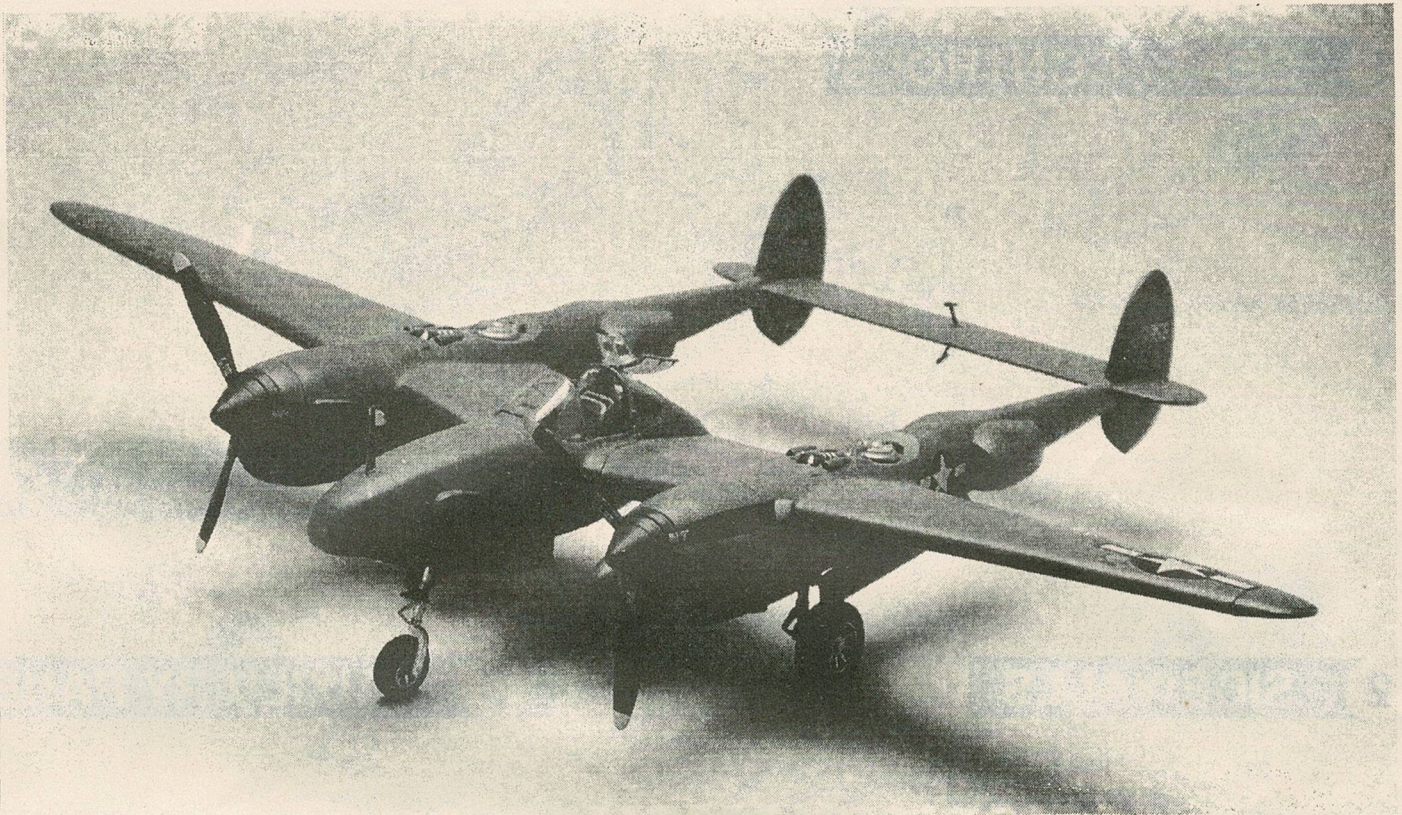


LOCKHEED F-5E LIGHTNING

in 1/48 scale

MINICRAFT
MODEL KITS



In June of 1794, a French officer, Capitain Coutelle, became the first person to use an aerial observation post for reconnaissance against an enemy. From his position in a balloon, he was able to assess the movements of an opposing military unit.

In October, 1861, the first American Army Balloon Corps was created and used during the Civil War for reconnaissance and artillery aiming. Aviation was well established by the time the first World War began, and airplanes became the platform of choice for aerial spies.

In the years following the war, special cameras were developed for the specific role of aerial reconnaissance. They were very large and difficult to handle in the confines of a typical combat plane of the 1920's. However, the following decade saw the design of specialized aircraft, capable of providing a suitable airborne platform for the big cameras.

But these planes were intended to be used peacefully for mapping, etc., under generally ideal conditions, such as during clear weather, and certainly not while under attack from an enemy force.

As World War Two expanded, it became necessary to be able to assess an enemy's abilities to attack, before they could unleash their fury. In order to

provide a fast, maneuverable camera platform, speedy fighters and even heavy bombers were adapted to carry a bank of cameras that could provide sharply detailed photographs within a very short time. Using photos from these planes, a combat plan could be quickly formatted to either blunt an attack or develop offensive maneuvers.

Among the types modified for the aerial reconnaissance role was Lockheed's sleek, fast, P-38 Lightning fighter. This plane was so fast it did not need defensive armament, so the space was used to mount sophisticated camera gear in the nose. With these alterations the planes were reclassified as F-5s. The F-5's lightning speed, combined with a ceiling beyond most anti aircraft range, made it almost impossible to intercept.

Other fighters and high speed bombers were modified for the aerial photography role during the war, and by the end of the conflict specialized observation planes were on the drawing boards. Today's sophisticated spy planes, such as the Lockheed U-2, SR-71 and even more advanced craft descended directly from the F-5 series of camera planes.

#11627



Cement
Coller
Kleben
Pegar
Incollare
Colar
Kleven



DO NOT Cement
Ne pas Coller
Nicht Kleben
No Pegar
Non Incollare
Nao Colar
Niet Kleven



Cut away
Couper
Scheiden
Cortar
Tagliere
Cortar
Snijden



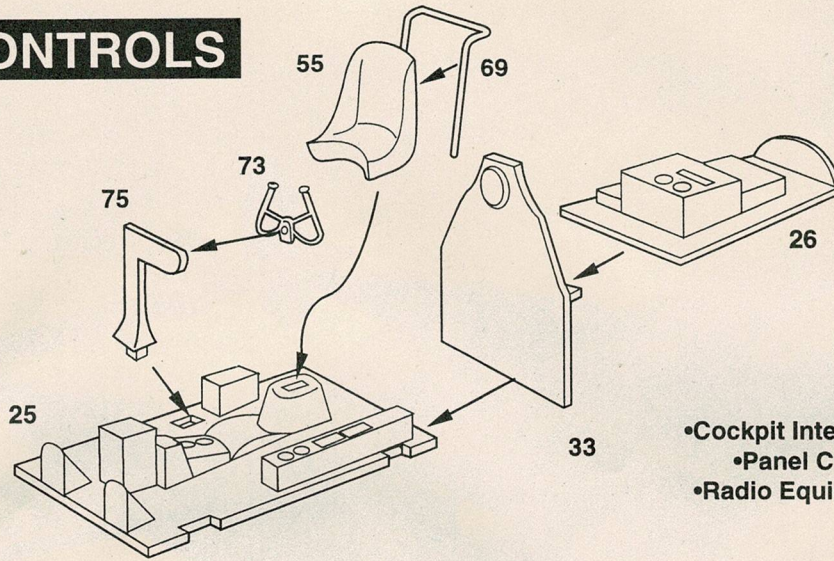
Optional parts
Choix
Auswahlmöglichkeit
Eleccion
Scelta
Opaco
Keuze



3

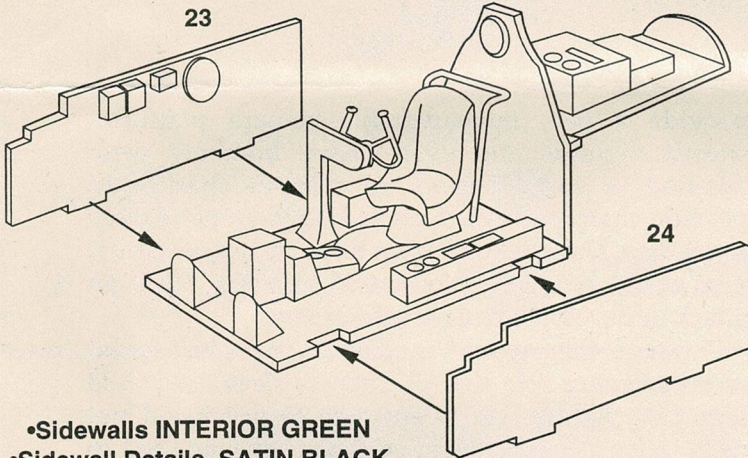
Repeat operation
Répéeter l'opération
Vorgang wiederholen
Repitir la operacion
Ripetere
Repitir a operação
Herhalen

1 SEAT / CONTROLS



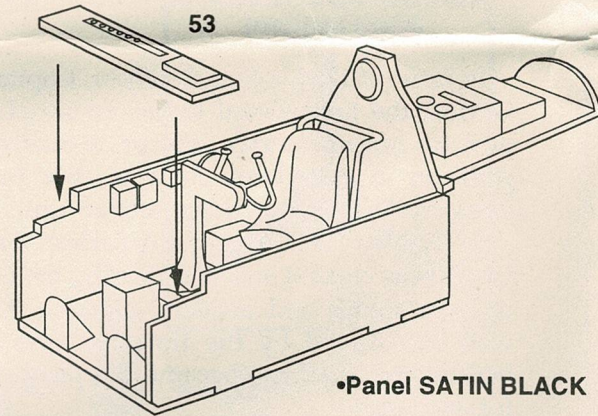
- Cockpit Interior INTERIOR GREEN
- Panel Cover FLAT BLACK
- Radio Equipment SATIN BLACK

2 SIDEWALLS



- Sidewalls INTERIOR GREEN
- Sidewall Details SATIN BLACK

3 AUXILIARY PANEL



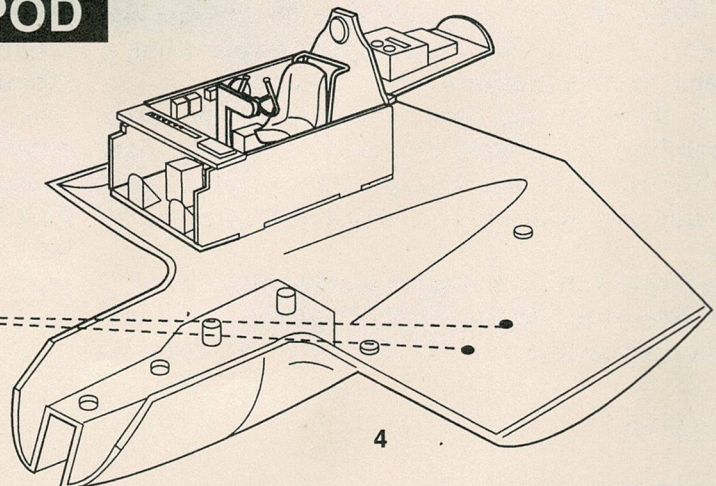
- Panel SATIN BLACK

4 LOWER FUSELAGE POD

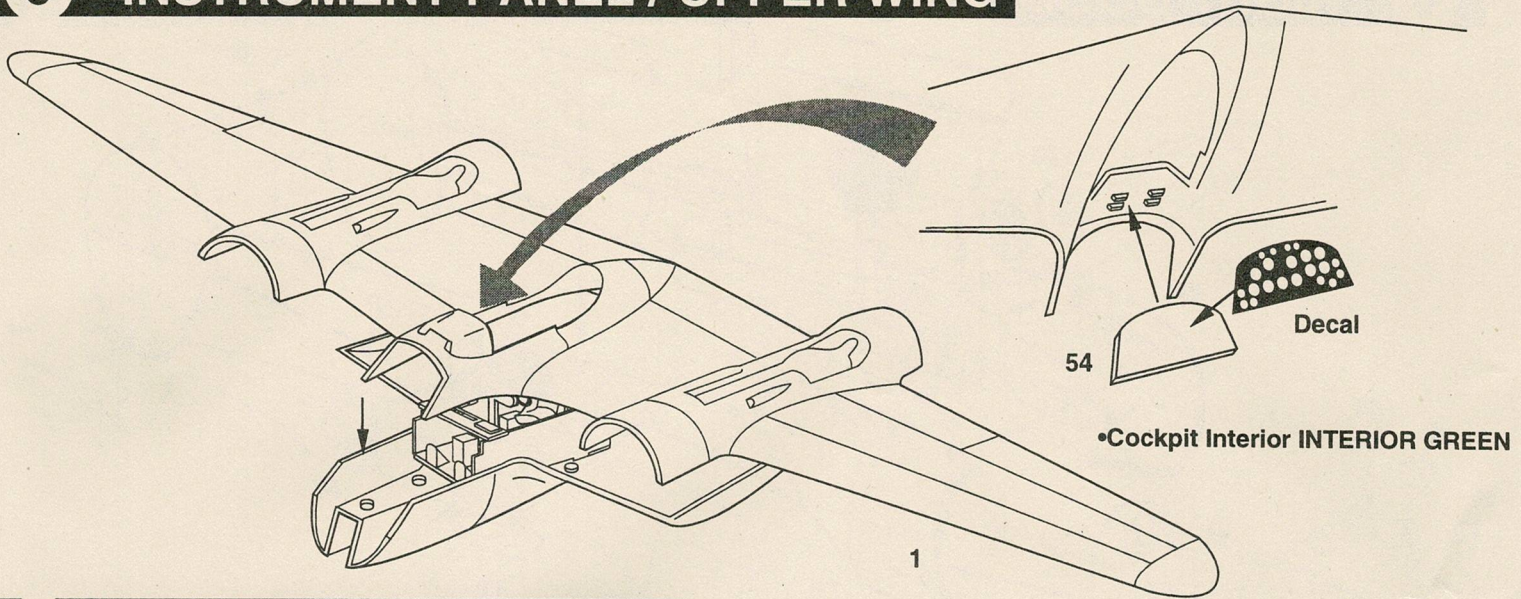


NOTE

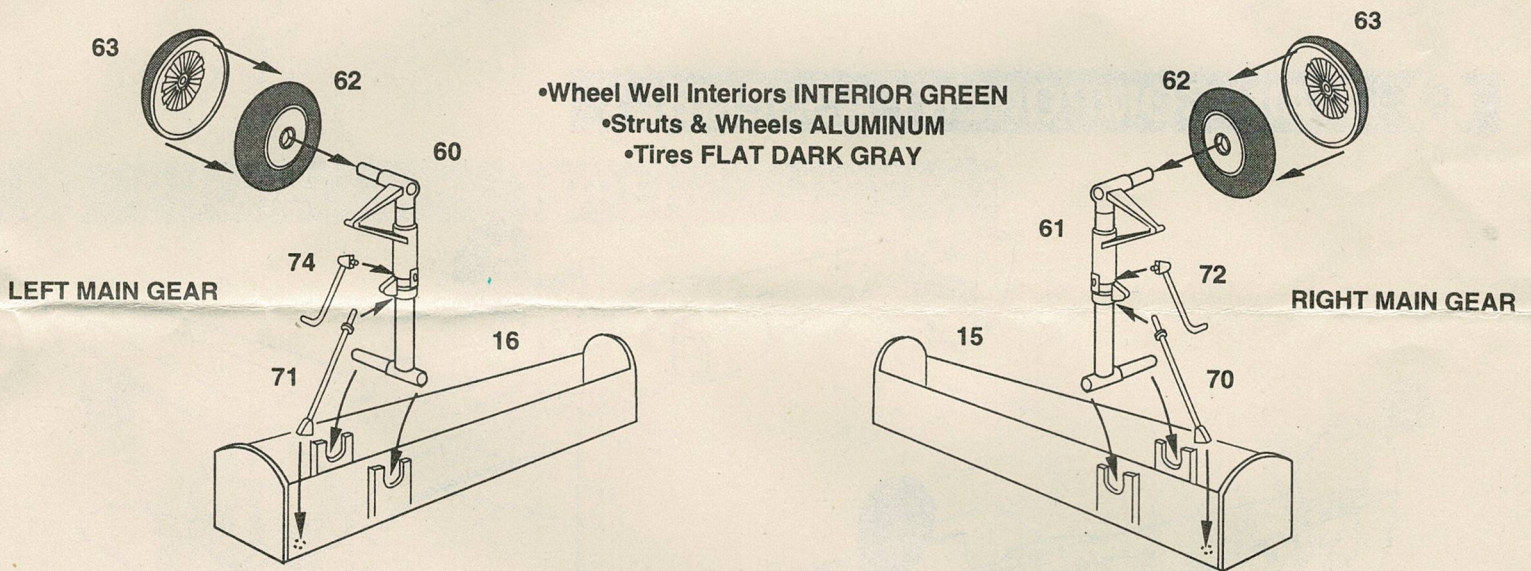
See Step 12 -
Fill holes in lower wing 4 if you
choose not to use
underwing stores.
(Two holes under each wing)



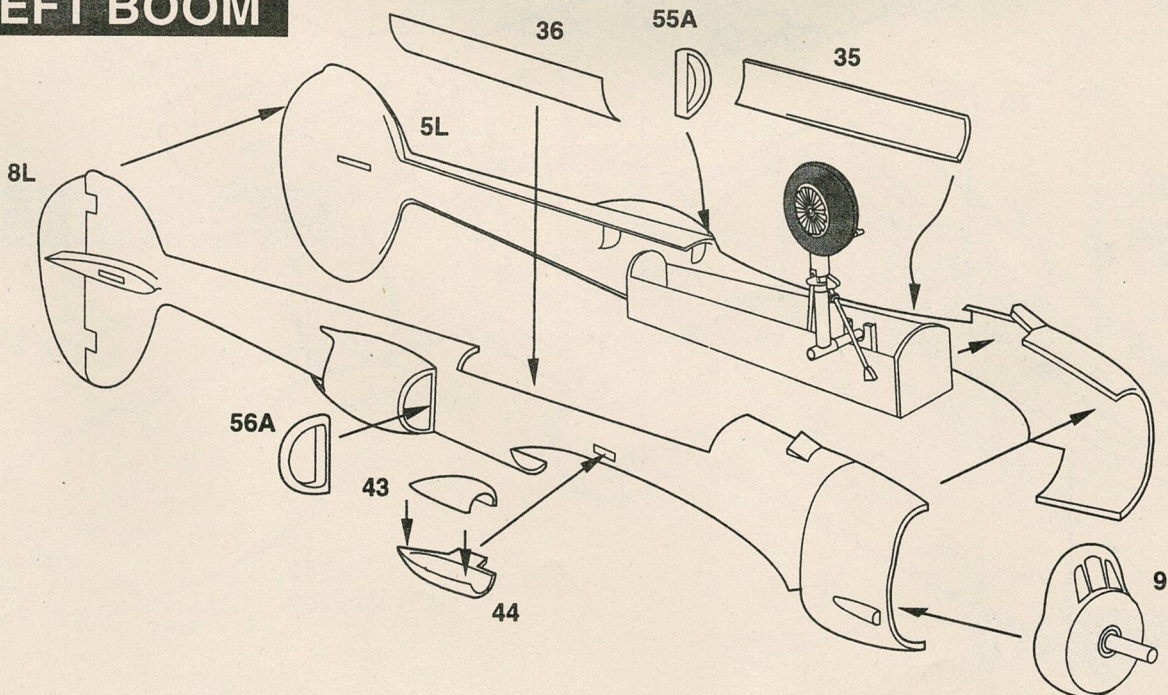
5 INSTRUMENT PANEL / UPPER WING



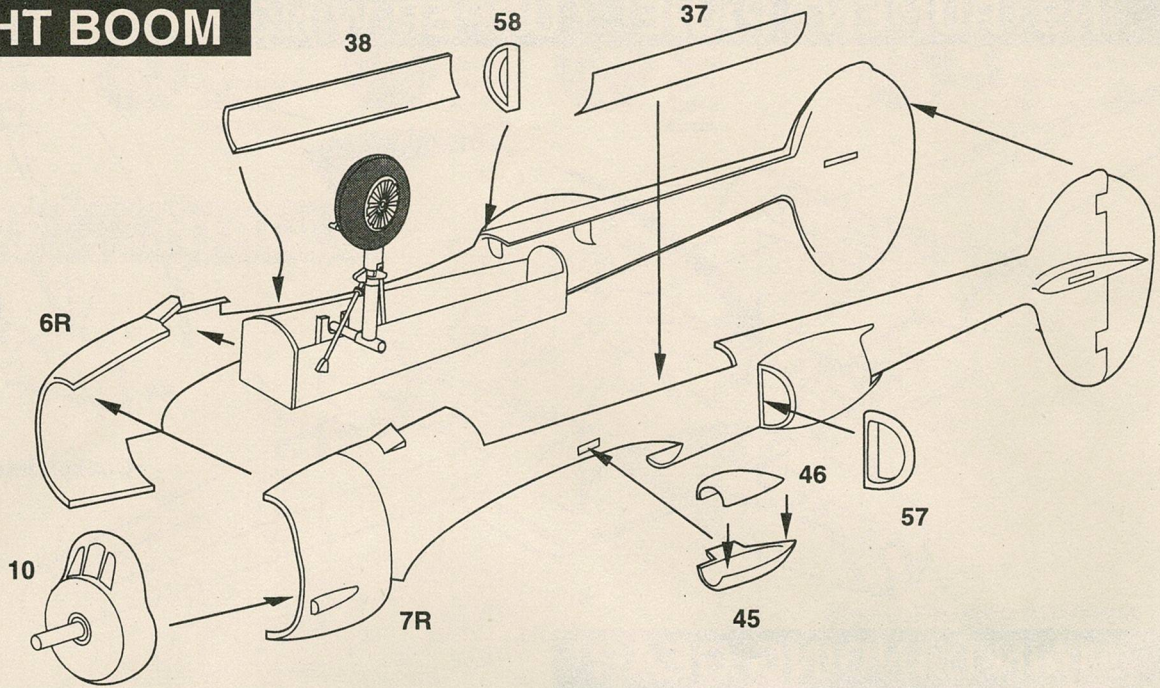
6 MAIN LANDING GEAR



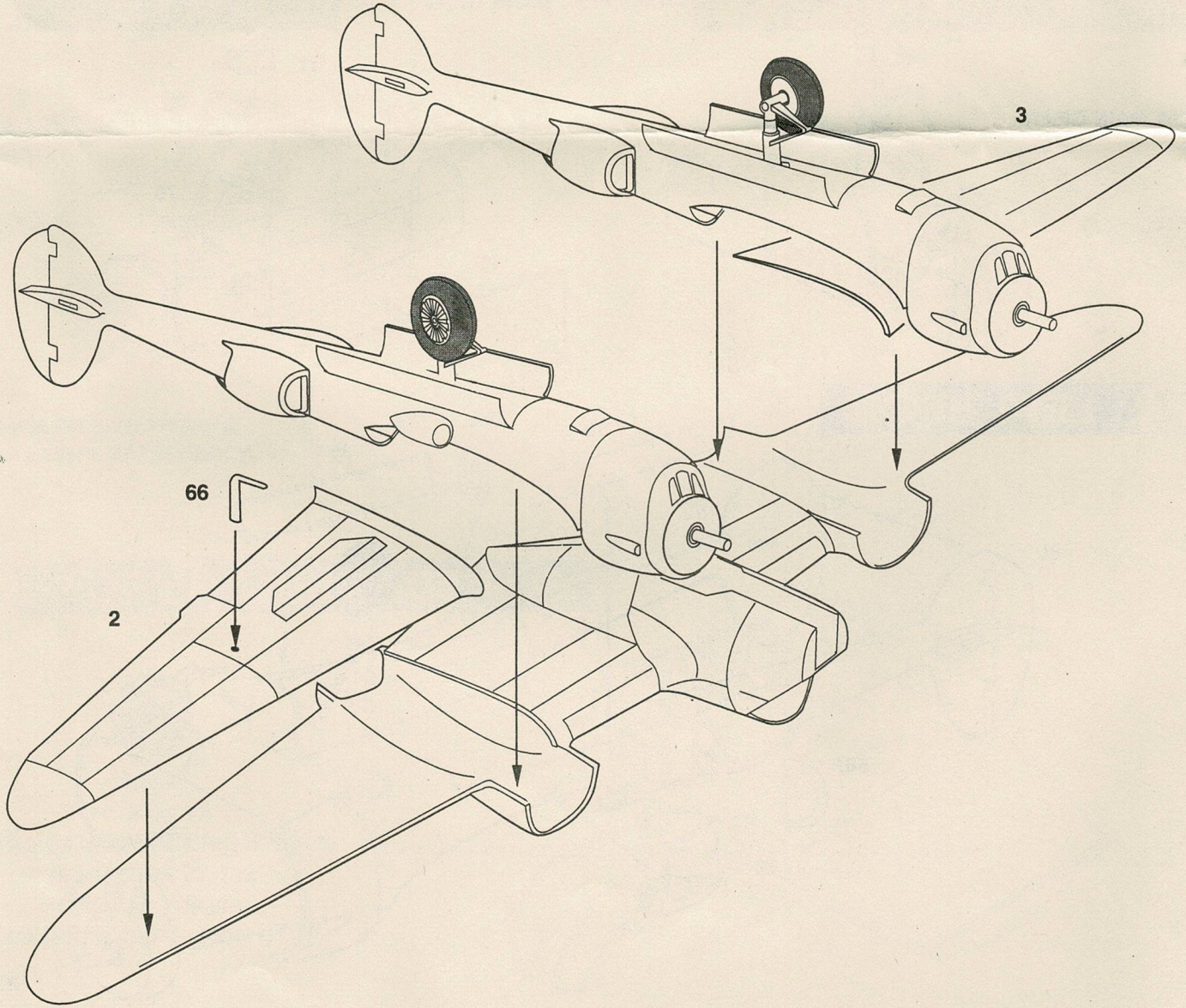
7 LEFT BOOM



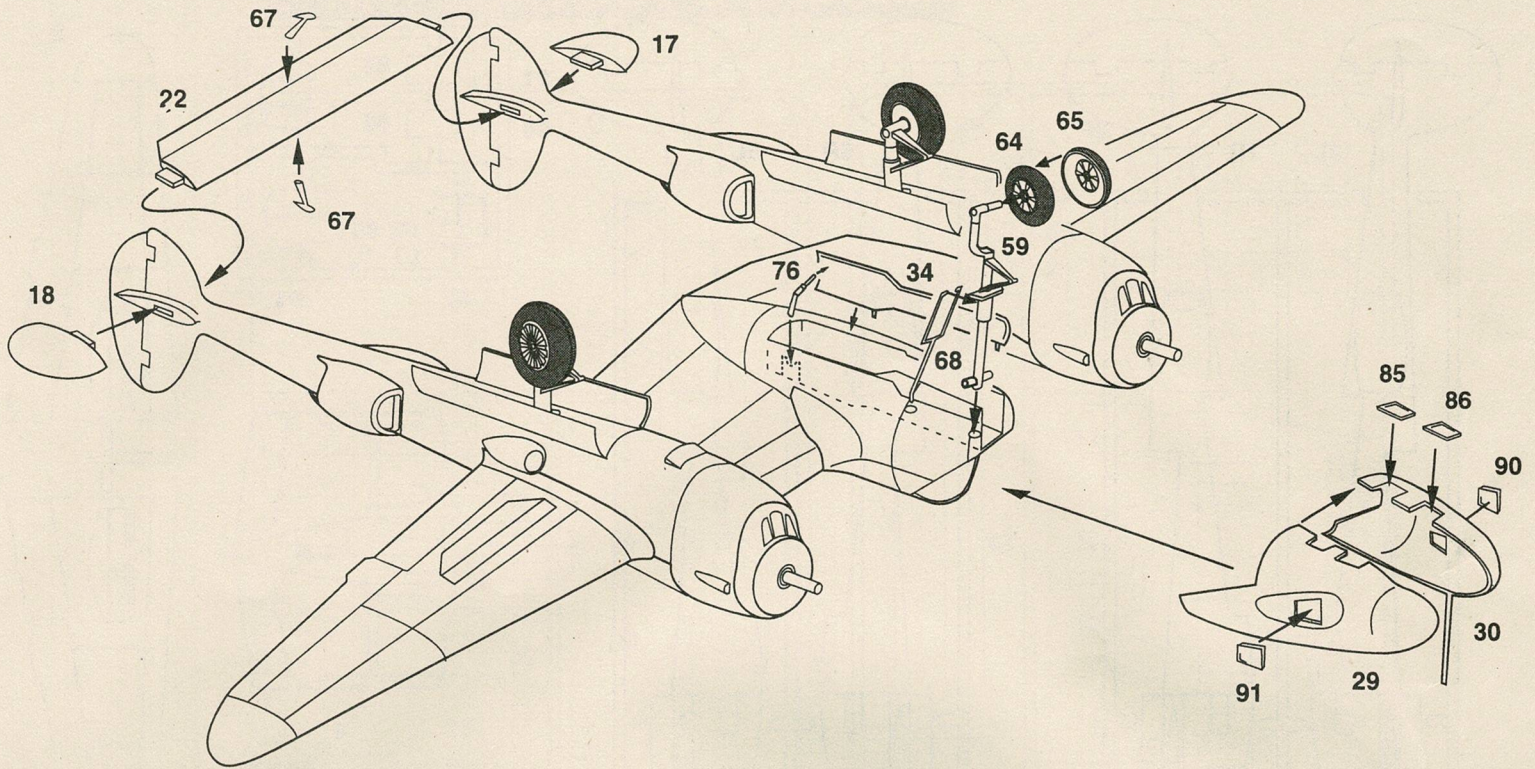
8 RIGHT BOOM



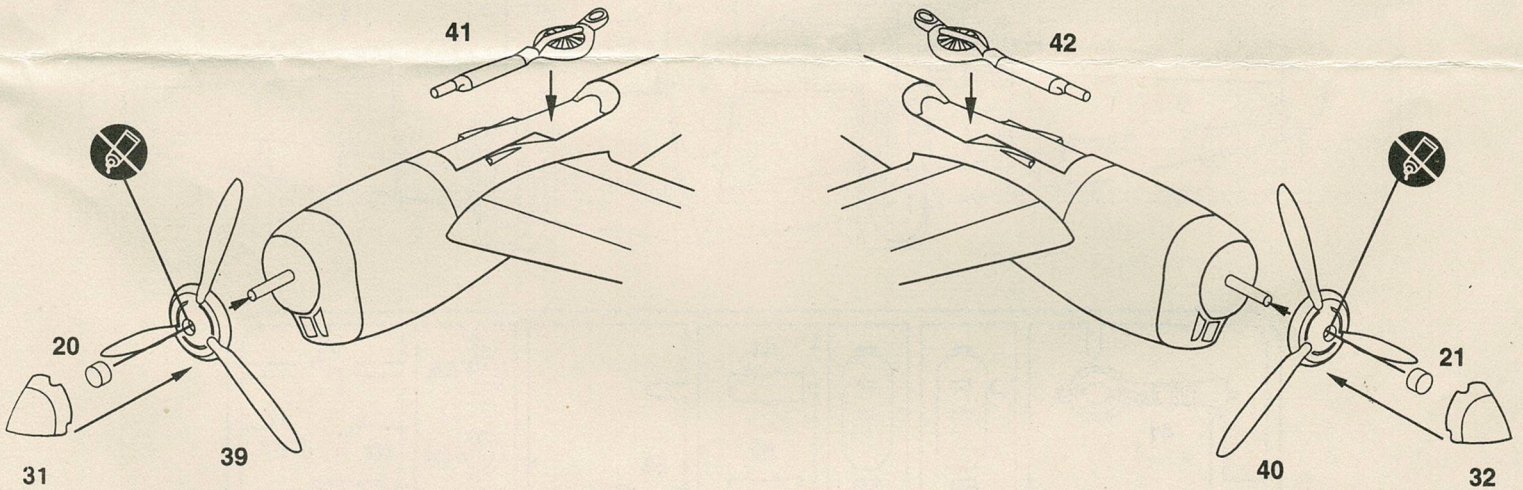
9 MAIN COMPONENT ASSEMBLY



10 TAIL / NOSE GEAR / NOSE



11 PROPELLERS / SUPERCHARGERS

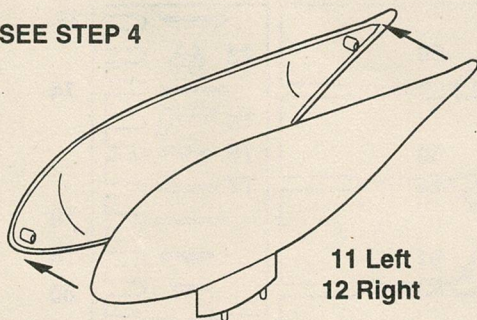


12 DROP TANKS

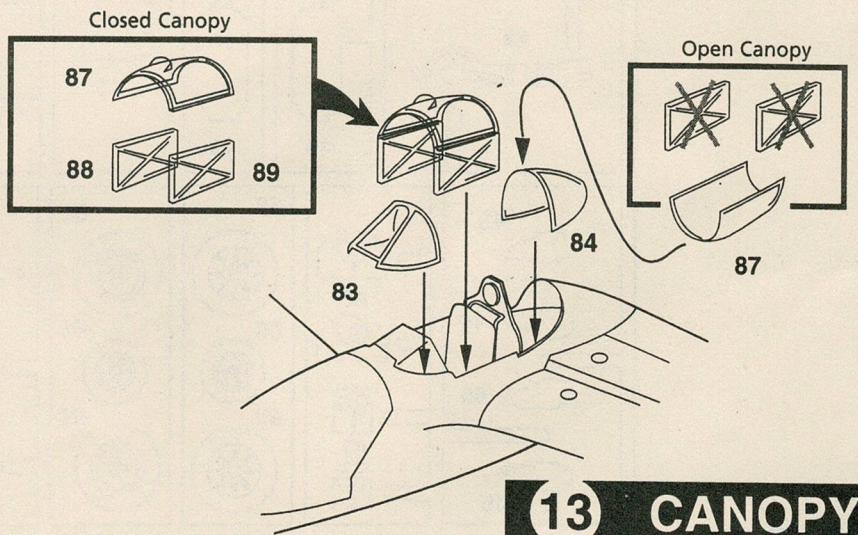


SEE STEP 4

13 Left
14 Right

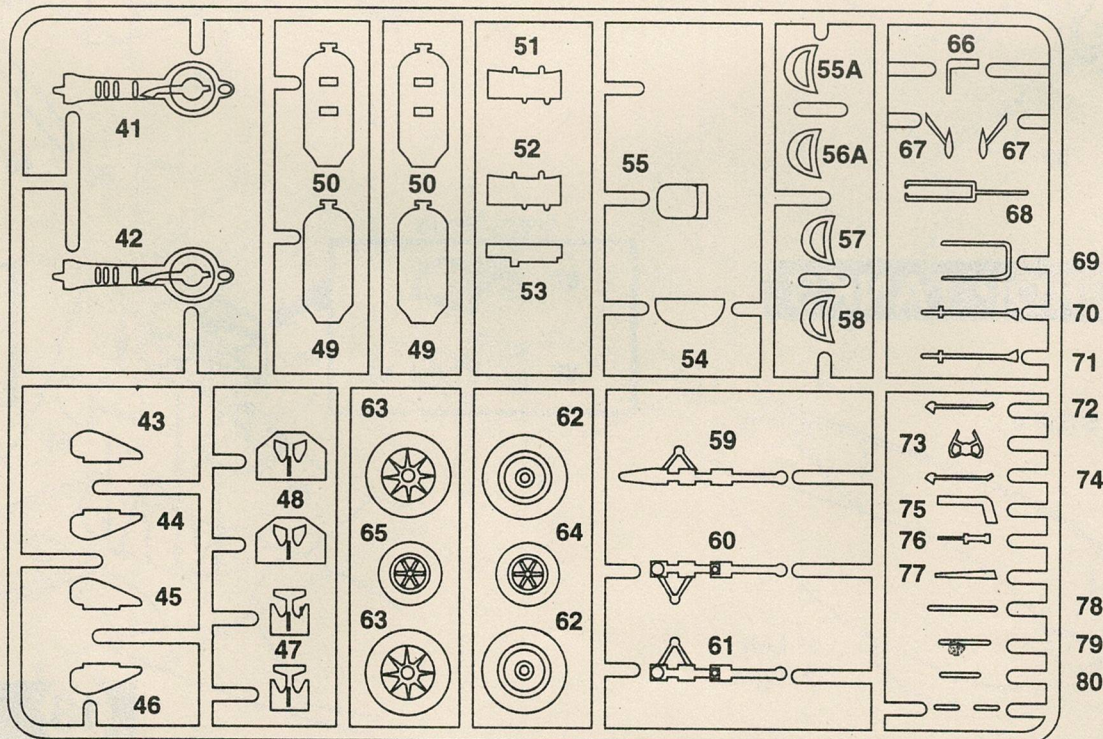
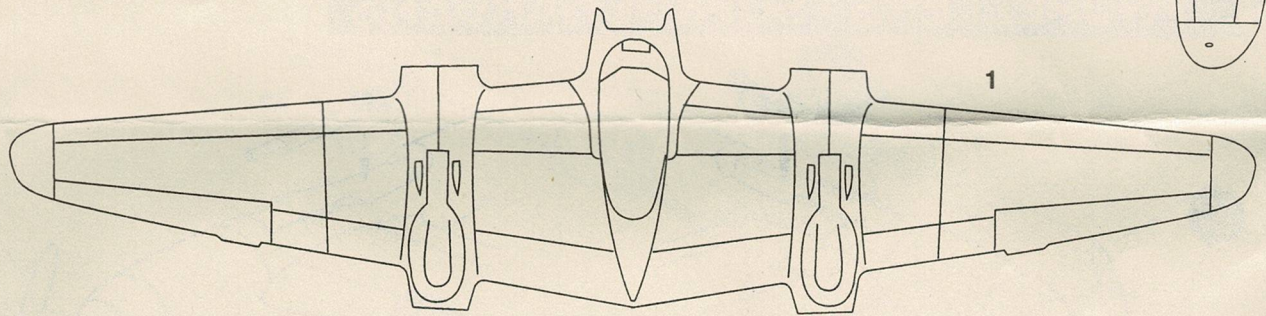
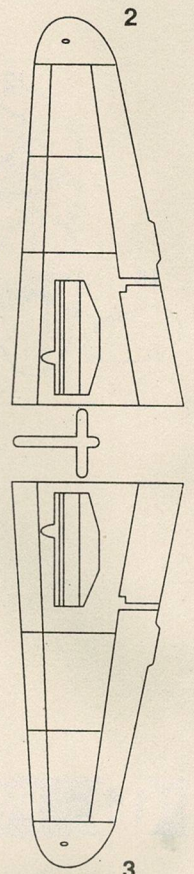
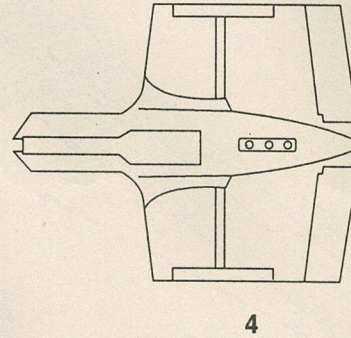
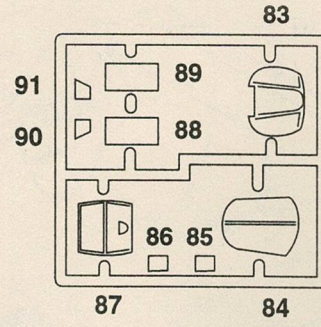
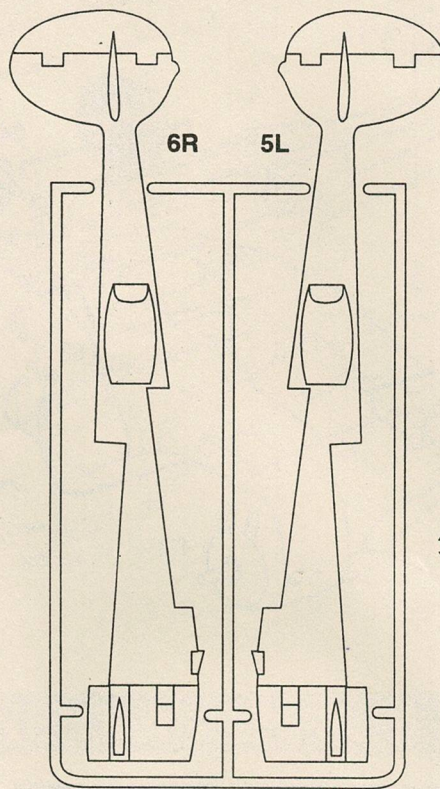
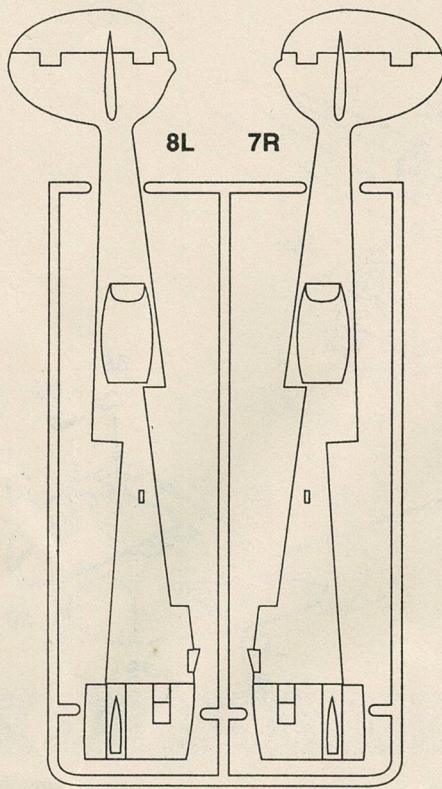


11 Left
12 Right

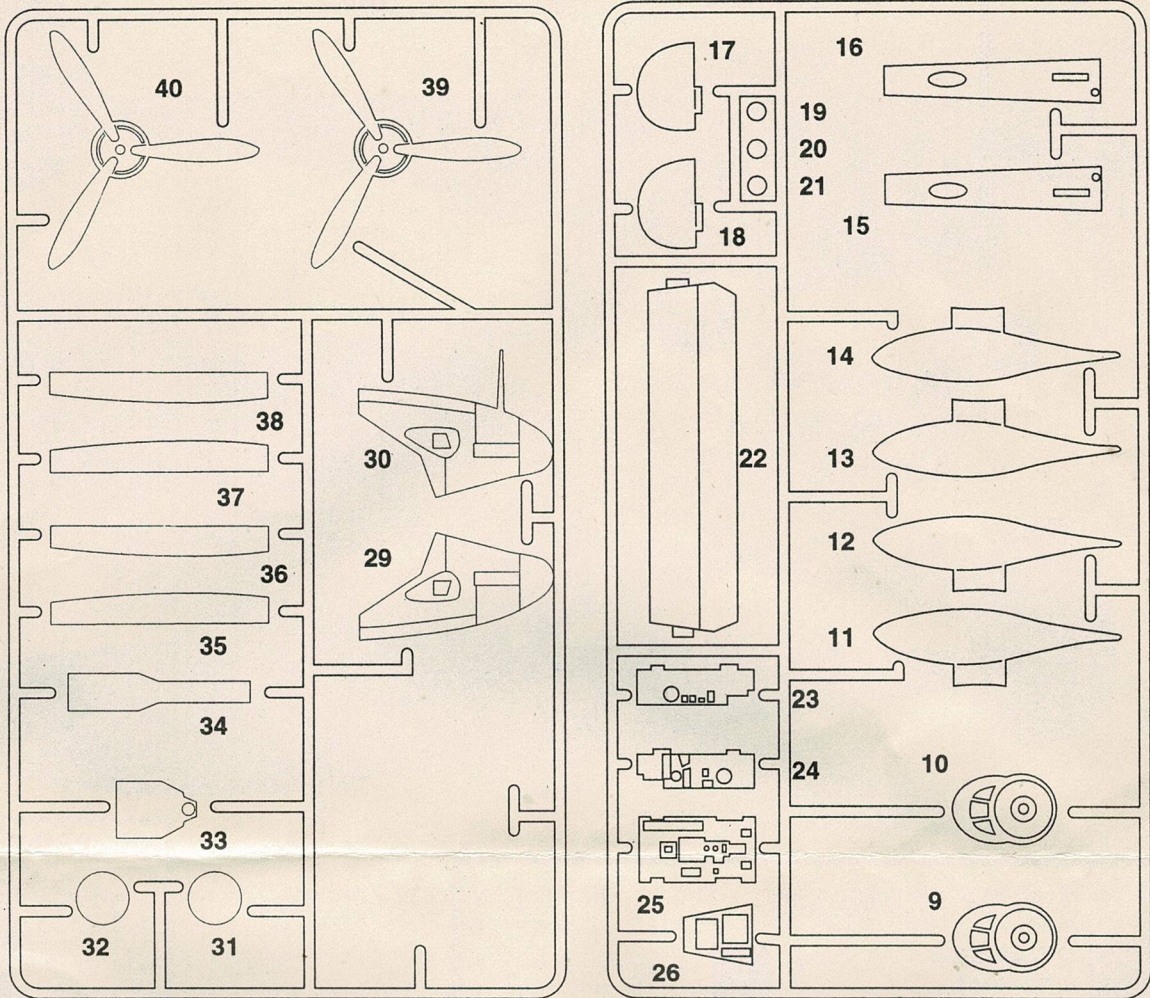


13 CANOPY

PARTS LAYOUT DIAGRAM



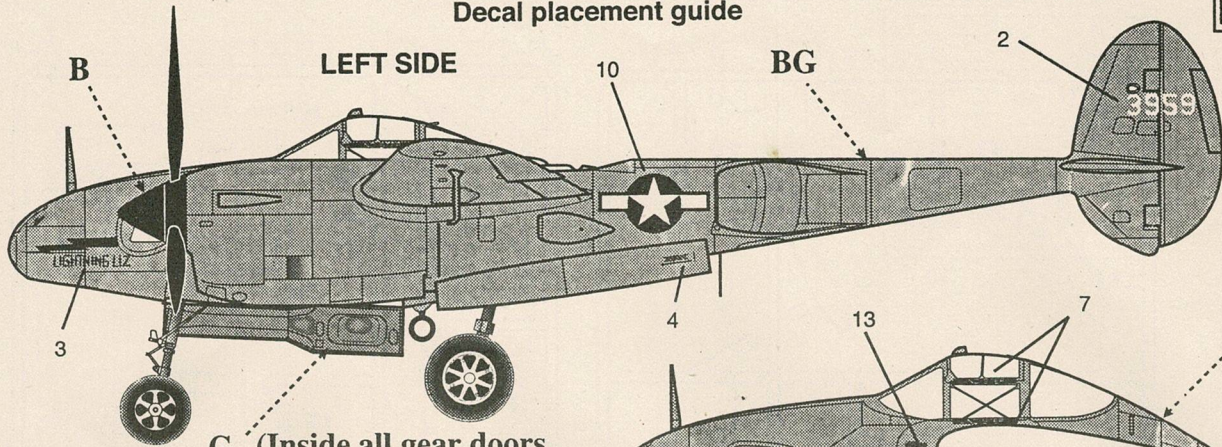
PARTS LAYOUT DIAGRAM



LOCKHEED F-5E LIGHTNING

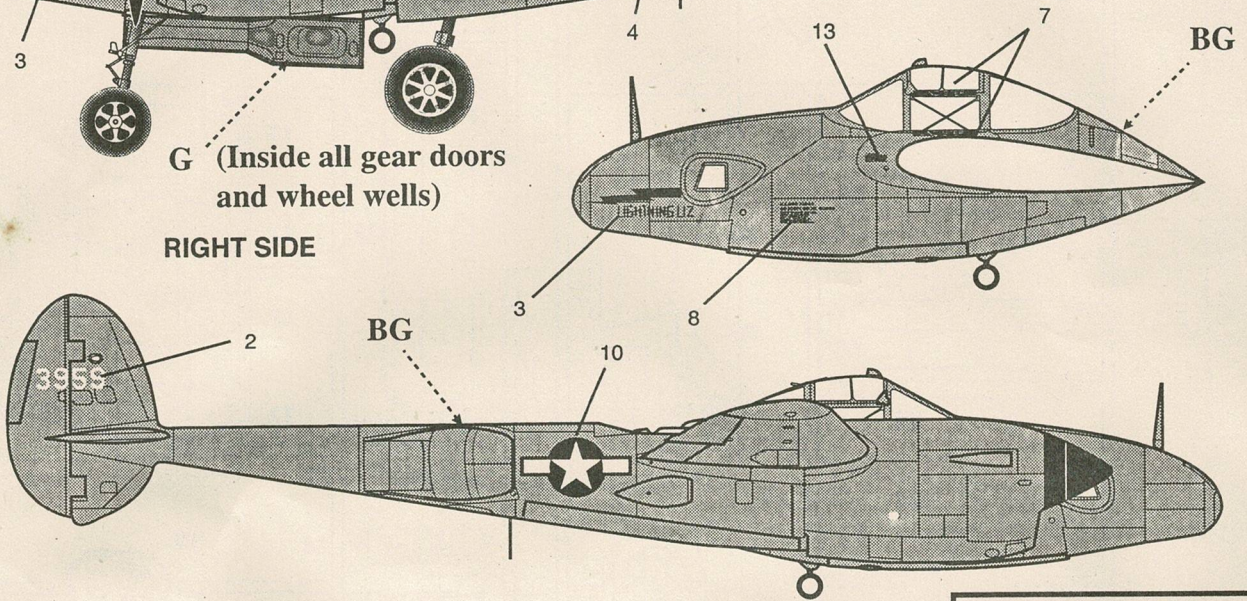
Decal placement guide

**MINICRAFT
MODEL KITS**







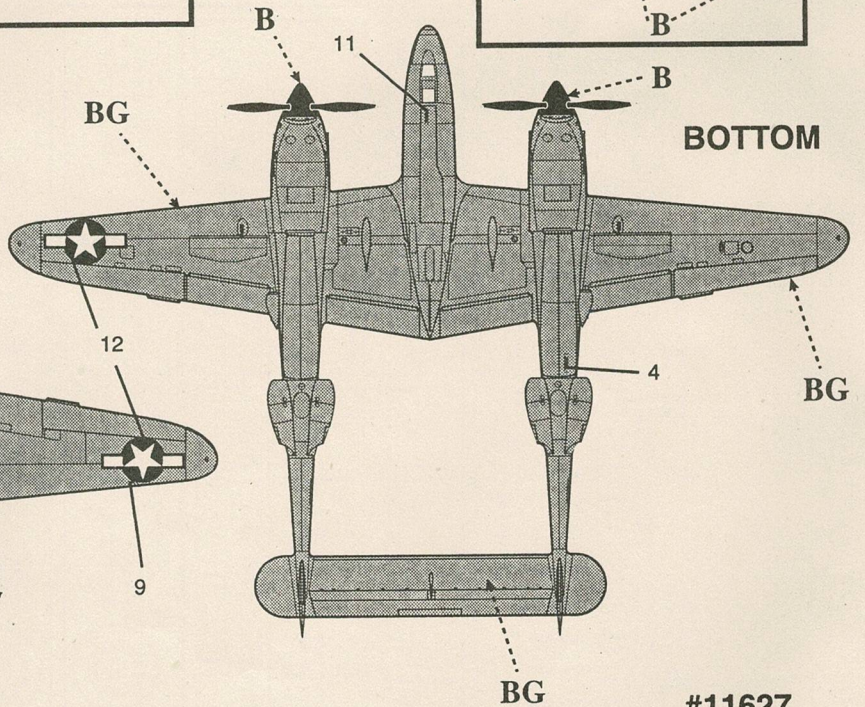
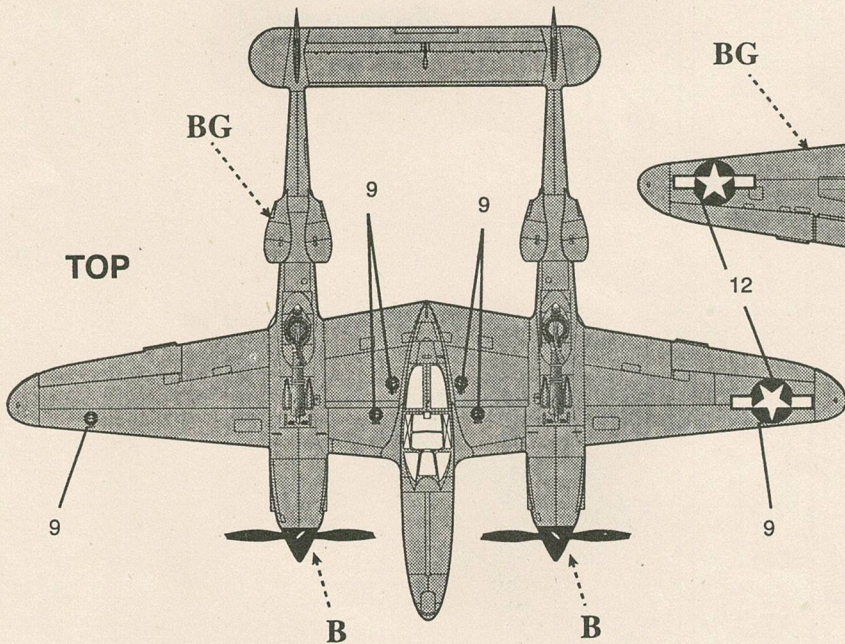
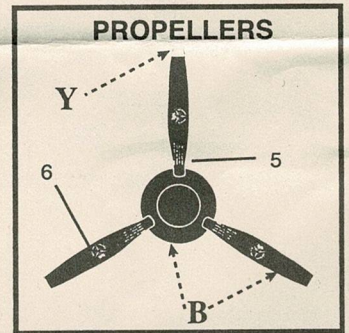
G (Inside all gear doors and wheel wells)

RIGHT SIDE



PAINT COLORS USED

BG		BLUE-GRAY FS 35190	B		BLACK
Y		YELLOW FS 13538	G		CHROMATE GREEN (INTERIOR GREEN)



#11627