During the early part of the Second World War, the shortcomings of the heavy bombers operating in the Pacific area became readily apparent. Neither the "Flying Fortresses" nor the "Liberators" possessed the range or the payload capabilities that were necessary to enable them to bomb the Japanese mainland.

Aware of the continuing development of a new American "Superbomber," allied military leaders planned a series of amphibious landings designed to liberate strategically-located islands that were under Japanese control. These islands were destined to become sprawling staging areas for a vast airborne armada of Boeing B-29 "Superfortresses." Although initially deployed to remote Chinese airfields, the liberation of the Marianas Islands during the summer of 1944 signaled the beginning of the massive "Superfortress" build-up. Operating from hastily-constructed airfields on the sundrenched islands of Guam, Saipan, and Tinian, waves of heavily-laden Twentieth Air Force B-29s initiated the strategic bombing campaign that would cripple the Japanese war effort. B-29s also planted thousands of anti-shipping mines in Japanese coastal waters, and destroyed innumerable tons of vital supplies.

On the morning of August 6th, 1945, a single B-29 dropped the world's first nuclear weapon on the city of Hiroshima. The awesome explosion heralded the dawn of the nuclear age, and the end of the war for Japan. Following the Japanese surrender, the B-29s were retained as the United States foremost strategic bomber.

Many "Superfortresses" were fitted with inflight refueling receptacles, and achieved true global capabilities. Aging B-29s served valiantly with the fledgling Strategic Air Command until they were replaced by more advanced successors.

The sleek and graceful contours of the B-29 "Superfortresses" were beautiful to behold. Their massive size dwarfed contemporary bombers, and to create a single B-29, materials and production facilities sufficient to build eleven P-51s were utilized. The "Superfortresses" were fitted with two pressurized crew compartments that were designed to improve aircrew comfort on fatiguing long range missions. Nearly twenty thousand pounds of ordnance could be carried aloft in the cavernous twin bomb bays. Four powerful Wright "Cyclone" engines, each fitted with dual exhaustdriven turbochargers, were nestled in streamlined nacelles. The "Superforts" were heavily armed with ten machine guns mounted in four remotecontrol turrets, and two additional machine guns and an awesome twenty millimeter cannon were fitted in the tail of the aircraft.

During their lifespan, nearly four thousand "Superfortresses" were manufactured by five massive assembly plants. In the early 1950's, B-29s returned to combat in the war-torn skies over Korea. Today, a handful of these impressive veteran warbirds are preserved to commemorate the immense contributions that these aircraft made to heavy bomber development and the history of strategic bombing.

B-29

1/48 SCALE KIT 5700



# SUPERFORTRESS

# **READ THIS BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

Read through the instructions and study the assembly drawings to become familiar with all parts of the model. Also refer to the PAINTING and DECAL directions. Do not rush the assembly — serious mistakes can be avoided by working carefully.

As your B-29 may be built to any one of three versions, you must decide on which version you want before you begin. Refer to last three pages.

The assembly procedure is written for all three versions. The assembly of a specific version is helped by the LARGE titles in the steps. Where NO title is used, the assembly is identical for all three versions.

Each illustration in the assembly procedure indicates color to be used and where the paint should be applied. It is best to paint most of the parts before cementing them. Carefully read the painting suggestions and refer to the box cover and to the airplane illustrations on the last three pages. These suggestions will be helpful in building your model.

Each plastic piece is identified by a number stamped either on the part or a small tab near the part. The instructions will indicate by number which pieces are needed in each step. DO NOT detach parts from the trees until you are ready to use them.

After cutting off the required part, trim away any excess bits of plastic that are not part of the usable piece. Use a sharp knife, such as a modeling knife, available at your hobby counter. Check the fit of each piece before you cement it in place. USE ONLY CEMENT SPECIFIED FOR USE WITH STYRENE PLASTIC.

Apply cement quickly and carefully to the very large pieces so cement does not dry before the parts are joined together. DO NOT use too much cement to join the parts. All plastic cements contain solvents that dissolve the plastic forming a weld between the parts. Too much cement can soften and distort the plastic, spoiling your model's appearance. The tip of a toothpick is helpful in applying cement to small or confined areas. Keep fingers clean of cement so that the outer surfaces of the parts are not marred when handling them.

## PAINTING

It is best to paint most of the parts before cementing them. The large outside surfaces such as wings and fuselages may be painted after assembly. Only ENAMEL or PAINT FOR PLASTICS should be used.

A small pointed brush is best for painting small parts. Larger areas are best covered with a soft brush about 1/4 inch wide. Allow time for paint to dry thoroughly before handling parts. Scrape paint away from areas which will be cemented because cement will not hold to paint.

Clear windshield and nose details can be easily and neatly done by using one of the dull finish acetate mending tapes. Cut a strip about five inches long and stick it to a piece of glass or plastic, paint this strip the color indicated in the assembly steps. Allow the paint to dry thoroughly. Using a straight edge and a razor blade cut strips from the tape the same width as the detail ribs. Lift up the strips and apply over each rib. Another method of achieving realism is by masking the entire clear piece with transparent tape. Use a sharp knife and very carefully cut the tape from any area that is to be painted. Paint the exposed parts and allow to dry thoroughly. Remove the remaining tape from the clear piece by lifting it with the tip of your knife. Either method will result in an extremely realistic clear part.

# **FIGURES**

Refer to the box photos for the colors used in painting the five figures. Paint a figure as though dressing it. Paint the basic uniform, then the various equipment. The very small, delicate details are usually saved for last.

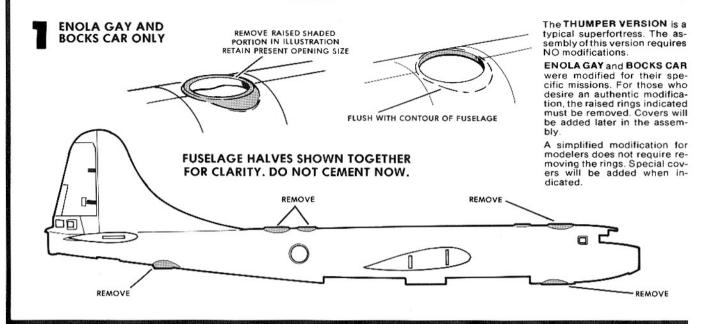
## **DECALS**

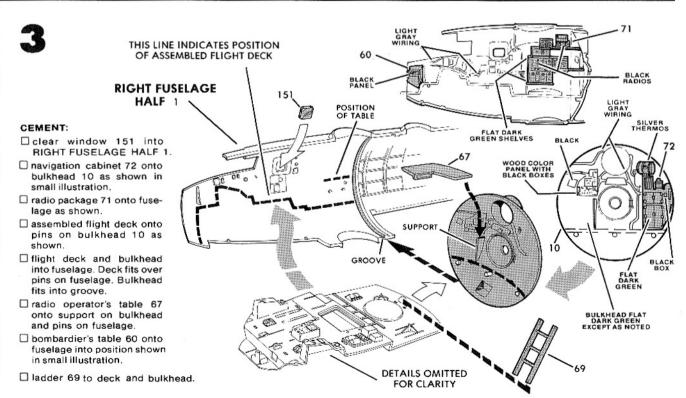
When applying decals, refer to the illustration of the specific version you have assembled. The letters shown on the illustration are in reference to those on the decal sheet. These lettered decals are used on all versions. Larger decals are easily identified for position.

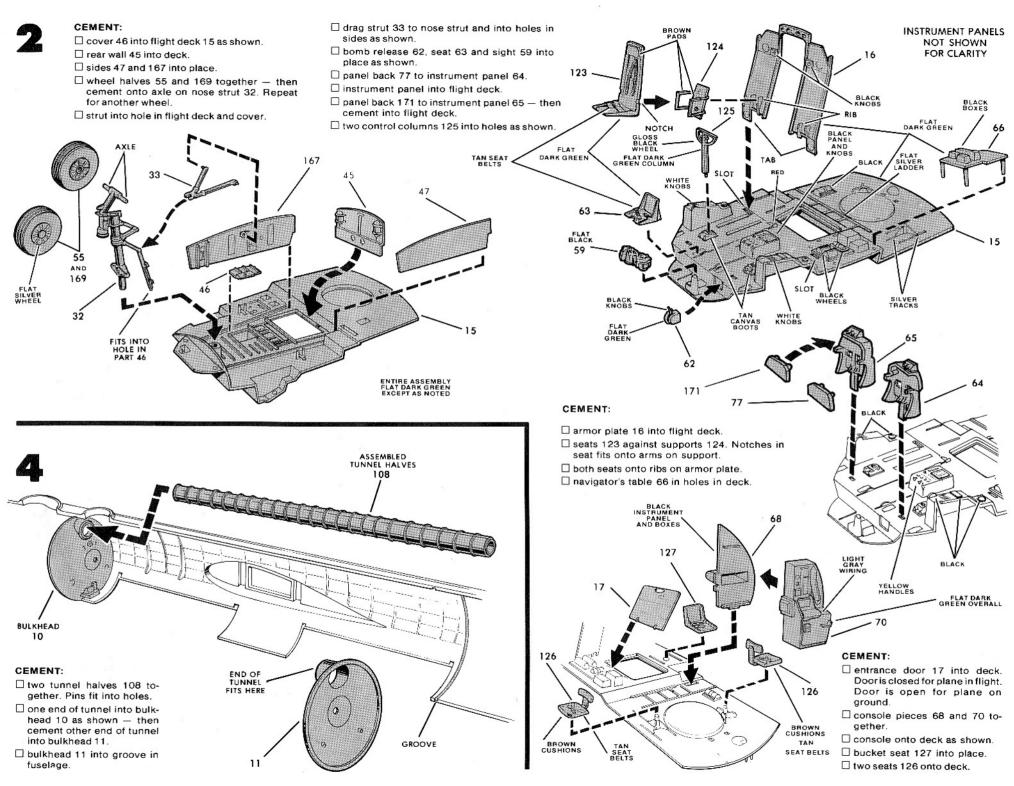
For a neat job, carefully follow the application instructions on the back of the decal sheet. Work with one subject at a time. Before they are completely dry, decals should be firmly pressed against surface contours.

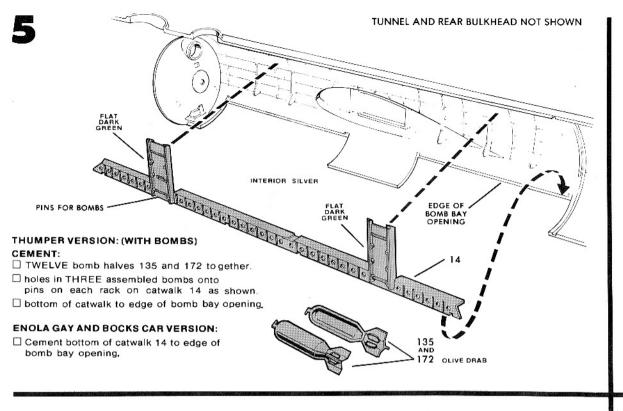
For better paint and decal adhesion, it is advisable to wash the plastic parts trees in a mild detergent solution. Rinse and let dry. After washing, handle the parts carefully to avoid skin-oil which may affect the adhesion.

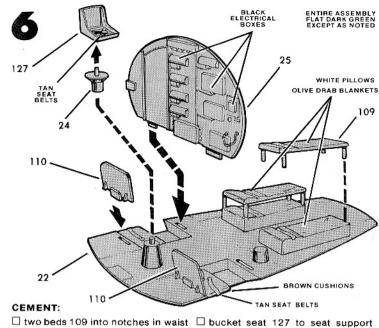
Monogram Models would like to thank Mr. Harl Brackin of Boeing Historical Services, Mr. James Davis of Tucson, Arizona's Pima Air Museum, and the National Air and Space Museum for their assistance and significant contributions to the creation of this model. Our appreciation also to Mr. Robert Mikesh, Gen. Paul Tilbets, Mr. Fred Olivi and Mr. O. V. Tyler for their contributions to this project.



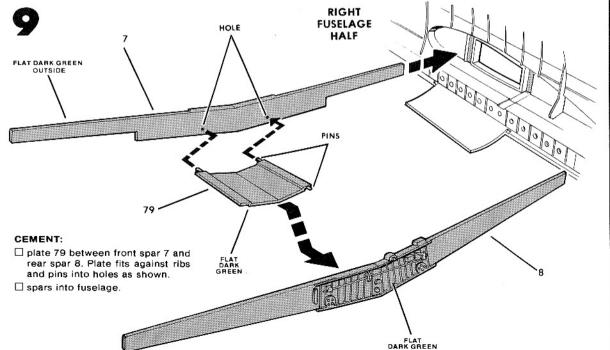


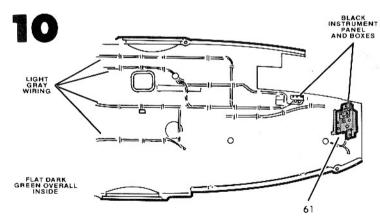






- ☐ two beds 109 into notches in waist gun compartment floor 22 as shown.
- ☐ two seat backs 110 into floor.
- J bucket seat 127 to seat support 24 — then cement support into floor.
- armor plate 25 into floor.





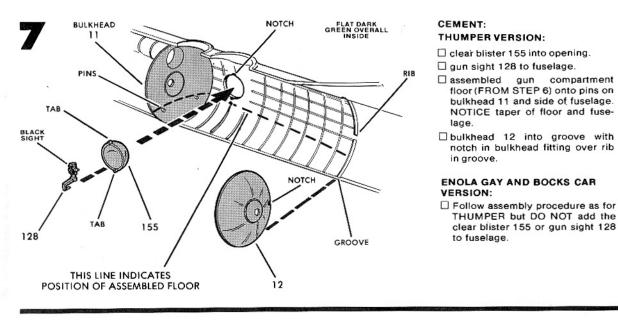
## THUMPER VERSION:

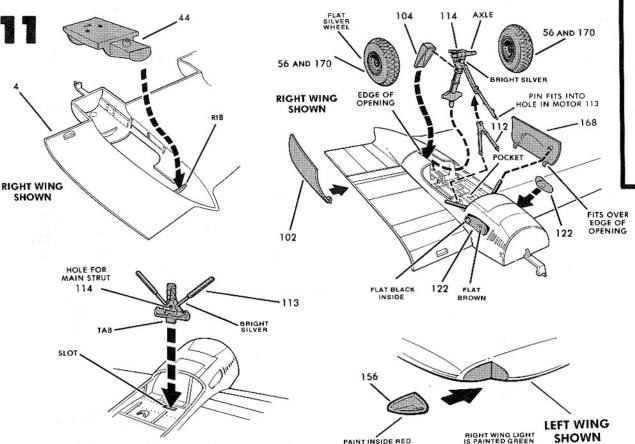
## CEMENT:

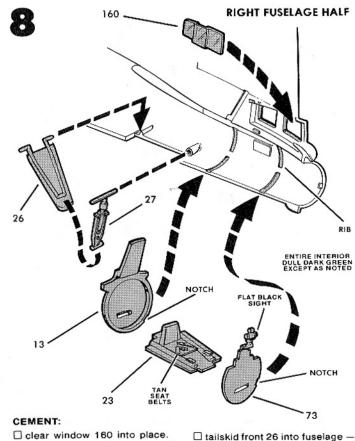
- □ clear window 151.157, catwalk 166, bomb halves 135 and 172, clear blister 155 and gun sight 128 into LEFT FUSELAGE HALF 2 as assembled in RIGHT FUSELAGE HALF.
- ☐ bombardiers' instrument panel 61 into place as shown.
- ☐ RIGHT AND LEFT FUSELAGE HALVES together. Apply cement in notches for wing spars. When using **tube cement**, hold fuselage halves together with pieces of tape until cement dries.

## ENOLA GAY AND BOCKS CAR VERSION:

☐ Assemble as THUMPER version but DO NOT USE clear blister 155, gun sight 128 and bomb halves 135 and 172.







## CEMENT:

wheel plate 44 against rib in RIGHT WING BOTTOM 4.

☐ floor 23 between bulkhead 13

assembled floor into fuselage.

and armor plate 73.

- retracting motor 113 into slot in plate.
- strut 114 into plate and into hole in retracting motor.
- retracting screw 112 to strut and into pockets in wheel plate.
- ☐ door 102 and 168 to edge of opening as shown.
- two superchargers 122 into nacelle as shown. Repeat for other nacelle on same wing.
- extension door 104 to strut and edge of opening as shown.

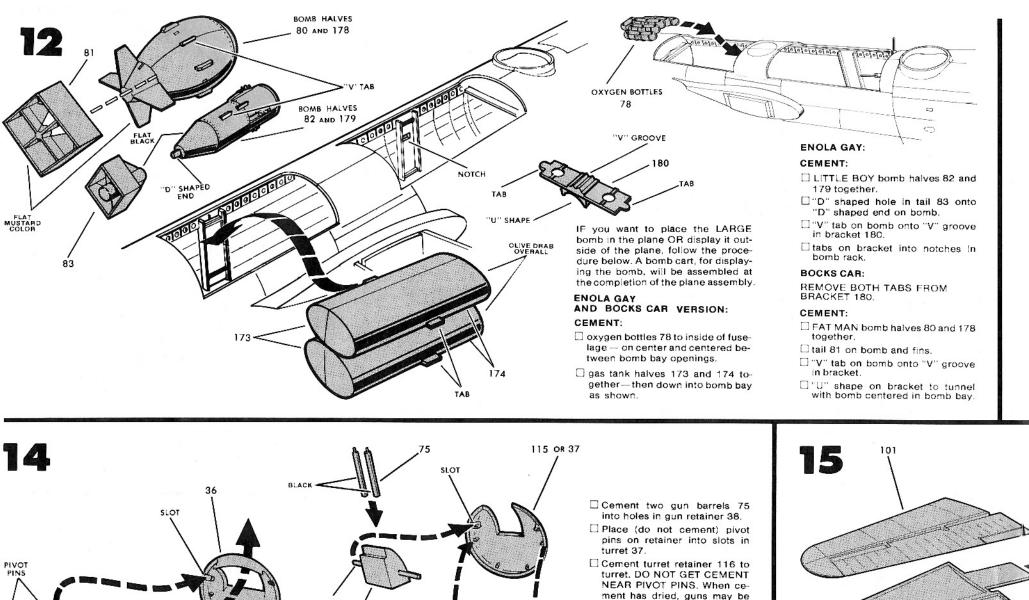
wheel halves 56 and 170 together — then cement to axle on strut. Repeat for another wheel.

then cement tailskid back 27

into fuselage and onto skid

front.

- RIGHT WING TOP 3 to RIGHT WING BOTTOM.
- ☐ REPEAT ENTIRE ASSEMBLY for LEFT WING using LEFT WING BOTTOM 163, wheel plate 43 motor 113, strut 114, retracting screw 112, doors 102 and 168, four superchargers 122, extension door 104, wheel halves 56 and 170.
- ☐ Cement LEFT WING TOP 162 to LEFT WING BOTTOM.
- Cement clear position light 156 to LEFT WING and light 161 to RIGHT WING.



raised and lowered. ☐ Repeat assembly for TWO ad-

ditional gun turrets. ☐ Cement guns 76 into gun re-

into slots in turret

raised and lowered.

☐ Place (do not cement) retainer into opening in turret 36 as

☐ Cement turret retainer 116 to

turret. DO NOT GET CEMENT

NEAR PIVOT PINS. When ce-

ment has dried, guns may be

shown with pivot pins on guns

tainer 39.

PIVOT

BLACK

76

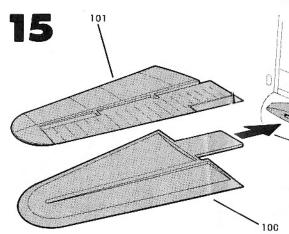
NOTICE

**OPENINGS** 

39

38

116



#### CEMENT:

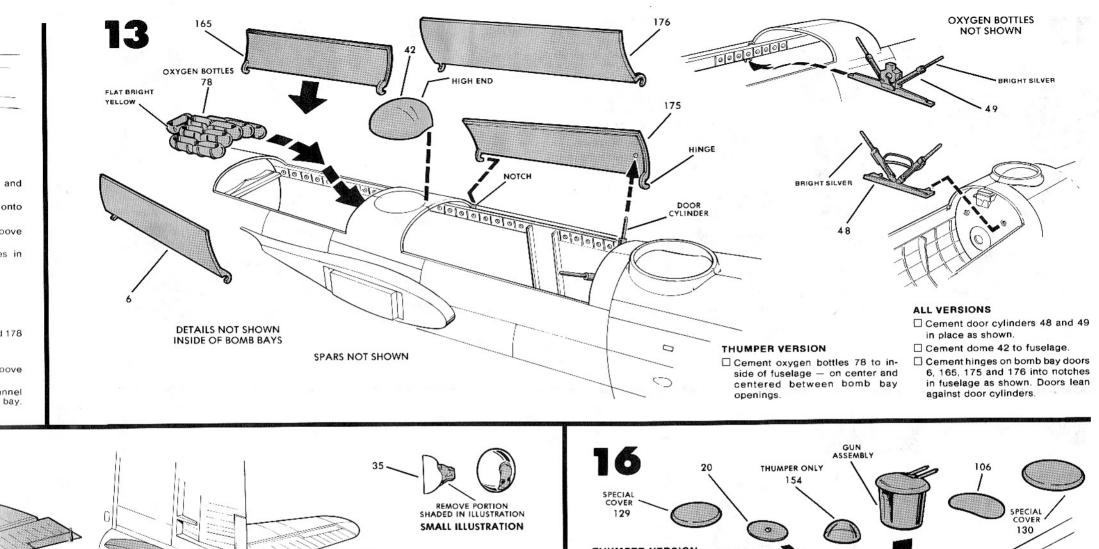
- stabilizer halves 100 and 101 together - then cement into fuselage as shown. Repeat for other side.
- Clear window 152 into place.

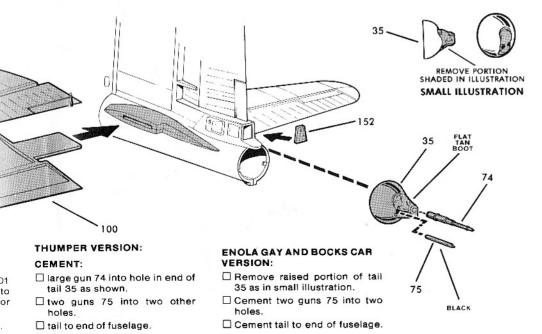
# THUMPER VERSION: CEMENT:

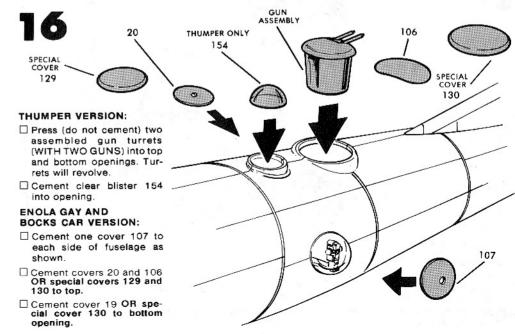
FLAT BRI

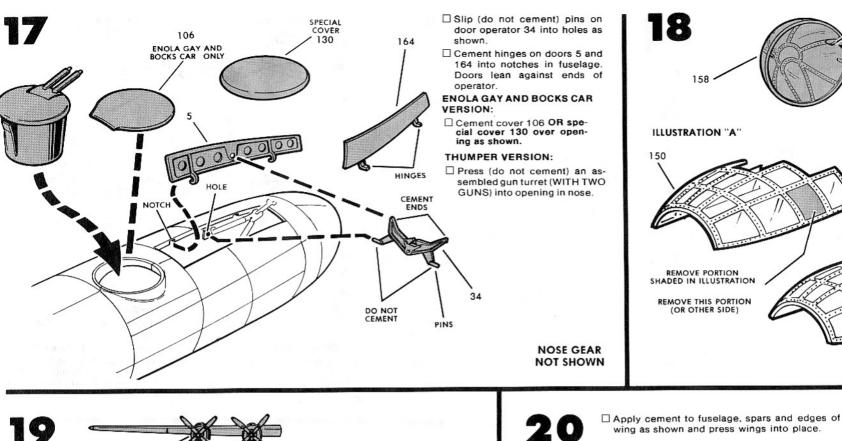
YELLOW

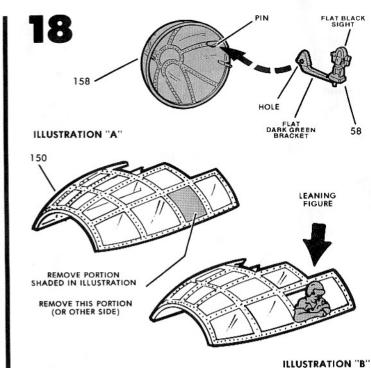
- ☐ large gun 74 into ho tail 35 as shown.
- □ two guns 75 into holes.
- ☐ tail to end of fuselag

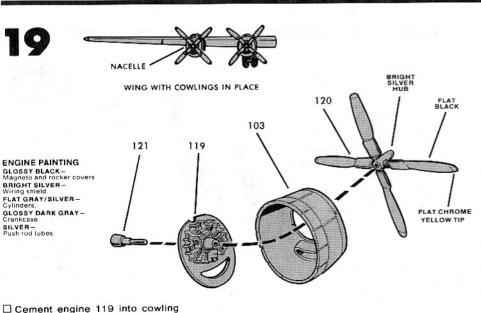












GINES.

on wings.

☐ REPEAT for other THREE EN-

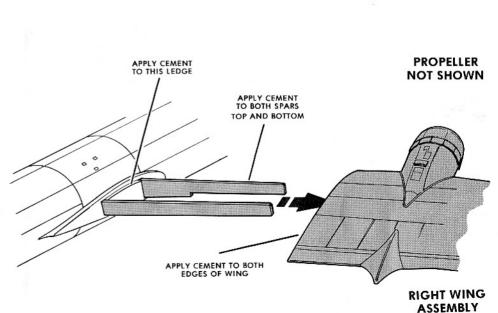
☐ Cement cowlings onto nacelles

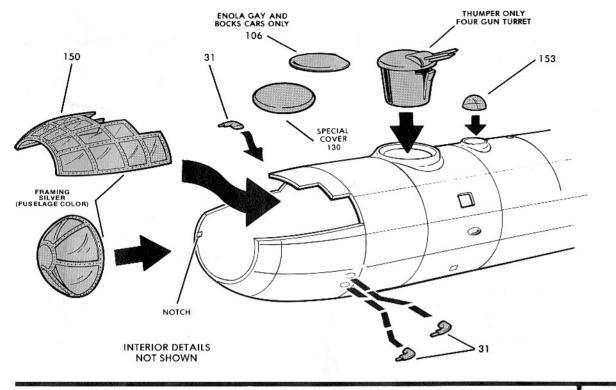
☐ Slip (do not cement) bearing 121

☐ Press (do not cement) propeller

through hole in engine.

120 onto bearings.





BEFORE CEMENTING THE CLEAR PIECES INTO POSITION, PAINT THE RAISED LINES. REFER TO PAINTING DIRECTIONS FOR CLEAR NOSE PIECES.

#### OPTIONAL - ALL VERSIONS

A leaning standing figure with folded arms MAY BY CHOICE be added to the cockpit area as follows:

- ☐ Carefully clean out area in clear windshield 150 as indicated in illustration "A."
- ☐ Cement windshield into place.
  Slip feet of figure through hole in windshield. Feet may be cemented (OR PLACED WITHOUT CEMENT) onto the flight deck. Arms of figures rest on edge of opening. SEE ILLUSTRATION "B."

NO FIGURE ADDED TO COCK-PIT AREA:

☐ Cement windshield 150 into place.

## CONTINUE ASSEMBLY:

#### CEMENT:

- ☐ hole in gun sight 58 onto pin on inside of nose 158 as shown.
- nose to fuselage. Pins on nose fit notches in fuselage.
- ☐ clear blister 153 into place.
- two pitots 31 onto side where indicated by raised lines. One pitot 31 is located on opposite side of plane.

## ENOLA GAY AND BOCKS CAR VERSION:

Cement cover 106 OR special cover 130 over opening.

#### THUMPER VERSION:

Press (do not cement) assembled gun turret (WITH FOUR GUNS) into opening. Turret will rotate.

