

1/72 Scale CAC Sabre Wing Tanks 100 and 166 Imp Gallons (120 and 200 US Gallons) Capacity

There are three types of drop tanks of two different capacities used on NAA and CAC Sabres. The smaller tanks are 100 Imp gallons (120 US gallons) capacity and are identified by the mid mounted pylon. Earlier versions had no tailplanes. The second version was fitted with triangular tailplanes with anhedral. The third version had tail fins added to aid the aerodynamic control when the tanks were jettisoned.

The larger tanks were 166 Imp gallons (200 US gallons) capacity and had either no tailplanes, triangular tailplanes or tailplanes with fins. The later version became the most commonly seen type because of the larger capacity and jettison characteristics. These are identifiable by the rear mounted pylon which gives considerable tank overhang forward of the wing leading edge.

CAC Mk 30 and Mk 31 Sabres and NAA F-86 Sabres up to the F-86F-25 (Serial Number 51-13340) were fitted with slatted wing leading edges and single store carrying capacity. These aircraft normally carried the 100 Imp gal wing drop tank on the outboard position, on a pylon with a vertical leading edge. Most of these aircraft were retrospectively modified to incorporate the new extended wing leading edge and are easily identified by addition of the wing fence on top. The modified wing continued to have only a single store mounting capacity.

However, during the production of the NAA F-86F-25 and later versions and all the CAC Mk 32 Sabres a second load carrying position was incorporated in the wing, just outboard of the landing gear. This allowed the carriage of the larger 166 Imp gal tanks on the outboard pylon and the option of the 100 Imp gal tank on the inner pylon. This was rarely used – mostly bombs were carried on the inner pylons.

Note:

When equipping your model study the summary below to select your configuration and the correct pylon.

Single Station Wing (Slatted or Extended Leading Edge with Fence):

100 Imp gal drop tank with vertical leading edge pylon that is curved inwards slightly, ie left and right handed.

Dual Station Wing (Extended Leading Edge with Fence):

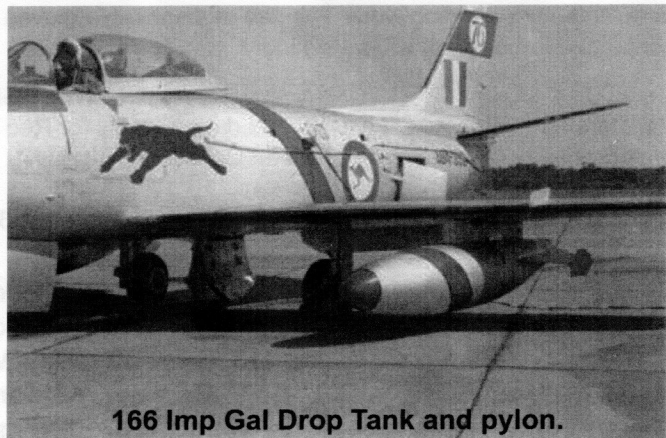
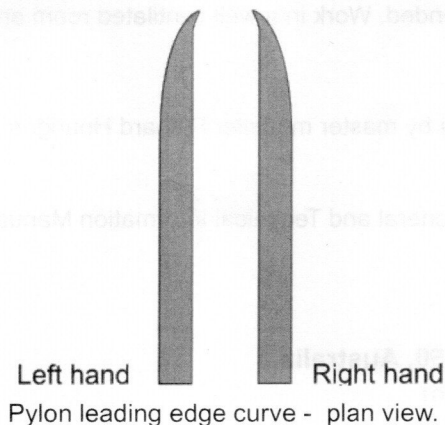
1. Outer Position

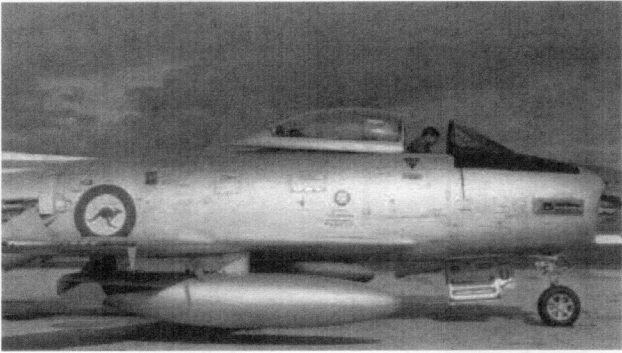
- (a) 100 Imp gal tank with filler cap aft of pylon on tank left hand side and angled pylon leading edge that is curved slightly inwards (left and right hand - see drawing below).
- (b) 166 Imp gal tank with filler cap mid-pylon on the left hand side of the tank and vertical pylon leading edge that is curved slightly inwards (left and right hand - see drawing below).

2. Inner Position

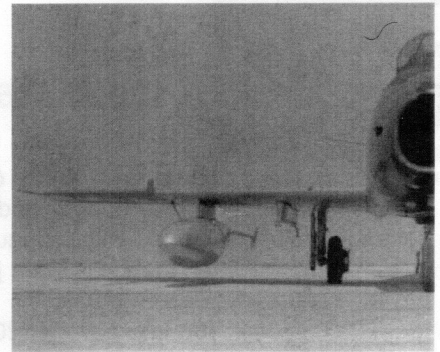
100 Imp gal tank only, with vertical leading edge pylon.

Note – inboard and outboard tanks utilised the external sway brace that fits on the outboard side of the tank and connects to the wing under surface mounting point. The braces were either bare or painted aluminium.





166 Imp gallon tank on the outer pylon on a two station wing of a Mk 32 Sabre.



100 Imp Gallon tank under the single station wing of a Mk 31 Sabre.



WARNING! SAFETY FIRST!

These parts are moulded in resin. As with any type of plastic, wear a dust mask or other type of protective breathing device. Avoid inhalation of dust particles when cutting or sanding. Use copious amounts of water to trap dust in slurry and capture that waste on a piece of absorbent paper. Dispose of waste correctly. Wash parts and hands thoroughly following cutting or sanding work. The use of disposable gloves is recommended. Work in a well ventilated room and do not consume food or drink while working.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The masters for this detail set were created exclusively for Red Roo Models by master modeller Richard Hourigan. All photographs from the Gordon Bennett Collection.

Reference: Australian Air Publication 721:94 RAAF Sabre Mk 30, 31, 32 General and Technical Information Manual.

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