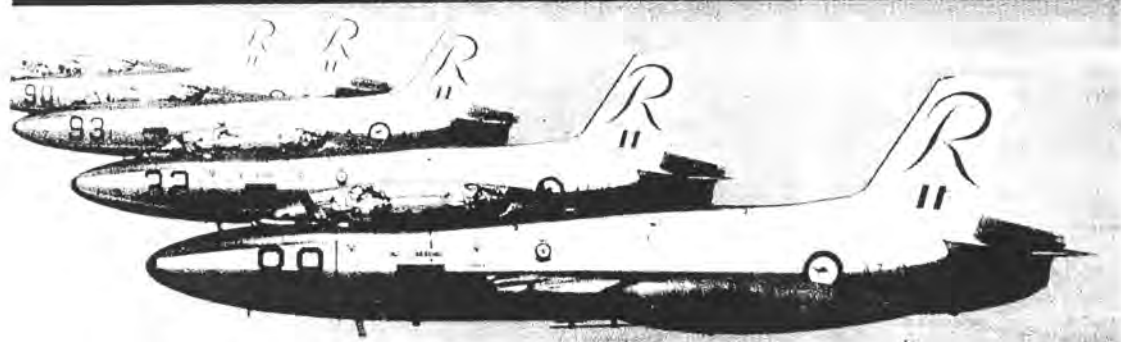


14 Roodecal

1:48 AERMACCHI 326
recommended kit ESCI



The Aermacchi MB 326 performed its maiden flight on the 10th December 1957, after an intensive development programme, initiated by the Italian government after WW2 to elevate the local aircraft industry to the international prominence it enjoyed in the early 1930's. It was not however, till some ten years later that the RAAF took delivery of initial 12 aircraft having all been built at the Aermacchi principal works at Varese. The subsequent supply of 85 aircraft was effected by the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation from its' Fisherman's Bend plant in Victoria, building "Macchi" under licence until delivery of the final unit in 1972. The MACCHI's in Australian service are powered by single Rolls Royce Viper MK 22-11 jet engine of 2,500 lb thrust which pushes the aircraft to a maximum speed of 4000 kph. These engines were also built by C.A.C. under licence.

Presently, RAAF and RAN MACCHIS are undergoing an airframe "life extension" programme to keep them flying into the 1990's, when a proposed new trainer, designed and built by C.A.C. is planned to go into service.

The aircraft are deployed at three principal RAAF and one RAN bases in Australia, respectively those of WILLIAMTOWN (home of 2 OCU (Operational Conversion Unit), SALE Victoria, home of the "Roulettes" aerobatic group and "Central Flying School" for instructors, and PEARCE W.A., 2 FTS (Flying Training School) where RAAF instructors train pilots for the RAN before transferring them to HMAS ALBATROSS, the NAVY's base at NOWRA in Southern N.S.W.

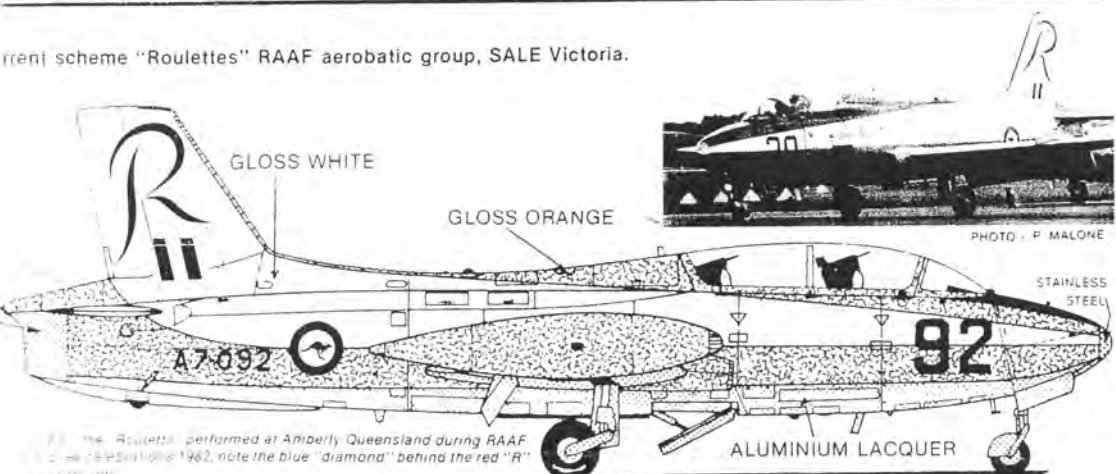
Some of the MACCHI's have only recently been camouflaged to RAAF specifications which imparts a "coming of age" presence to this "pretty" little jet, affectionately dubbed by trainee pilots "the FANTA bottle", due to its bright, orange and white, standard trainer scheme.

IMPORTANT CONVERSION HINTS:—

The original 12 aircraft supplied to the RAAF from the Italian manufacturer came fitted with 30 gallon wing tanks, and normally in respect of the Australian built MACCHI is perpetuated in the ESCI kit of the two seat model. The RAAF found that the aircraft performed better aerobically with the larger 90 gallon wing tanks fitted and consequently these became standard equipment with C.A.C. built MACCHI's and were eventually retro-fitted to the original imported 12 aircraft. The ESCI kit of the AERMACCHI MB 326K IMPALA, the single seat variant, has the larger tank as a standard fit together with a variety of underwing ordnance. The modeller is faced with either the purchase of the IMPALA kit to obtain the correct wing tanks for a RAAF or RAN MACCHI or alternatively use the inner half of the "twin seat" tank to obtain the wing-tip fitting and scratch build or mould the larger tank from the template drawings supplied in the data sheet.

The manufacturers of Roodecal wish to acknowledge the invaluable assistance provided by Peter Malone a prominent Australian aerospace historian, and the RAAF SALE, Victoria for supplying the drawings of the RAAF MACCHIS and photographs used in this data sheet. Alternative reference for the AERMACCHI MB 326 can be found in volumes 10 and 10/109 of the Illustrated Encyclopedia of AIRCRAFT and the Convention '82 souvenir issue of the IPMS Newsletter.

Present scheme "Roulettes" RAAF aerobatic group, SALE Victoria.



At the Roulettes performed at Amberley Queensland during RAAF Convention 1982, note the blue "diamond" behind the red "R".

A7-082 of 2 FTS (Flight Training School) RAAF Base Pearce W.A.

standard orange/white trainer scheme — Pearce Crest both sides of fin and rudder.

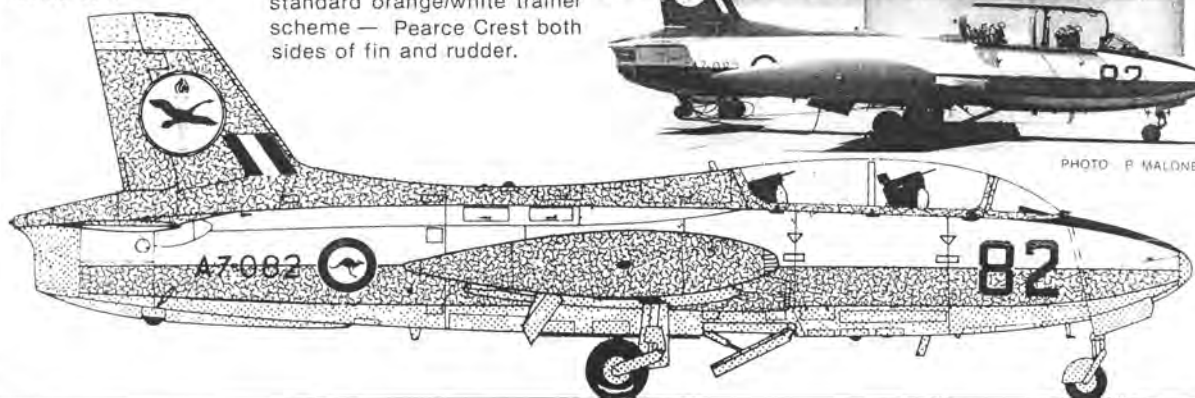
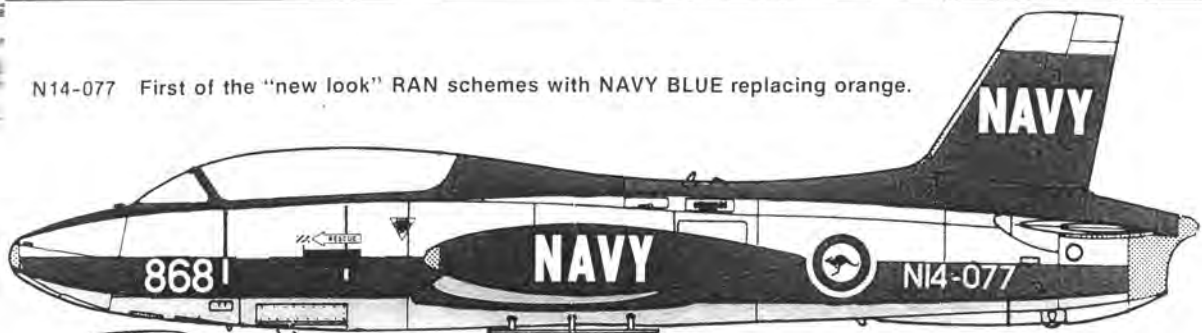


PHOTO P MALONE

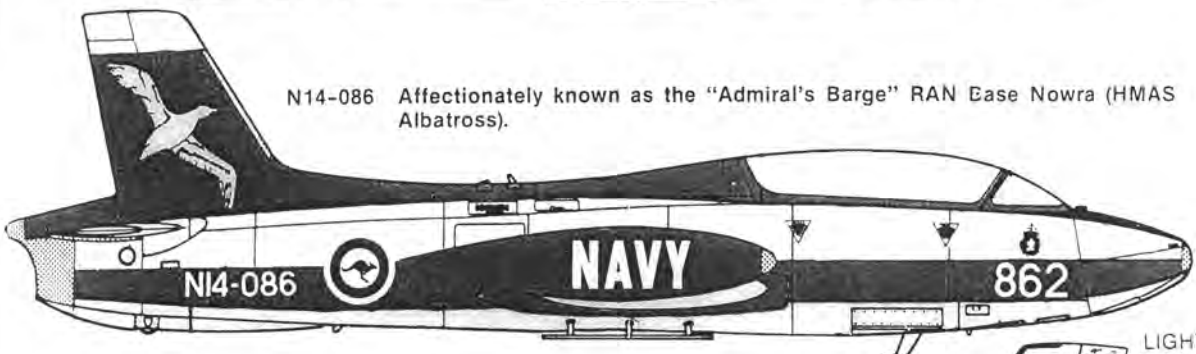
N14-077 First of the "new look" RAN schemes with NAVY BLUE replacing orange.



N14-075 Current RAN scheme, stylized "Flight" symbol on fin — A/C No. atop rudder (VC-724, NOWRA, N.S.W.)



N14-086 Affectionately known as the "Admiral's Barge" RAN Ease Nowra (HMAS Albatross).



N14-087 In early NAVY scheme, as RAAF trainer, gloss orange/white (Pre 1974).

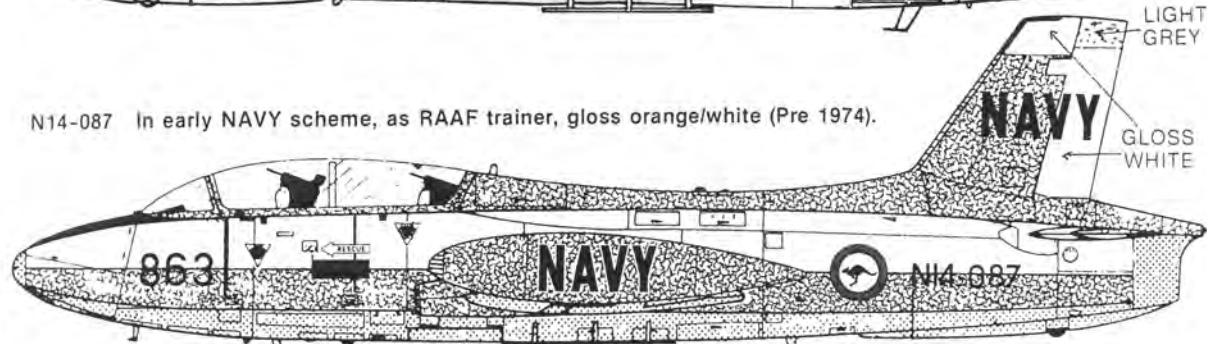


PHOTO P MALONE

PHOTO - P. MALONE





PHOTO - P. MALONE

A7-071 of 2 OCU Williamtown in orange/white trainer scheme Tiger's head squadron mascot on the anti-cutter circa 1981



PHOTO - P. MALONE

A7-057 of C.F.S. Sate - gloss finish trainer scheme, note Tiger of Learning on fin identifying 19th A/C as early Roulettes circa 1977



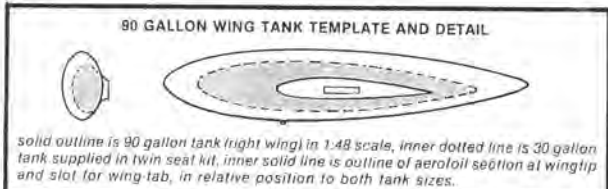
PHOTO - P. MALONE

A7-050 of 2 OCU Williamtown in new RAAF camouflage and Tiger's head mascot with yellow hairs

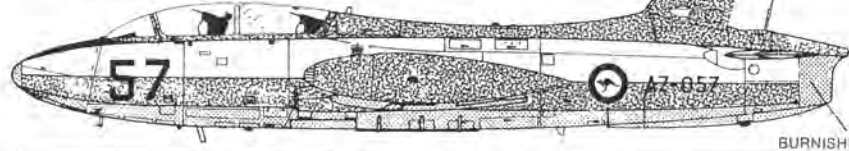


PHOTO - P. MALONE

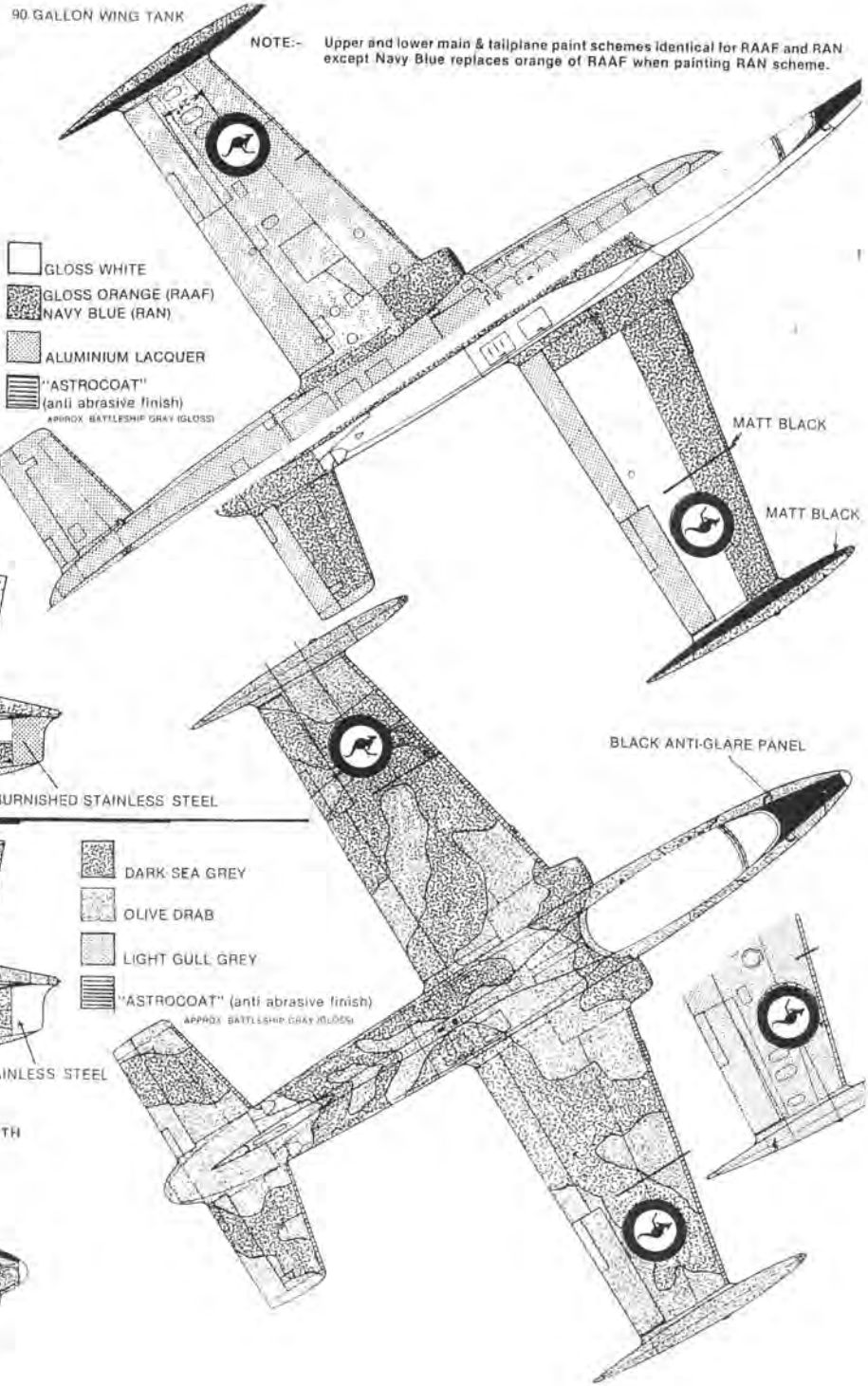
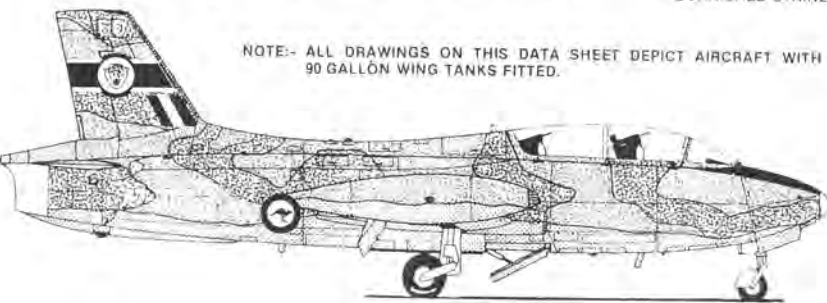
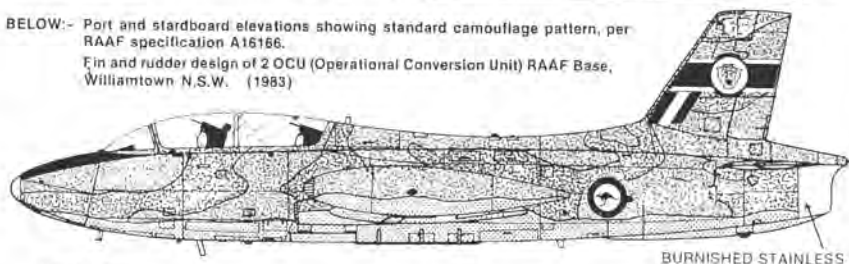
A7-058 also of 2 OCU Williamtown N.S.W. 1983



BELOW:- Standard RAAF trainer scheme — this, with addition of CFS "Torch of Learning" adorning fin (see photo 2) was early Roulettes, prior to revised scheme (see front page) CIRCA 1977.



BELOW:- Port and starboard elevations showing standard camouflage pattern, per RAAF specification A16166. Fin and rudder design of 2 OCU (Operational Conversion Unit) RAAF Base, Williamtown N.S.W. (1983)





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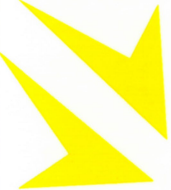
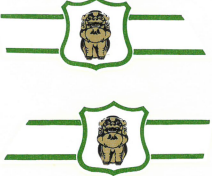
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