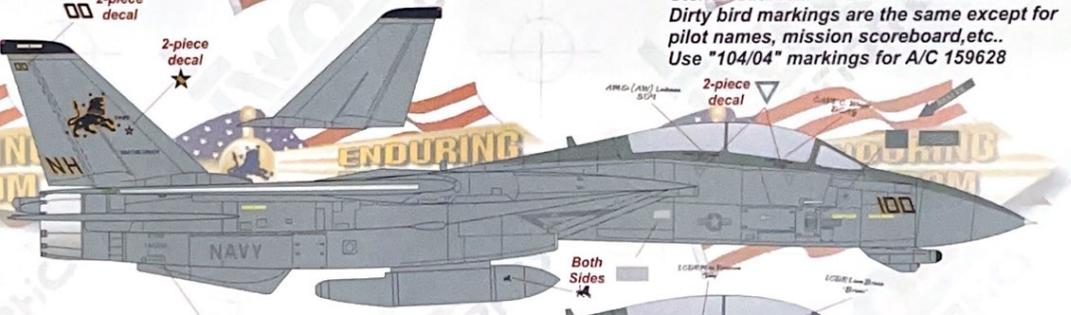
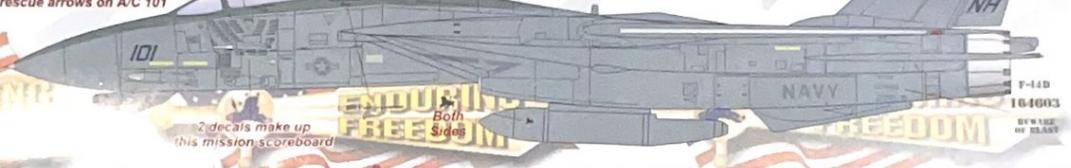
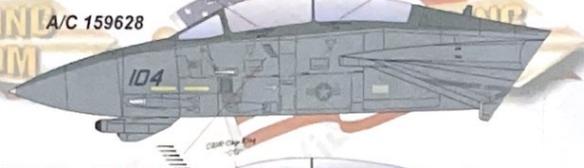
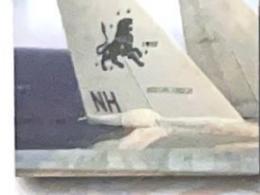
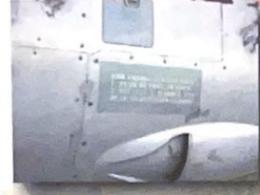


F-14D VF-213
Rampant Lions Over Afghanistan



WHAT'S OUT THERE?
1/48th Hasegawa F-14D
1/48th Monogram F-14D
Black Box Resin Cockpit
Cutting Edge Wheel and Canopy Masks
Cutting Edge Bulged Tires
Eduard Tomcat Detail Set
Eduard Mask Set

I ♥ NY



Big time "props" to CDR Chip "Biff" King, PH2 Nathaniel "Sparky" Miller and Jose "Fuji" Ramos for all of their help on this sheet.

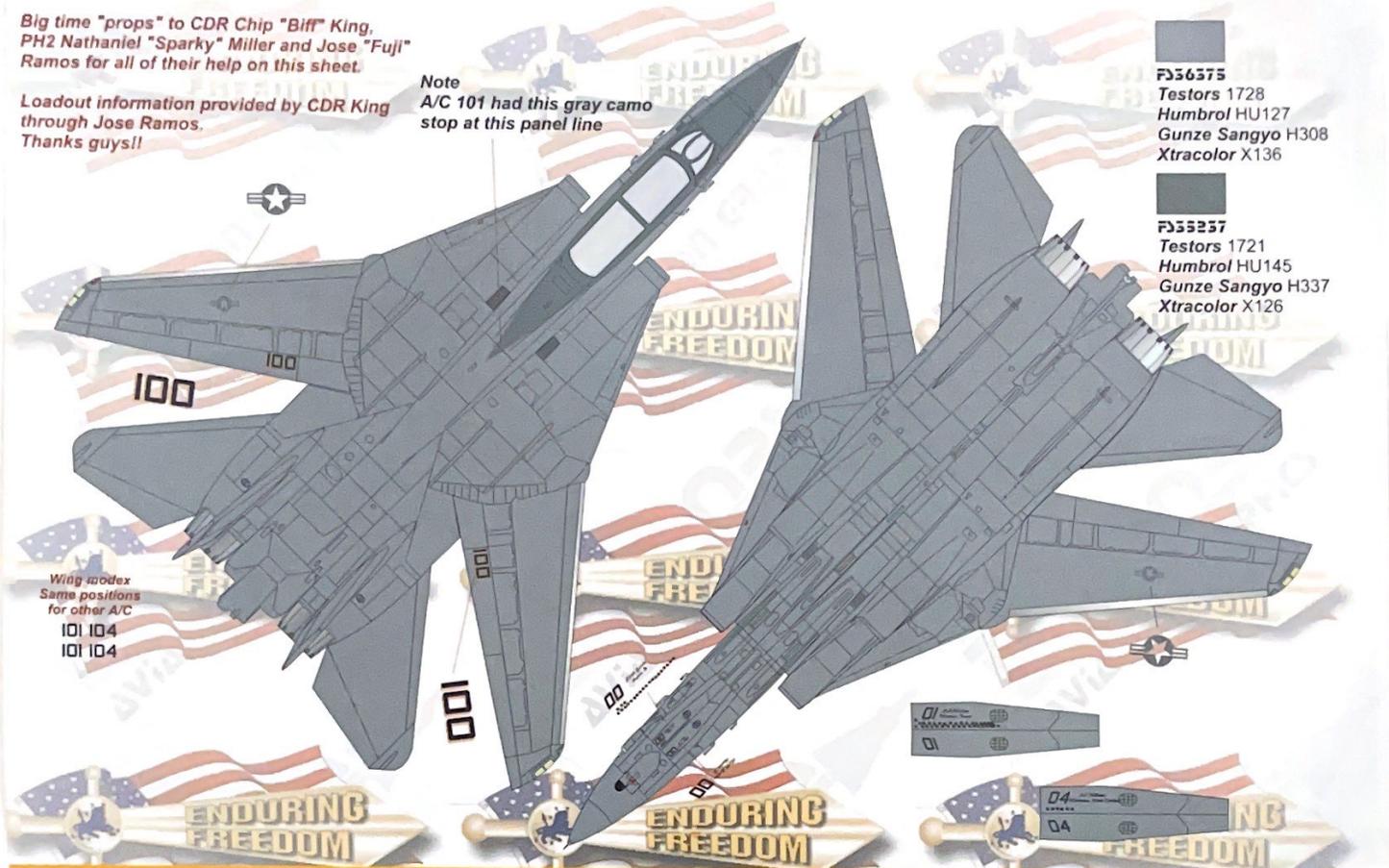
Loadout information provided by CDR King through Jose Ramos. Thanks guys!!

Note
A/C 101 had this gray camo stop at this panel line

F356575
Testors 1728
Humbrol HU127
Gunze Sangyo H308
Xtracolor X136

F355237
Testors 1721
Humbrol HU145
Gunze Sangyo H337
Xtracolor X126

Wing index
Same positions
for other A/C
101 104
101 104



It's not very often that you hear of modern combat aircraft engaging in strafe runs anymore but CDR Chip "Biff" King put the hurt to some al-Qaida "troops" in aircraft S/N 164603 during their deployment to the gulf in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

This story was relayed to us by Jose "Fuji" Ramos from an interview he conducted with CDR King after returning from the USS Carl Vinson.

As Commander Chip "Biff" King and his wingman exited the target area on November 10th, 2001, he received an urgent call from the Forward Air Controller (FAC) they had just been working with. Cdr. King and his wingman were the last two jets in a strike package providing close air support for the Northern Alliance advance on the Kunduz. The call from the FAC requested immediate support as Taliban and al-Qaida forces were counterattacking and advancing toward them. Cdr. King informed the FAC that all ordnance was expended and all that he had available was 20mm cannon. The FAC cleared King to do a strafing run, stating he needed ordnance on his position immediately. Quickly coordinating through "Bossman", an USAF E-3 AWACS, Cdr. King was authorized and descended to minimum altitudes while his wingman flew high cover on him. As Biff commenced his first of four strafing runs, the FAC announced he was going off the air and retreating. He watched in awe through his HUD as Taliban and al-Qaida troops charged in the open toward the Northern Alliance positions. Cdr. King could see small arms fire directed at him even as his 20mm High Explosive Incendiary rounds exploded on impact with the ground and anything else in the area. Twenty minutes later, the FAC came back on the air and expressed his gratitude. The two VF-213 jets were the only air support available for 35 minutes and it was the first authorized use of the Tomcat's gun in combat.



Commander King and his RIO "mount up" into their aircraft prior to another strike mission over Afghanistan.



VF-213s "ordies" proudly stand in front of the soot covered gun muzzle on A/C 101 after its return from the strafe mission.

Twobobs' goal is to provide you with the most thoroughly researched decals that money can buy. We go beyond using traditional reference resources and many times speak with the actual aircrews and maintainers of our subject matter. Being modelers ourselves, we understand that there is no substitute for this painstaking research and we are proud to offer, what we feel, are the best decals on the market. If you have any subject matter that you feel should be the next Twobobs creation, let us know. We'll be happy to listen to any and all customer input.

F-14D Enduring Freedom Operational Weapons Loadouts

First Two Weeks

- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- AIM-54C Phoenix
- Fuel Tank
- GBU-12
- GBU-12
- GBU-12
- Fuel Tank
- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- Lantirn

- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- AIM-54C Phoenix
- Fuel Tank
- GBU-16
- AIM-7M Sparrow
- Empty
- GBU-16
- Fuel Tank
- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- Lantirn

After the first two weeks, with concerns over bring-back-aboard weights and no credible air-to-air threat, the AIM-54C's were replaced by AIM-7Ms on Station 1B by changing out the LAU rails to convert them for the Sparrow. Unfortunately, due to the shortage in available LAU-92's, not all aircraft could be converted at the same time. For this reason, the AIM-7M was carried on Station 4 if possible and either the LAU-93 (Phoenix rail) was left on Station 1B and flown empty or taken off completely. Later when more LAU-92's became available, VF-14 and 41 transferred their stock of rails prior to setting a course for home and all aircraft were converted to carrying Sparrows on Station 1B. It is important to stress that if an aircraft carried a Sparrow on Station 1B, it DID NOT carry one on Station 4 and if the aircraft carried a Sparrow on Station 4, Station 1B was an empty LAU-93 Phoenix rail or no rail at all.

- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- AIM-7M or Empty
- Fuel Tank
- GBU-12
- AIM-7M or Empty
- Empty
- GBU-12
- Fuel Tank
- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- Lantirn

For the most part, VF-213 dropped GBU-12, 16, 10, and a few 24's. Several aircraft were configured as "Quad Bombers" carrying four 500 or 1000lb. bombs in the tunnel later on, especially when working with FAC's, the Quad Bombers were mix loaded with GP bombs (Mk. 82 or 83's) on Stations 3 and 5 and GBU's (12 or 16's) on Stations 4 and 6. This allowed for the employment of either a GP or GBU at any time and any order. Occasionally, 2000lb. GBU's were used. In this case the GBU-10 or 24's were always staggered on Stations 3 and 5 due to the fin span on the weapons. They cannot be carried side-by-side. On one or two occasions, Mk. 20 Rockeyes were carried but are not shown here.

- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- AIM-7M or Empty
- Fuel Tank
- Mk. 82
- GBU-12
- Mk. 82
- GBU-12
- Fuel Tank
- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- Lantirn

- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- AIM-7M or Empty
- Fuel Tank
- GBU-10
- Empty
- GBU-10
- Empty
- Fuel Tank
- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- Lantirn

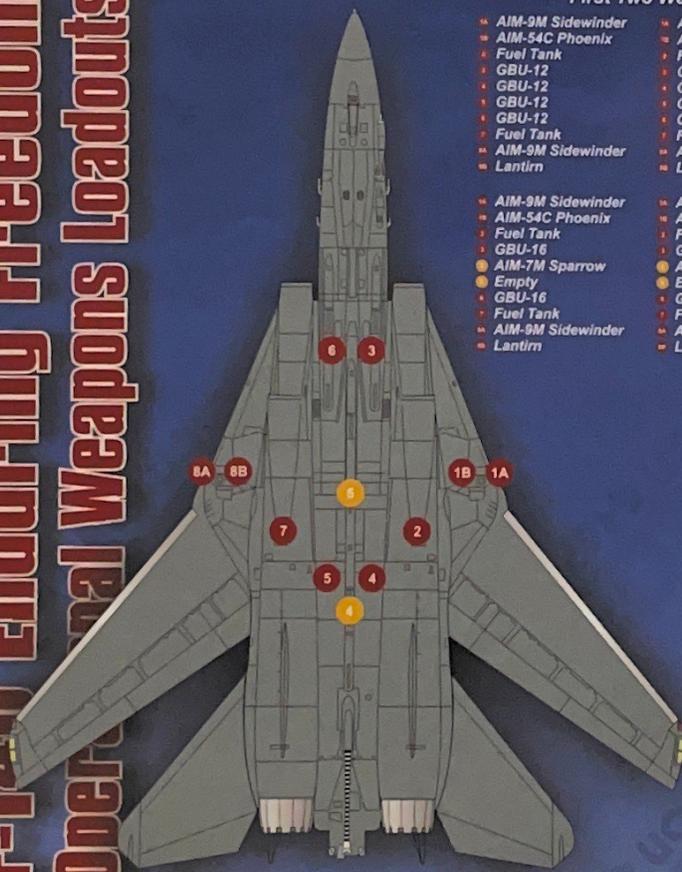
- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- AIM-7M or Empty
- Fuel Tank
- Mk. 83
- GBU-16
- Mk. 83
- GBU-16
- Fuel Tank
- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- Lantirn

- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- AIM-7M or Empty
- Fuel Tank
- GBU-24
- Empty
- GBU-24
- Empty
- Fuel Tank
- AIM-9M Sidewinder
- Lantirn

These weapons loadouts are accurate and verified to be the actual configurations that were used during the bombing campaign in Operation Enduring Freedom.

These stores combinations were supplied to us by actual pilots and aircrew that flew these missions from the opening day of the airstrikes to the current missions being flown.

Special thanks to Jose "Fuji" Ramos. His help and expertise were indispensable in obtaining and verifying this information.



What's Out There? 1/48th Scale Accessories

Air to Air Miscellany

AIM-9 Sidewinder

Hasegawa X48-3
Weapons Set C

Flightpath Resin
AIM-9L/M/R/S

AIM-7F Sparrow

Hasegawa X48-3
Weapons Set C

Flightpath Resin
AIM-7F Sparrow

AIM-54C Phoenix

Supplied with kit

Targeting Pods, etc.

Update Set

Eagle Designs 48-CK-23
Bombcat Update Set

Lantirn

Hasegawa X48-8
Weapons Set D

Air to Ground Smart Munitions

GBU-10

Hasegawa X48-8
Weapons Set D

AMRAAM Line 48-002
GBU-10

GBU-12

Hasegawa X48-8
Weapons Set D

AMRAAM Line 48-001
GBU-12

GBU-16

Hasegawa X48-8
Weapons Set D

Air to Ground Dumb Munitions

Mk. 82

Hasegawa X48-1
Weapons Set A

Mk. 83

Hasegawa X48-1
Weapons Set A

