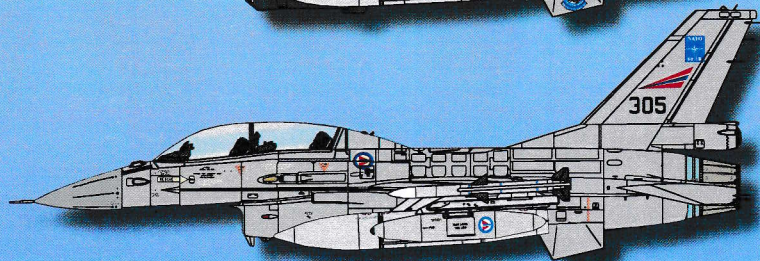
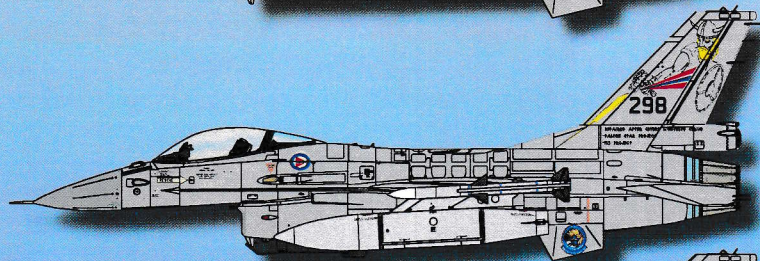
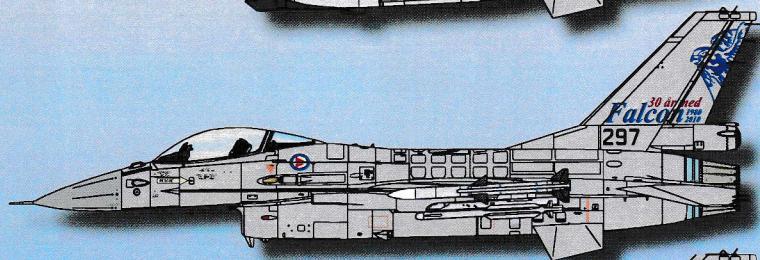
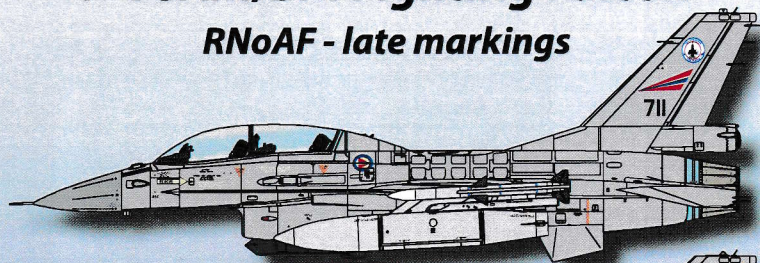
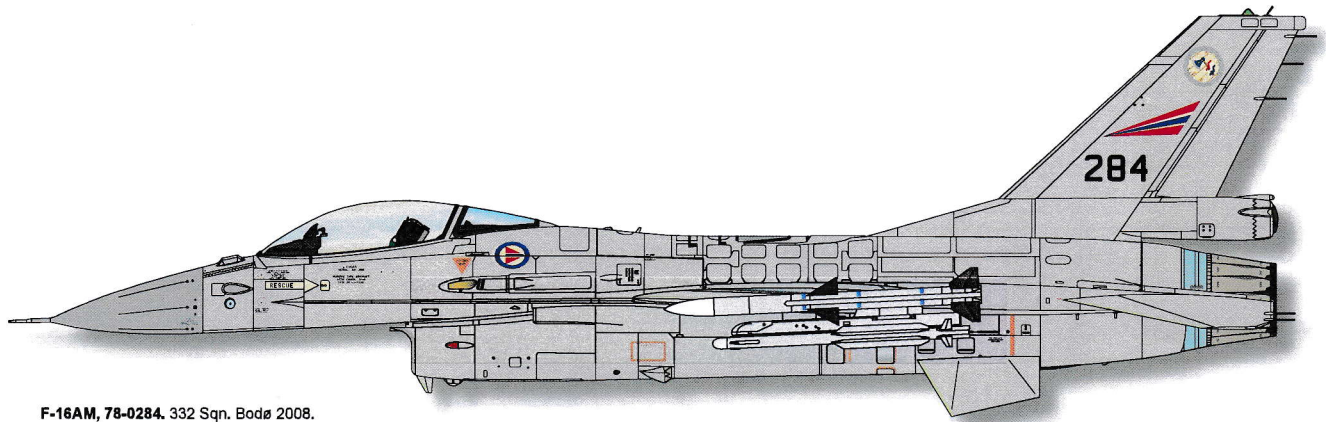


72-115

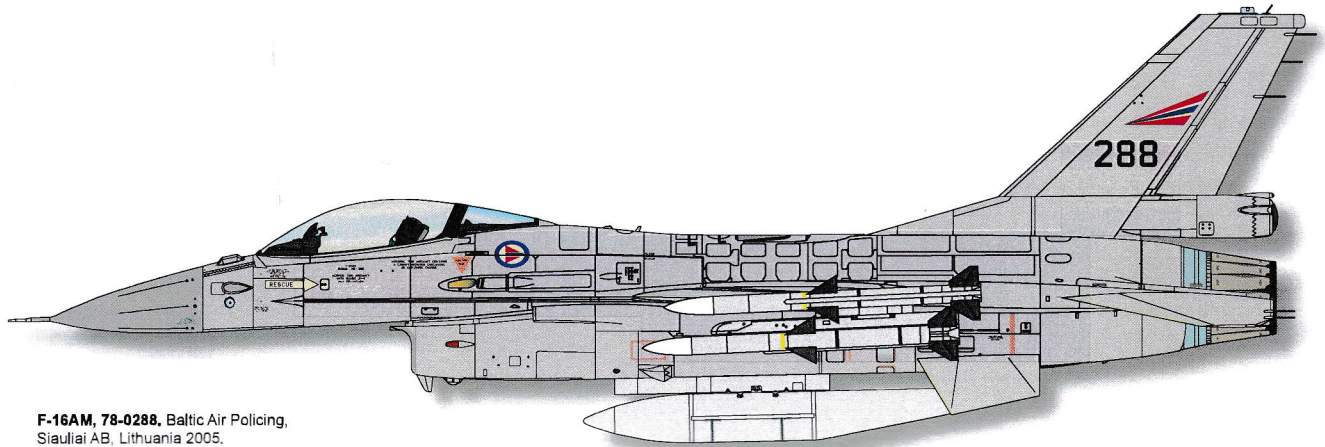
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F-16AM/BM Fighting Falcon
RNoAF - late markings

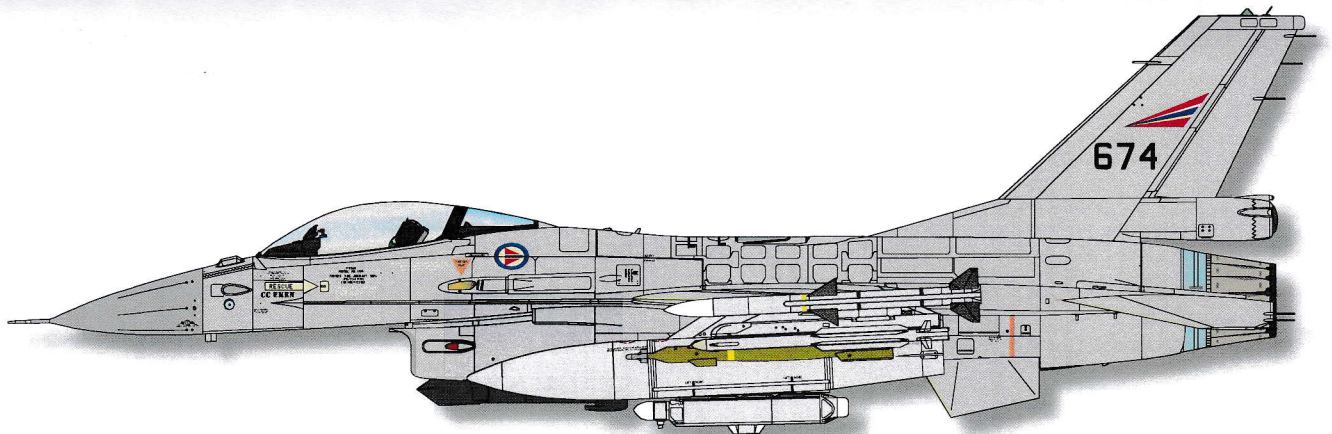




F-16AM, 78-0284. 332 Sqn. Bodø 2008.



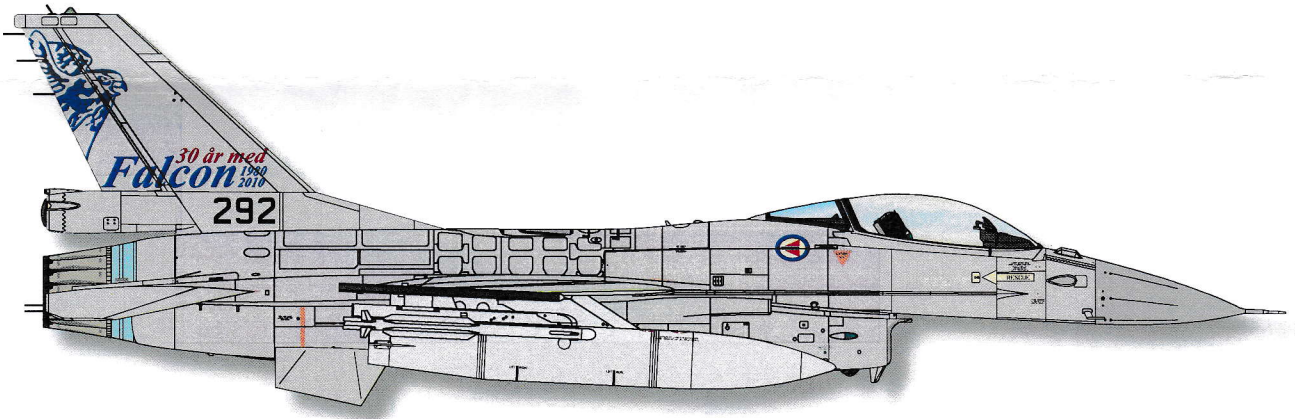
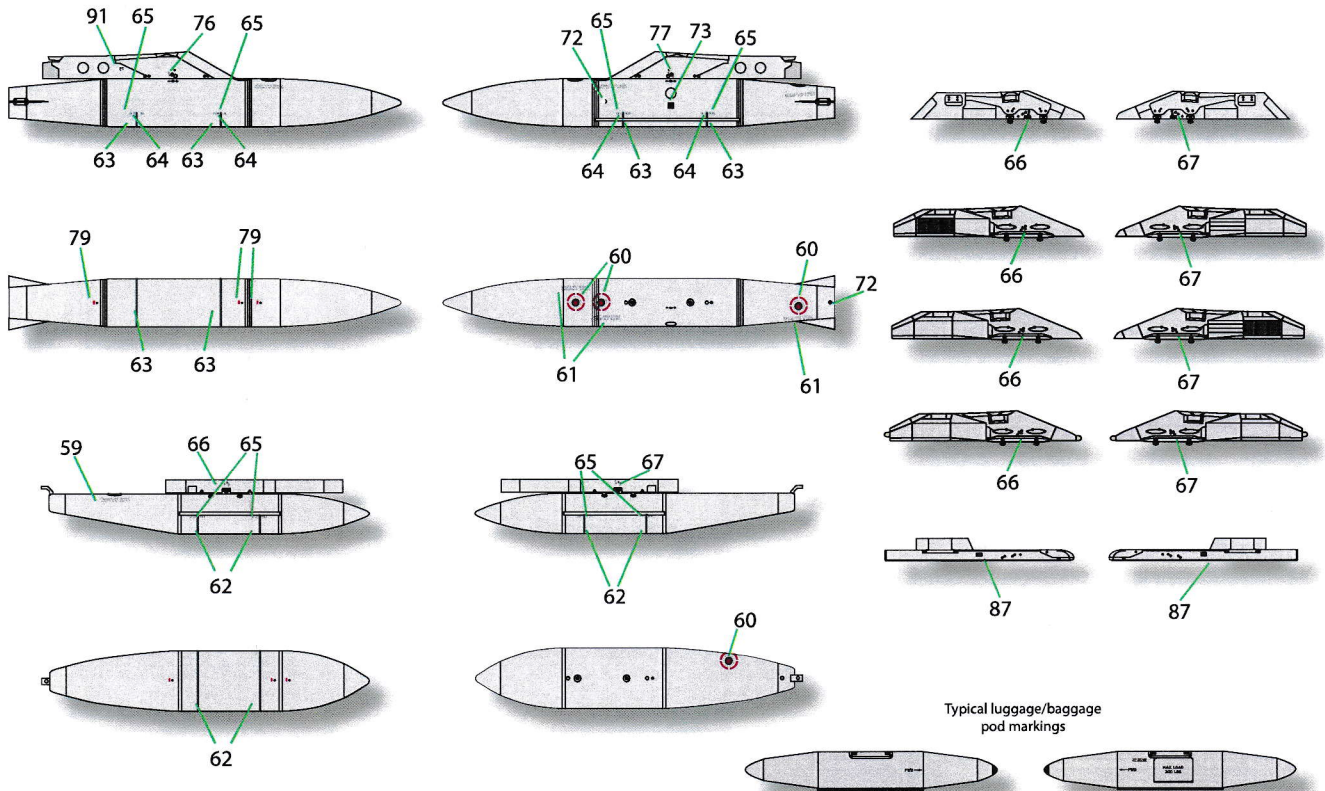
F-16AM, 78-0288. Baltic Air Policing,
Siauliai AB, Lithuania 2005.



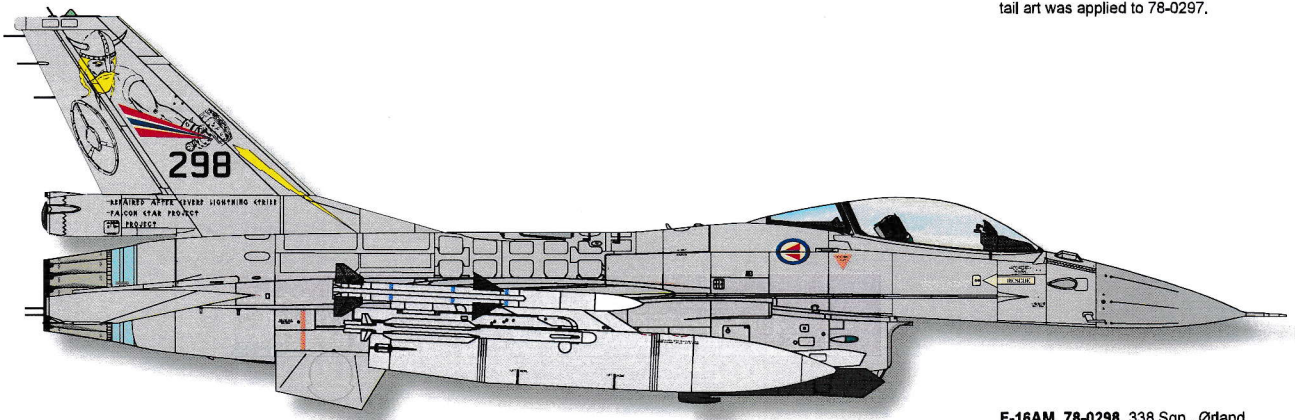
F-16AM, 80-3674. *Op. Odyssey Dawn*,
Souda Bay AB, Crete 2011. "CC EKEN"
applied under the rescue marking on both
sides.

 Medium Gray FS 36270

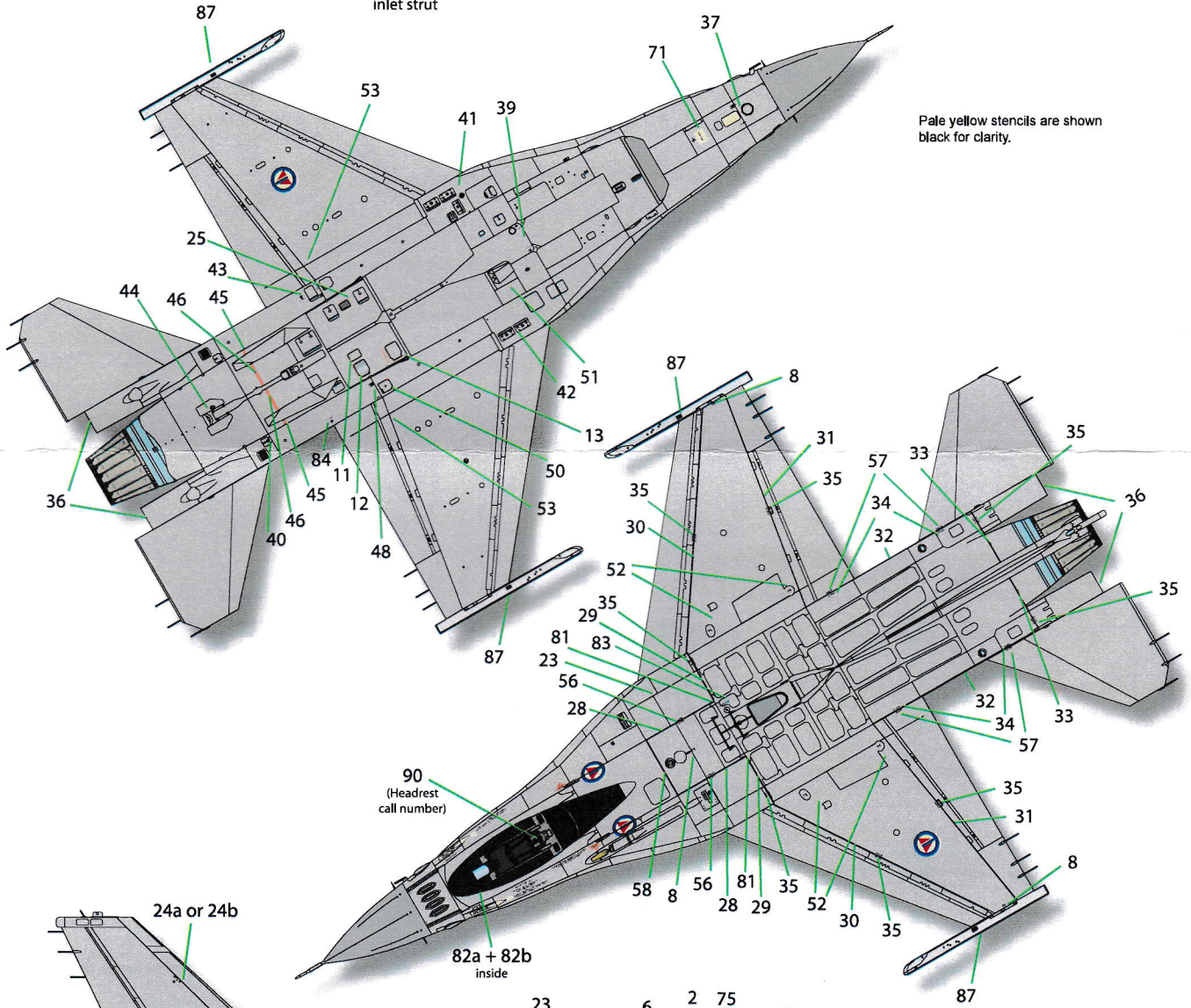
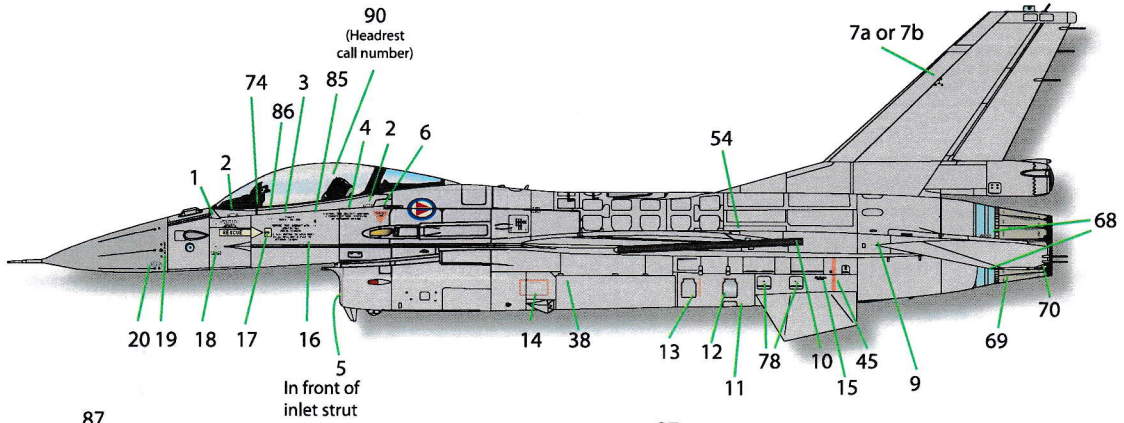
 Light Gray FS 36375



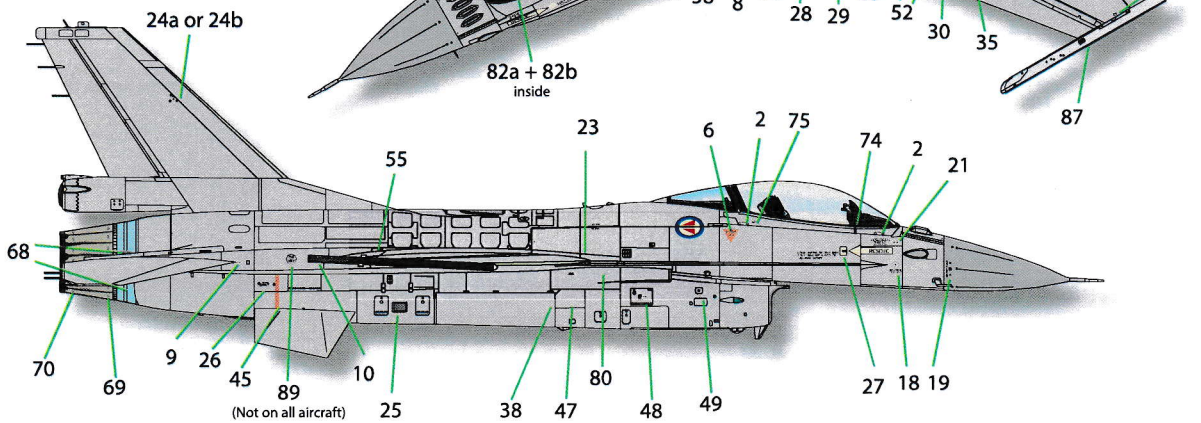
F-16AM, 78-0297. FLO, 2010. The same tail art was applied to 78-0297.



F-16AM, 78-0298. 338 Sqn., Ørland 2008. The starboard ventral fin has lost its Falcon Star badge, with only the glue rim showing.



Pale yellow stencils are shown black for clarity.



(Not on all aircraft)

The F-16AM/BM Fighting Falcon in Norwegian service

The Norwegian F-16s have continually been upgraded since they entered service with the RNoAF. Some important upgrades that are relevant for modellers are the switch to LAU-129 missile rails for the combined use of AIM-120 and AIM-9s in the late 1990s (the original launcher was AIM-9-compatible only), structural upgrades and the Mid-Life Update program. Aircraft that have undergone the MLU are designated F-16AM and BM. A comprehensive description of RNoAF F-16s and how to model them was published in the September and October 2007 issues of Model Aircraft Monthly, available from SAM Publications.

The F-16 has, at one time or another, equipped 331, 332, 334, 336 and 338 Squadrons, though only 331, 332 and 338 are currently operating the type. All aircraft are now "owned" by the Norwegian Defence Logistics Organisation (FLO), with the aircraft deployed to the squadrons, which is why squadron markings are rarely applied. Ironically, the aircraft have seen more "live action" since the Cold War ended with deployments to the Baltic, Balkans, Afghanistan and Crete where they have contributed to providing NATO with air power.

Modelling notes

The decals are designed to fit the new tool 1/72 scale F-16 kits produced by Revell since 2000, but we have also provided variants so the modeller can use the 1980s-vintage Hasegawa kits. These are still quite good kits and there are some excellent aftermarket detailing sets for it from Aires for example – particularly relevant to the AM and BM. Note that the parabrake housing must be added to the Hasegawa kit to correctly model a Norwegian aircraft, although the "double kit" for the RNoAF Tiger F-16s includes this housing. The Revell kit includes the housing with and without the RWR antennas, in effect giving you a spare that may be adapted to fit. The searchlight on the nose must be added to all single-seaters.

Colour notes

The standard paint scheme is overall neutral grey FS36270 with launchers, pylons and fuel tanks in light grey FS36375. Stencilling is black FS37038, orange FS32356 and pale yellow FS33617. A transparent yellow anti-erosion tape was applied to the leading edges of the wings, horizontal stabilizers, tailfin and ventral fins from 1988 onwards, so RAF Hemp will look appropriate here. The grey radome is generally just slightly darker than the fuselage, but there are variations in tone – you may wish to consult photos to get the right shade for your specific model.

Marking notes

Some stencils have been printed in alternative styles. These have a letter in addition to the decal number (a, b etc.). It is impossible to briefly list which variants to go with each aircraft, so the modeller must refer to photos of the actual aircraft to verify which alternative to use.

Decalling notes

The items A-E are placards for undercarriage and wheel wells. Please refer to reference photos for application. Walkway lines and fuel tank lift lines must be trimmed to fit the specific kit.

Decal application

The decals have a very thin carrier film and need to be handled with care. Individual decals should be cut out and soaked for a few seconds in lukewarm water. Slide the decal from the paper over to the model's surface without wrinkling. Avoid moving the decal excessively to avoid tearing the film and washing off the adhesive. The carrier film might at first seem rigid and difficult to lay down over complex surfaces, but using decal solutions like Micro Set and Micro Sol will make them snuggle down over detail and make them look painted on when completely dry. For best results, decals should always be applied to a gloss surface.

Thanks

Thanks to Ole Kjensmo for his great enthusiasm on this project and for his valuable research and to Jens Håkon Brandal for help with the instructions.

Front page:

F-16BM, 87-0711. 331 Sqn., Bodø 2008.

F-16AM, 78-0297. RNoAF F-16 30th anniversary markings, FLO, 2010.

F-16AM, 78-0298. 338 Sqn., Ørland 2008.

F-16BM, 78-0305. NATO 60th anniversary markings, FLO, 2009.

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