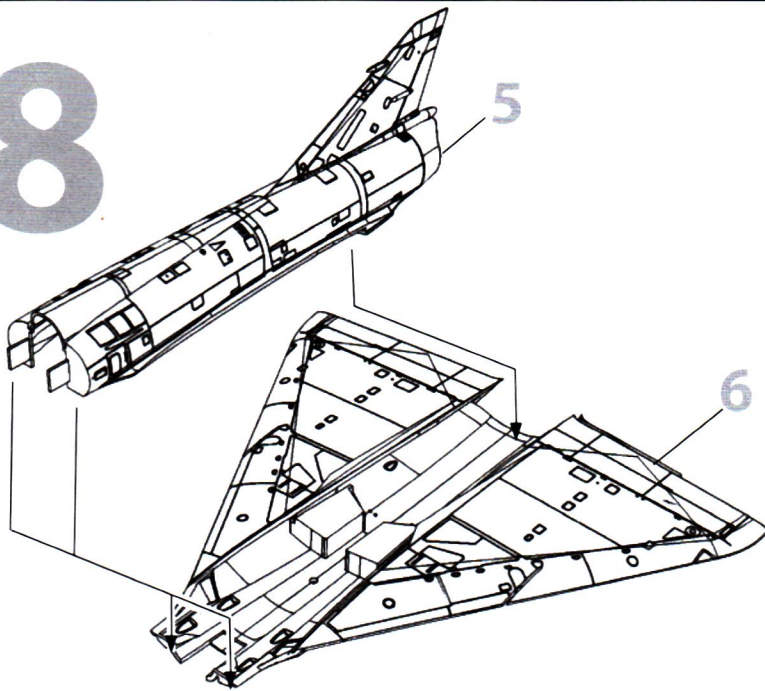
6



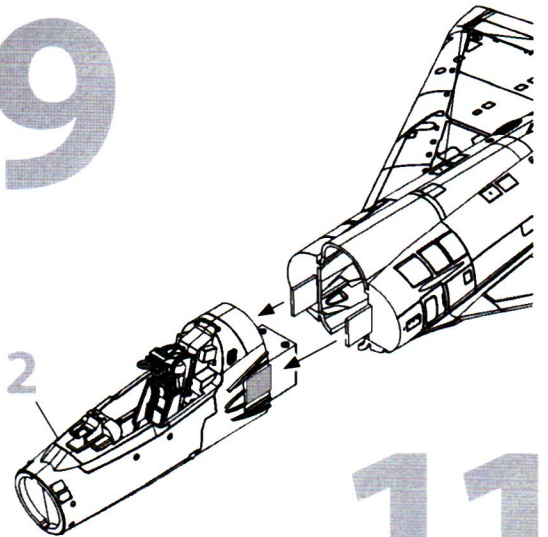
7



8

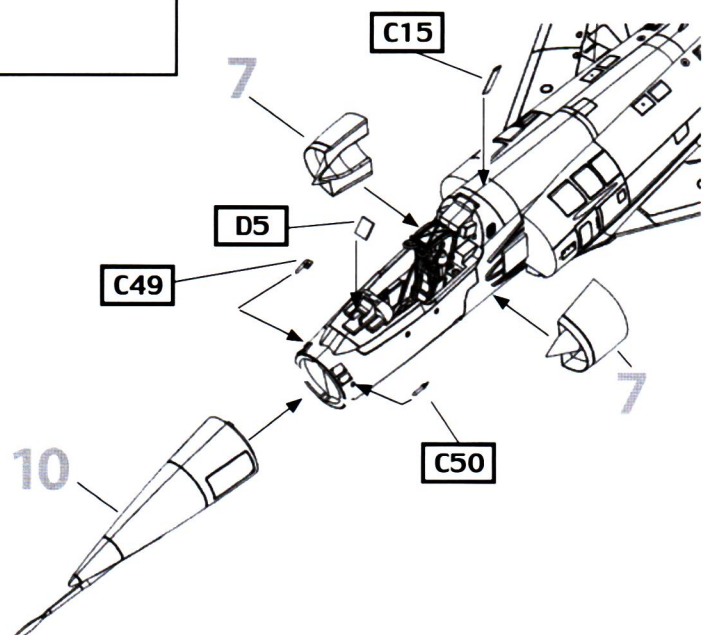
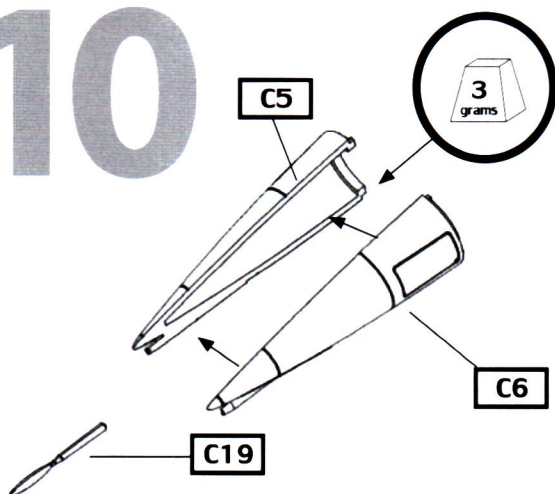


9

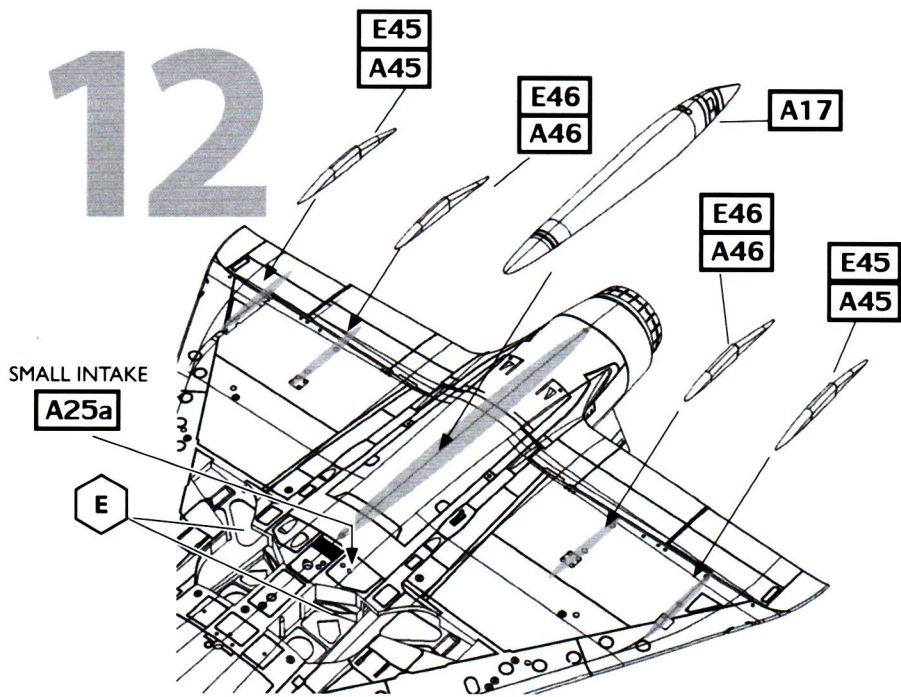


11

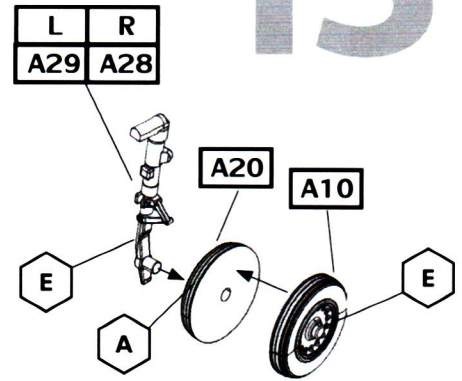
10



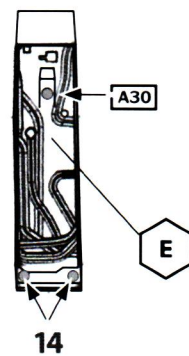
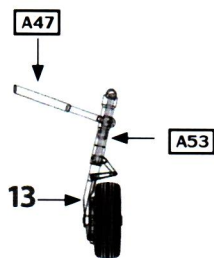
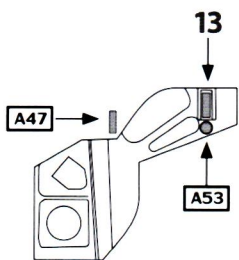
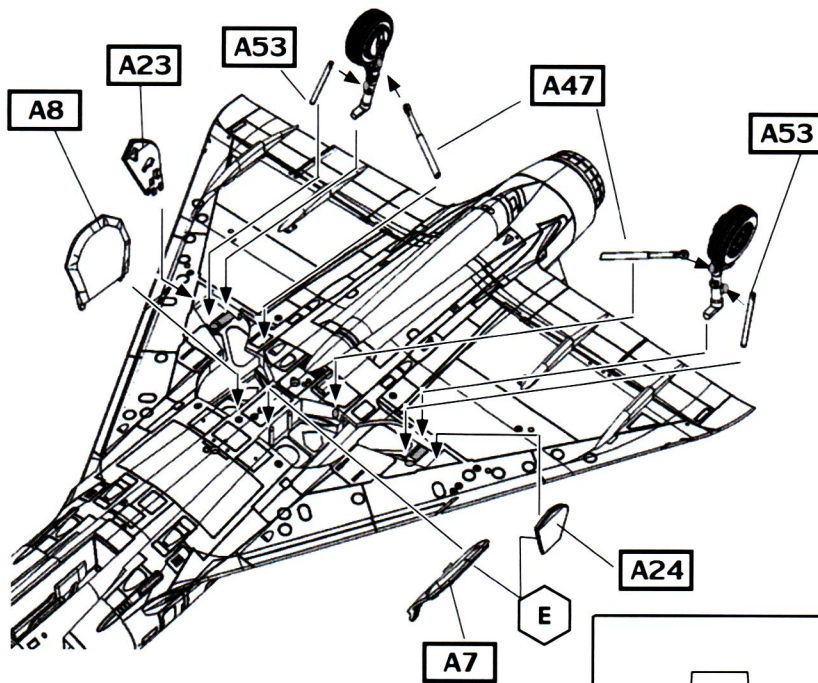
12



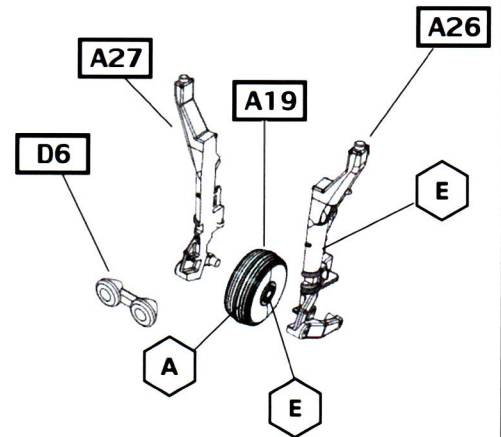
13



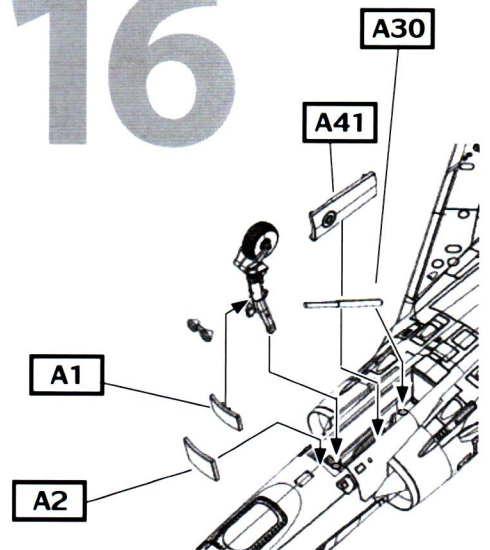
15



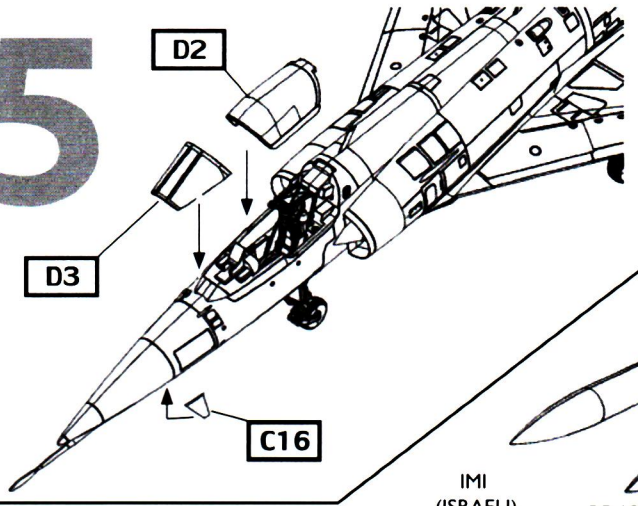
14



16



15

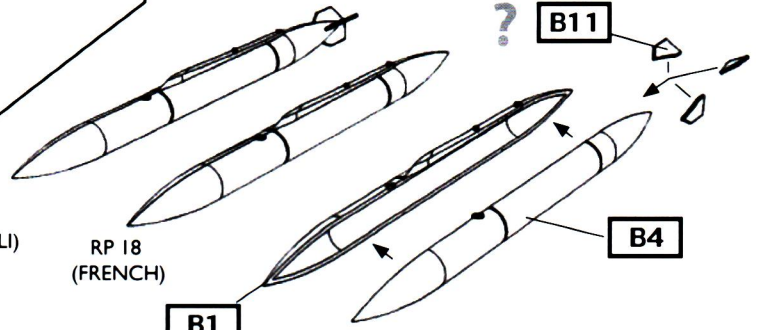


16

SUPERSONIC TANKS
500 L (110 Gal)

IMI
(ISRAELI)

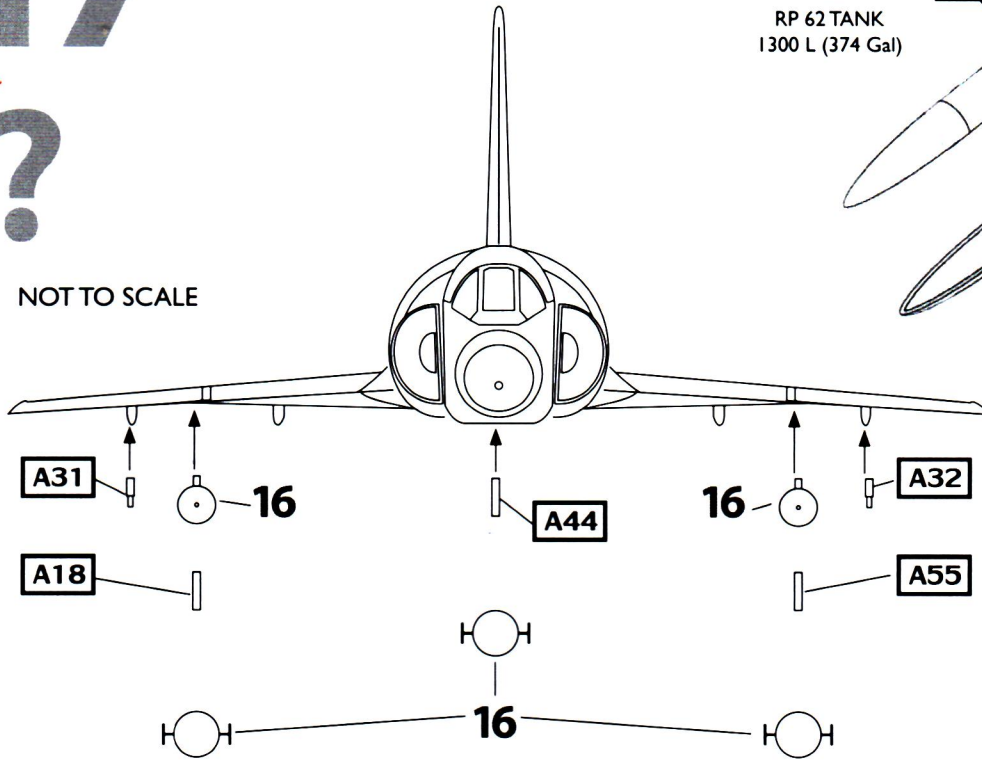
RP 18
(FRENCH)



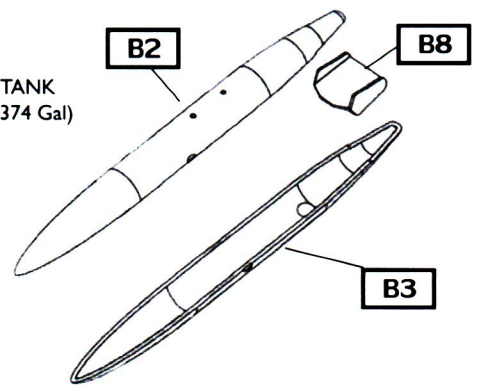
17

?

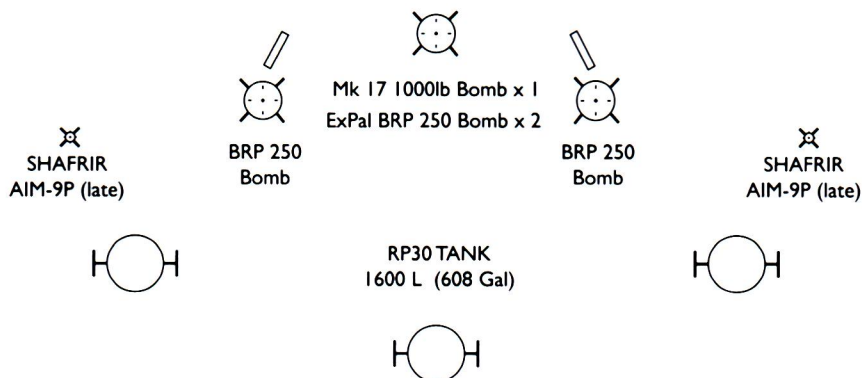
NOT TO SCALE



RP 62 TANK
1300 L (374 Gal)

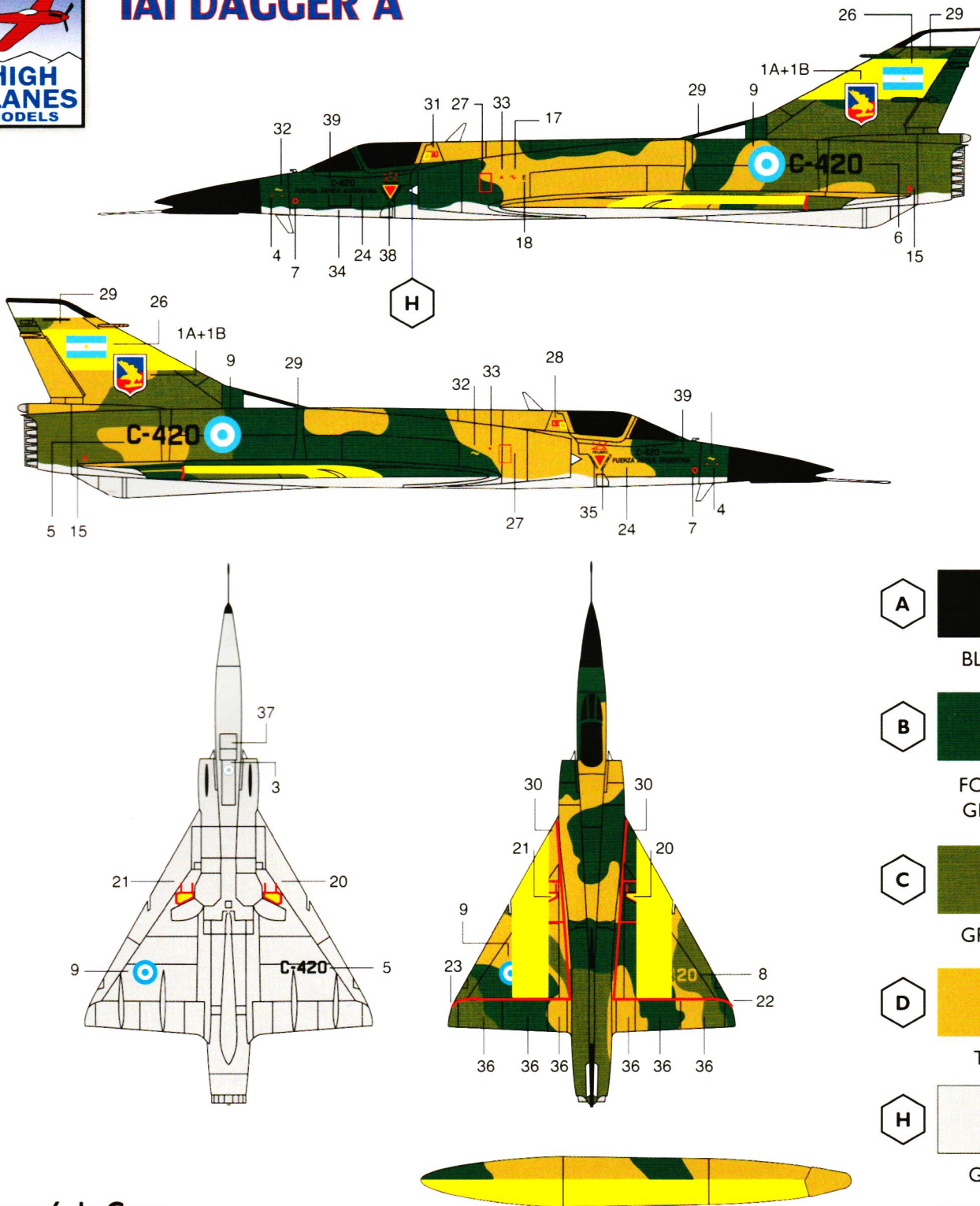


Stores not included - for information only





IAI DAGGER A



Grupo 6 de Caza,
II° Escuadrón Aeromóvil "La Marinette", FAA
 Rio Grande, Argentina
 April 1982

HPM Hobbies Pte Ltd © 2011
 www.hpmhobbies.com
 info@hpmhobbies.com

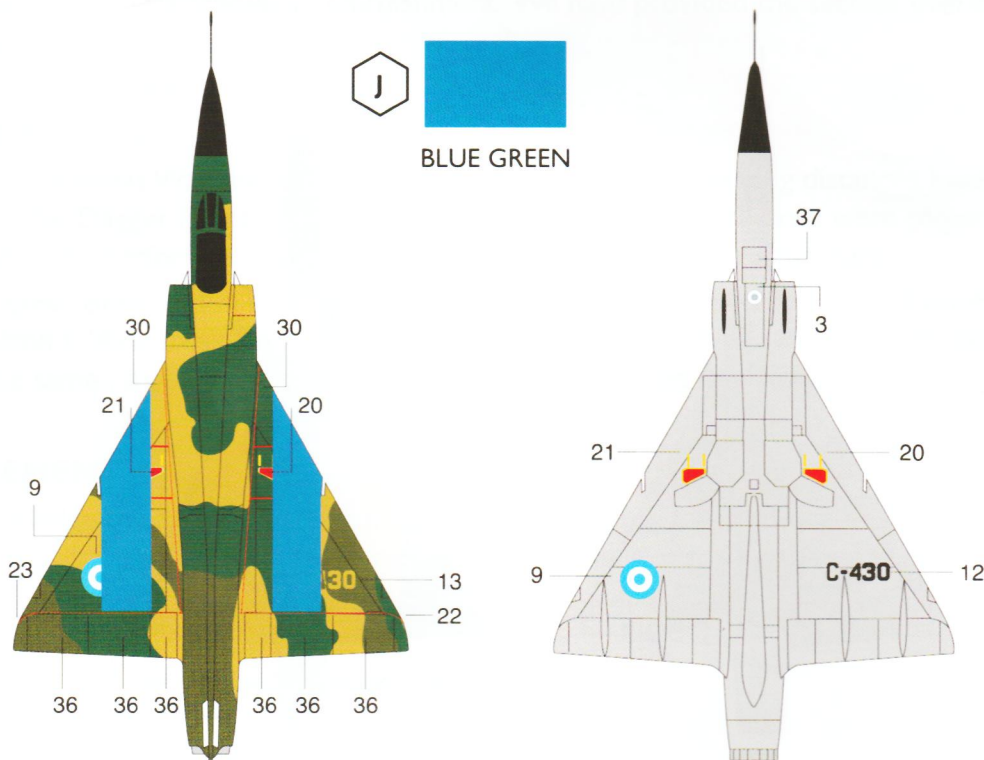
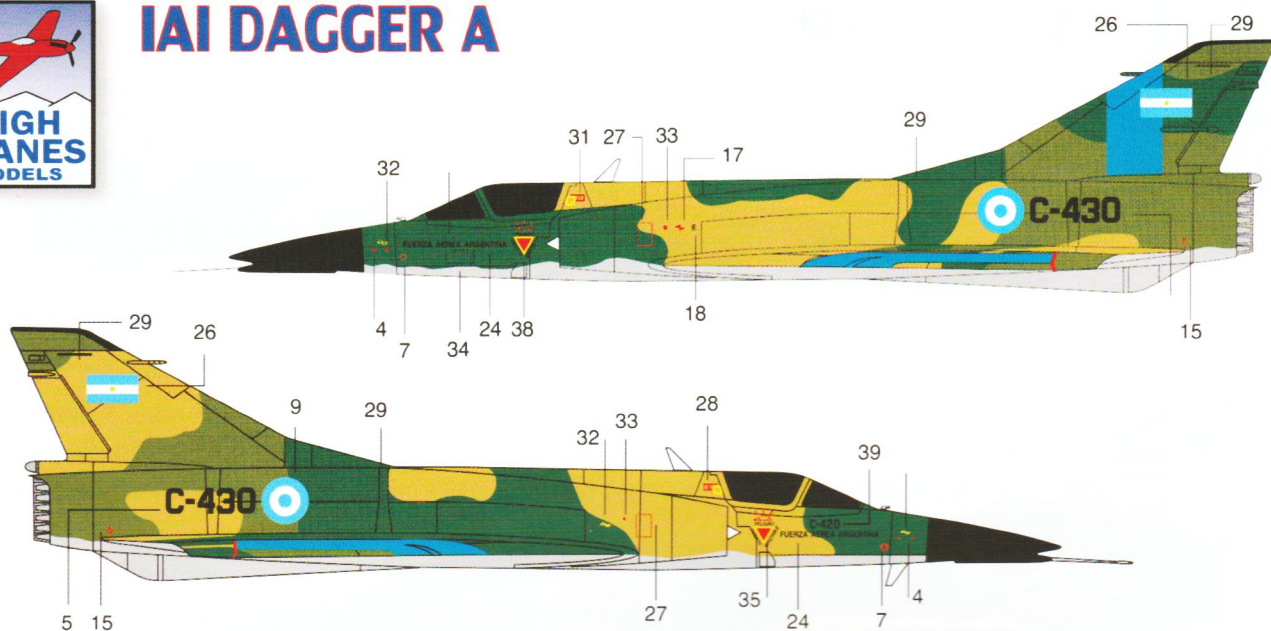
NOTES

The drop tanks had many different colour schemes. Notably, some were painted with yellow ID on the underside as illustrated. The spray pattern is very rough. Photo evidence also exists for grey tanks and two tone brown tanks.

- A** BLACK
- B** FOREST GREEN
- C** GREEN
- D** TAN
- H** GREY
- I** YELLOW
- K** WHITE



IAI DAGGER A



Grupo 6 de Caza, Escuadrón I "Avutardas Salvajes", FAA

San Julián, Argentina
May 1982

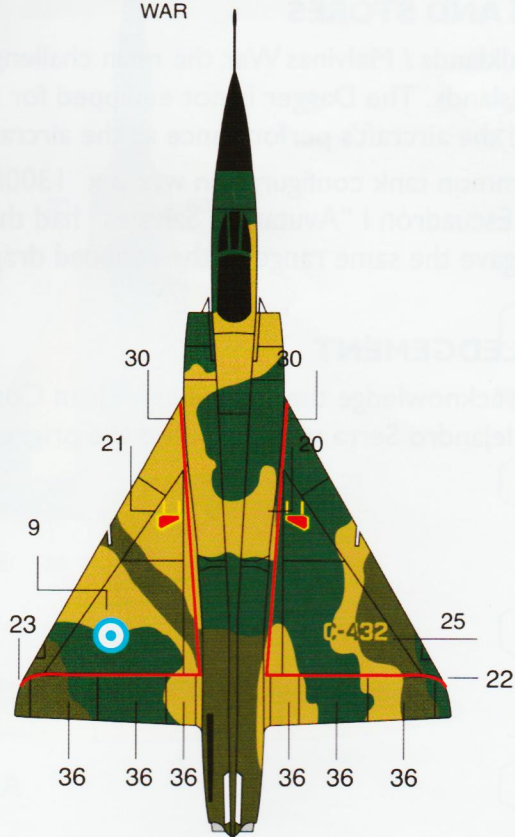
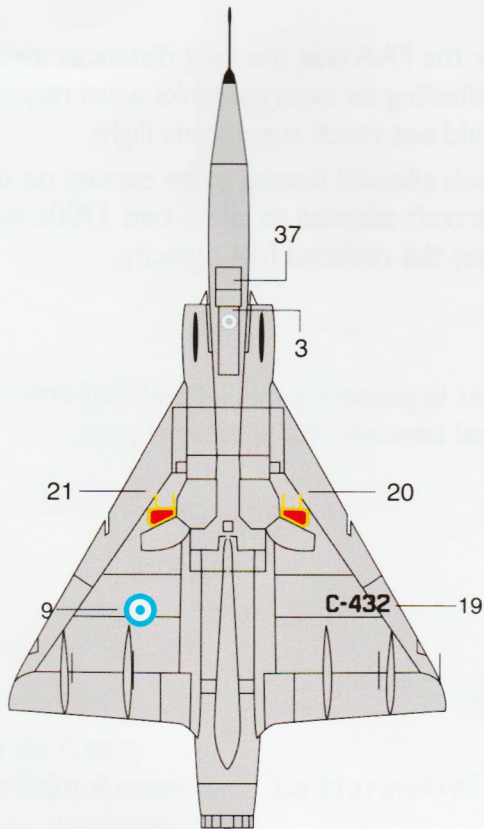
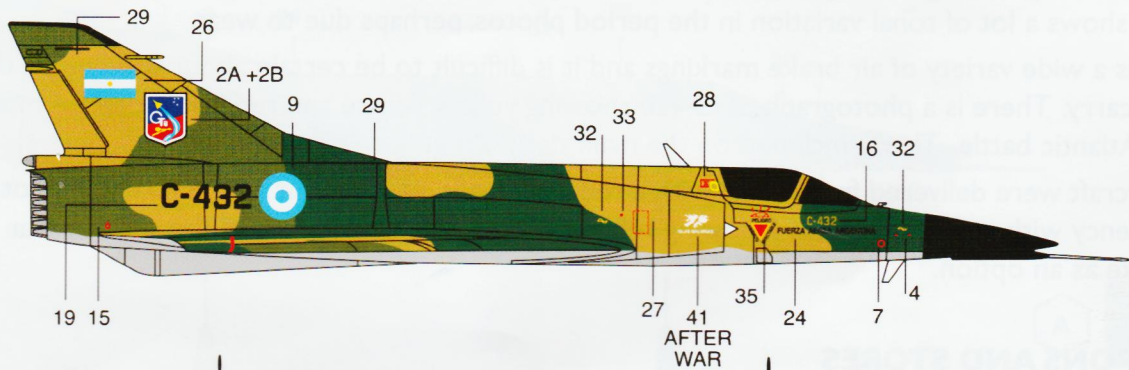
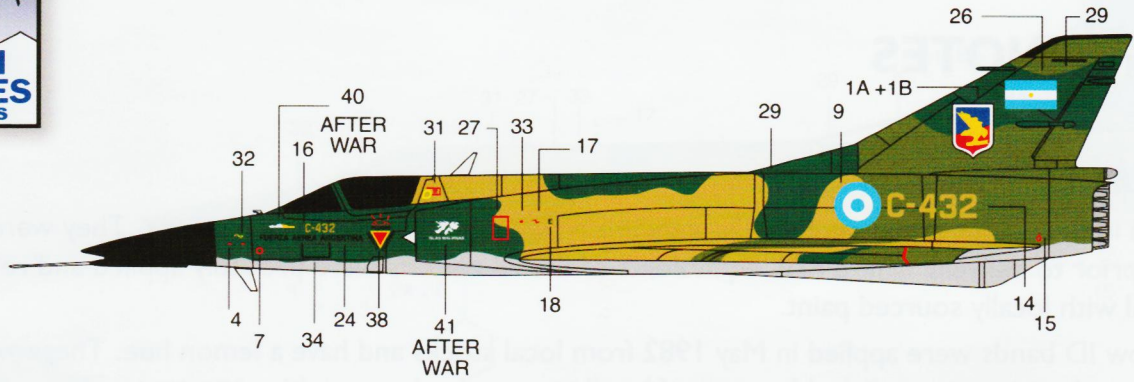
NOTES

As noted in the colour guide, this aircraft was painted with the green-blue ID bands in the middle of the the Malvinas / Falklands conflict. C-430 initially flew with yellow ID bands and can also be finished with them.

The aircraft was lost on a mission over San Carlos when hit by a Sidewinder from a British Sea Harrier. The pilot, Captain Raul Díaz, ejected and survived the war.



IAI DAGGER A



Grupo 6 de Caza,
II° Escuadrón Aeromóvil "La Marinette", FAA
 San Julián, Argentina
 May 1982



IAI DAGGER A

NOTES

COLOURS & MARKINGS

As noted in the colour table, the FAA Daggers are finished in matt/low sheen colours. They were painted in Israel prior to delivery where RAL equivalents of the FS colours were probably applied and refurbished on arrival with locally sourced paint.

The yellow ID bands were applied in May 1982 from local stocks and have a lemon hue. These were later toned down by misting on a light blue coat of locally sourced paints, resulting in a green - blue colour. This colour shows a lot of tonal variation in the period photos, perhaps due to wear.

There is a wide variety of air brake markings and it is difficult to be certain about which type the individual aircraft carry. There is a photograph of C-420 showing yellow centre and red outline at the time of the South Atlantic battle. This is included on the main decal sheet.

The aircraft were delivered from Israel with a red wing walk marking, but again there does not seem to be consistency with reapplying these following refurbishment. We have provided the section that encloses the air brake as an option.

WEAPONS AND STORES

During the Falklands / Malvinas War, the main challenge for the FAA was the long distances involved in reaching the islands. The Dagger is not equipped for air-refuelling so external tanks were required. This compromised the aircraft's performance as the aircraft could not reach supersonic flight.

The most common tank configuration was 3 x 1300L, which allowed bombs to be carried on the inner wing pylons. Escuadrón I "Avutardas Salvajes" had their aircraft adapted to allow two 1700L tanks to be fitted, which gave the same range as the reduced drag offset the reduced fuel capacity.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Juan Contreras in preparing this kit and dedicate it to the memory of Alejandro Serra who prepared the original decal artwork. Requiescat in pace.