

**Alouette III of World Air Forces: PART 1**

(designed for 1/72 scale)

**Abu Dabi (UAE), Angola, Austria (Bundesheer), Argentina (Armada), Burundi**

The French company Sud Est/ Sud Aviation developed in the 1950s a number of helicopters such as the Alouette III. First flight was in February 1959. The Alouette III type designation was SE3160 and later at Aerospatiale SA316 with Artouste engine or SA319 with the Astazou engine. The Alouette had several roles typical of light helicopters and was very reliable. The last Alouette III was delivered in 1985 from Aerospatiale. But the Alouette III remained to be built in license at Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) in India as the "Chetak". Over 2,000 Alouettes were manufactured and it was used by over 50 World Air Forces and many are still flying the Alouette III today.

**CAMOUFLAGE AND SCHEMES**

There is a large variety in Alouette III schemes as used by various World Air Forces.

See the particular suggestions of each scheme. My website [AircraftinPlastic.com](http://AircraftinPlastic.com) can help building your model. On the website also books and internet sites are listed and are some manufacturer downloads available.

Often configurations varied as Alouettes delivered to an Air Force could be fitted with floatation gear and a hoist. Different antennas and pilot aids could be fitted like rear view mirrors. So it is strongly recommended to study photos in books and internet to pick a particular Alouette though it maybe difficult to find a photo. The precise scheme colours used by a particular Air Force are often unknown.

On the decals sheet are as a few extra tail rotor warning and Alouette markings. Sometimes also some extra codes and numbers make it possible to make a slightly different Alouette model.

**DECAL APPLICATION**

The decal sheet has ONE continuous print film, so each decal needs to be cut out with fine scissors. No other prior decal preparation is needed. Each cut out decal can be applied as usual after soaking it a short while in water. Decals are EXTREMELY THIN, so slide off from the wet backing sheet on a horizontally held GLOSSY model surface. Do not use tweezers! They will fold doubled!

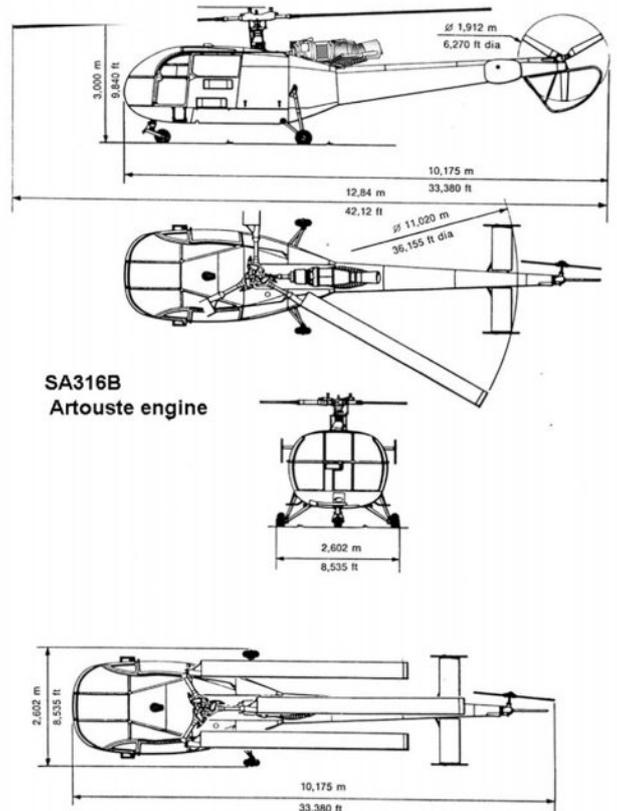
Note that a decal that contains a white section is often split in two parts. To apply the full decal marking, first set the white decal section at correct position and on top of that the coloured section. On the decals sheet you will often see an "arrow" to indicate this way of application (on white surfaces, the white section is optional).

After all decals have been applied, finish the model with your preferred final gloss, matt or semi-matt varnish coats. This will also protect all the decals.

**MODEL KITS**

In 1/72 scale only **Heller of France** has an Alouette III kit that has appeared in various boxes with some changes in parts. In the kit are parts for the SA316 with Artouste engine or SA319 with the Astazou engine.

(Note: the same 1/72 kit was also released by **Kovozavody Prostejov**).



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## Abu Dhabi (UAE)

Abu Dhabi is now an Emirate in the United Arab Emirates and probably the first Alouette II was delivered in the 1960s.

SA316B with probable c/n 2153 has a "white" code ABU 001 on the nose below the clear bubble and has a wrap around camouflage of olive drab and sand. The rear engine exhaust cover is also often painted sand. The tail rotor bar is yellow and the tail rotor yellow with red stripes. The red danger marking is at the end of the tail boom. There are a few blade antennas situated at the nose and a pair of wire antennas running from the tail bar to the main gear legs.



## Angola

It seems that over 50 Alouette III SE3160, SA316B and license built IAR316B were used in Angola by the FORÇA AÉREA NACIONAL DE ANGOLA (FANA).

Shown is a license built IAR316B c/n 5405 coded H-217 with a colour scheme of probably overall olive drab/ green. (Revell Aqua acrylic paint 65 "bronsgrun" seems a good choice). Often a particle/ dust filter is fitted on the Artouste engine air intakes. The main rotor tips are bright red as well as a bright red tail boom spine. The tail rotor blades are probably black but the tail bar is yellow. Note the yellow perigo panel on the tail boom and the small Angola flag on the tail fin plates. Below the tail boom antenna rods and for the antenna wire were fitted.



## Austria / Österreich (Bundesheer) (2 schemes)

Over 30 Alouette III SE3160 / SA316B were used by the Austria/ Österreich armed forces from 1973.

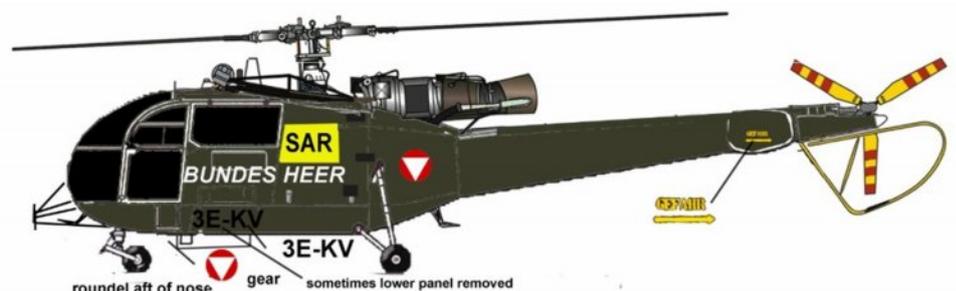
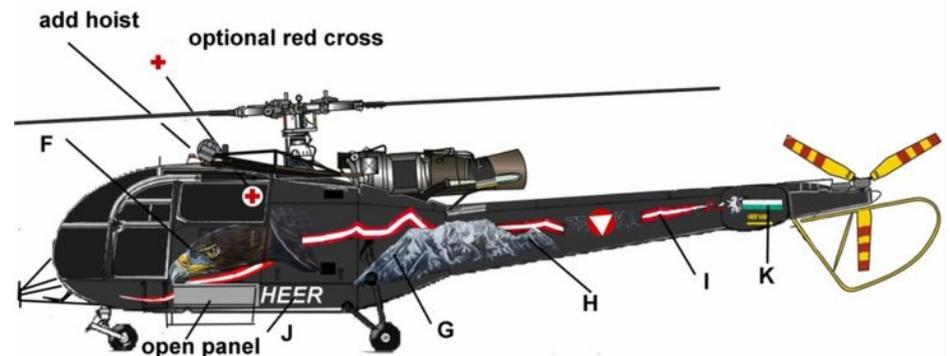
This SE3160 c/n 1377 coded 3E-KA was probably the first one and has a special 50 years in service colour BUNDESHEER scheme as seen in 2023. Overall gloss black finish with special markings showing the Alps and an Eagle "Adler" head. It is fitted with hoist and the port lower cabin panel was often removed (so a gap is there).

The lower entry bar is black-yellow striped. The tail rotor colours are standard yellow with red stripes and a yellow tail bar with black stripes. On the nose rods with mirrors are fitted. The main rotor tips are bright red.

Apply the indicated special decals in sections after the gloss black has been painted. The white decal sections are separate bits (on the decals sheet near the coloured ones), on the model set on the coloured ones to get the full markings. A roundel is situated aft of the nose gear at the belly as usual.

Next Alouette III SA316B c/n 2172 coded 3E-KV has the standard BUNDESHEER finish of olive drab (approx. FS14064) and was still seen flying in 2022.

It was also used for SAR duties and thus fitted with a hoist on the port side. In many cases the port lower



cabin panel has been removed (so a gap is there). The tail rotor colours are standard yellow with red stripes and a yellow tail bar with black stripe. The main rotor tips are bright red. On the nose rods with antennas/ mirrors are fitted.

Alternatively by not setting the SAR markings and hoist, the same or other BUNDESHEER SA316B models can be made.

### Argentina (Armada) (2 schemes)

Some 14 Alouette III SE3160 and SA316B were flown by the Argentine armed forces from 1989. A few were used during the Falklands war in 1982 and lost.



This SA316B c/n 1851 of the ARMADA (COMANDO DE AVIACIÓN NAVAL ARGENTINA) appears to be an overall medium grey (approx. FS16176) with a light grey (approx. FS16307) lower fuselage belly. It has the "light" code 3-H-109 on the cabin sliding doors and small 109 on the nose panel. This Alouette was seen with floatation gear fitted. A large antenna was fitted on the cabin top. Unclear if long tail antenna wires were fitted.

The tail rotor blades and tail bar seem to over painted black. A small yellow perigo arrow is seen on the tail fin plates. The main rotor blades are dark grey with orange-red tips.

The same Argentine Alouette SA316B c/n 1851 now coded "black" 3-H-109 of the ARMADA now has a camouflage scheme that appears to be an dark olive drab and olive green:



The tail rotor blades and tail bar seem to be over painted black and the tail rotor blade tips are probably yellow. A small yellow perigo arrow is seen on the tail fin plates.

This Alouette was also seen with floatation gear fitted. Now a pair of wire antennas run from the tail bar to the main gear legs. Also a blade antenna was seen below the port nose side.

### Burundi (2 schemes)

Some 5 SE3160 and SA316B were flown by the Burundi armed forces.

This SE3160 c/n 1814 coded 9U-BDF has the basic standard configuration and delivered in 1966. It seems to be overall gloss white. The scheme is shown here with a Burundi badge and the green-red-green trim. The tail rotor colours are standard yellow with red stripes and a yellow tail bar. The yellow danger arrows are on the tail fin plates.



This Burundi Alouette SA316B is probably still in the delivery scheme of 1973 and shows large stripes' trim without any badges. It has yellow pre-delivery codes F-WMHF below the cabin sliding doors and a white BUR 003 code on the nose:

It has again a gloss white finish with now the lower fuselage being probably gloss gull grey (approx. FS16440). It was also seen with floatation gear installed. The tail rotor colours are again standard yellow with red stripes and a yellow tail bar.

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