FALCON Clear·Vax

VAC-FORMED ACETATE CANOPIES FOR SCALE MODEL AIRCRAFT

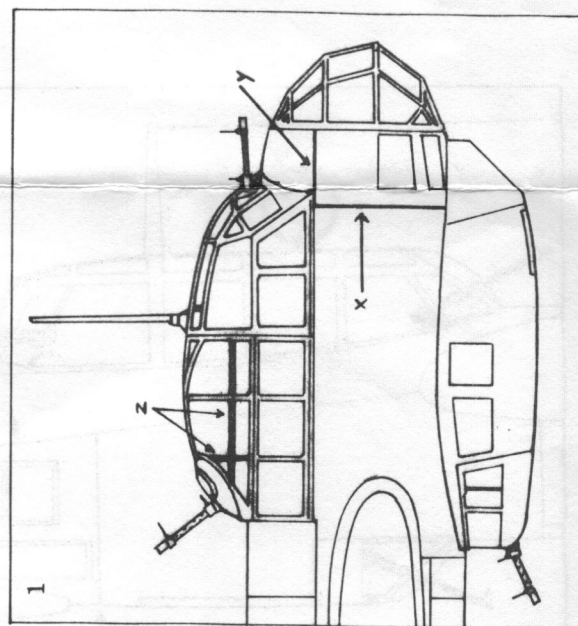## 1/48 CANOPY SET NO. 14 LUFTWAFFE WORLD WAR II

USING REPLACEMENT CANOPIES

TRIMMING: Insert a new blade into your modelling knife or scalpel. To separate the canopy from its base, score very gently around the ledge moulded at the bottom. Do this very lightly at first, with minimum pressure. Repeat the process until the canopy pops away from the ledge. If you score too heavily at first you risk slipping and ruining the canopy. Finally, any rough edges can be cleaned up by lightly sanding with fine wet-and-dry paper.

GLUING: Cynanoacrylate (superglue) can be used to fix the canopy to the kit and gives a fast setting permanent joint, but fumes given off when setting can cause frosting on clear parts. Where possible, mask around the joint with masking fluid or tape. PVA (white glue) is also useful as it is partly gap filling, doesn't attack the plastic and dries clear.
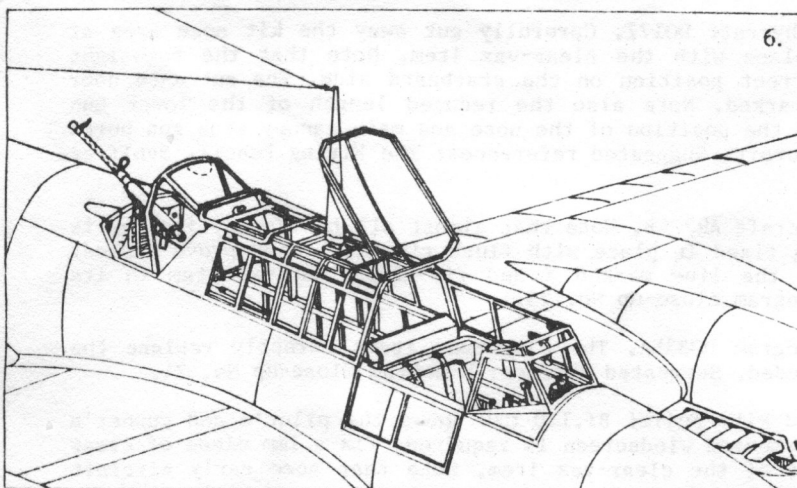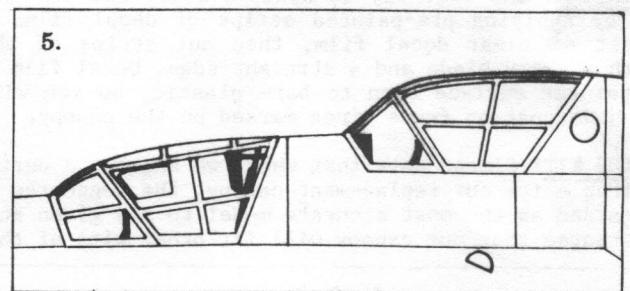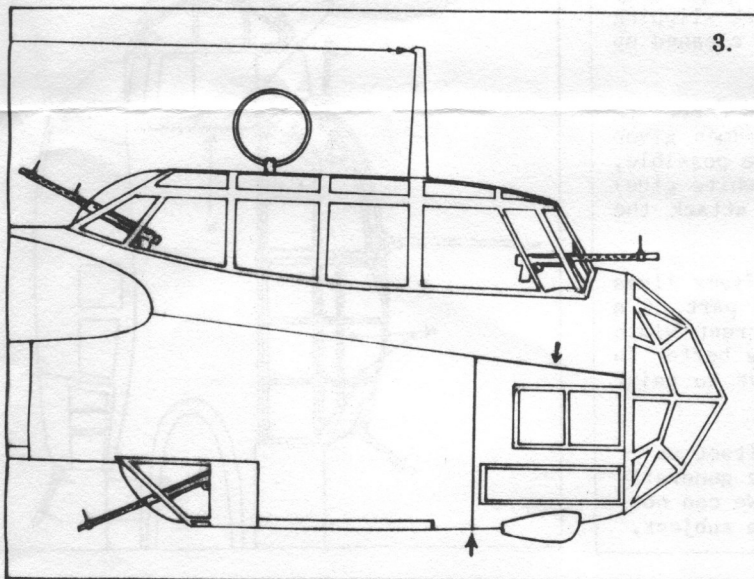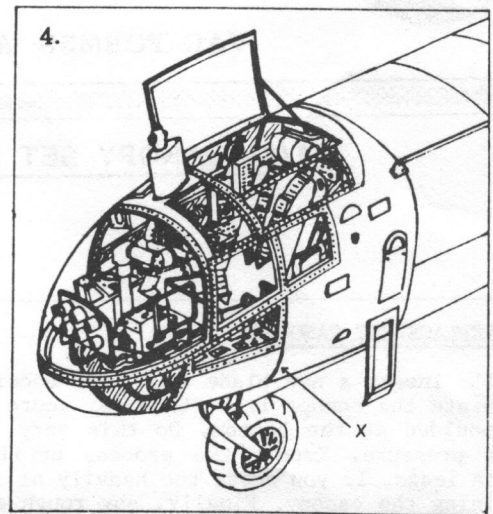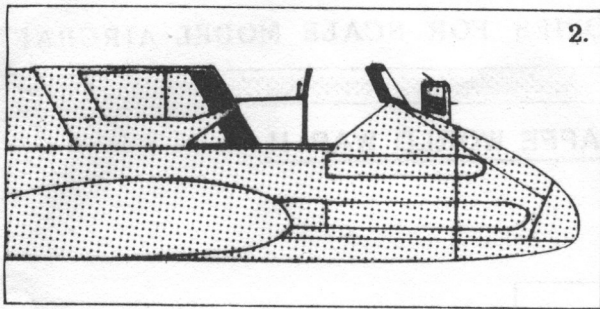
PAINTING: The best way to achieve crisp and convincing frame lines is by applying pre-painted strips of decal film. Paint part of a sheet of clear decal film, then cut strips of the correct width with a sharp blade and a straight-edge. Decal film sticks better to a painted surface than to bare plastic, so you will have to paint an undercoat on frame lines marked on the canopy.

WHICH KIT? Please note that where we suggest a certain kitset as suitable for our replacement canopy, the suggested kit is generally regarded as the most accurate model to the given scale. We can not guarantee that our canopy will fit other kits of the same subject.

1. JUNKERS JU88A-4. Suggested kit: Hobbycraft JU888A-4. Using the drawing as guide, cut off the kit nose pieces at the lines marked X and Y, replacing them with the clear-vax items. Note that the canopy framelines marked Z are internal. Suggested References: Warplanes of the Third Reich, William Green (McDonald); Junkers 88 in action, Squadron/Signal No. 85, Aerodata International No. 9; Warbirds Illustrated No. 43 (P/AP).

2. HENSCHEL HS129. Suggested kit: ESCI HS129B. The drawing shows the canopy in fully open position. Note the very thick armoured glass piece attached inside the windscreen. This is best fashioned from a piece of clear styrene and fixed to the clear-vax windshield. References: Profile 69, Squadron/Signal No. 4 Luftwaffe in action.

3. DORNIER DO17Z. Suggested kit: Hobbycraft DO17Z. Carefully cut away the kit nose area at the lines marked X and Y and replace with the clear-vax item. Note that the bombsight housing has been moved to its correct position on the starboard side. The entrance door will need to be shifted aft as marked. Note also the reduced length of the lower gun turret windows. We have not marked the position of the nose and main canopy side gun ports as they vary, from aircraft to aircraft. Suggested references: The Flying Pencil, Schiffer Vol. 25; Profile 164.

4. ARADO AR234B. Suggested Kit: Hobbycraft AR234B. Note that almost all the canopy framing is internal, the clear sections being fixed in place with flush rivets. It may prove easiest to cut the kit lower nose off at the line marked X and fit the clear-vax item in its entirety. Suggested reference: monogram close-up No. 23.

5. DORNIER DO335. Suggested kit: Monogram DO335A. The clear-vax items directly replace the kit parts. No modifications are needed. Suggested rerence: Monogram Close-up No. 21.

6. MESSERSCHMITT Bf.110 C/D. Suggested kit: Fujimi Bf.110 C/D shows the pilot's and gunner's position open. If the bolted and armoured windscreen is required, fix a 1mm piece of clear styrene cut to shape, to the front of the clear-vax item. Note that some early aircraft did not have a cut-out in the canopy for the rear gun.

Suggested references: Squadron Signal in Action No. 30, Messerschmitt Bf.110 at War, Ian Allan.

2.

4.

X

3.

5.

6.