

YF-16A



The sleek F-16 Fighting Falcon is one of the latest fighters to go into service with the USAF. It was the result of an Air Force competition for a relatively inexpensive lightweight fighter to carry the brunt of combat. It is expected to be in service well into the twenty-first century. With nearly a thousand planes now in service with air forces throughout the free world, the plane has proven to be one of the finest fighting machines ever built. It has been used in combat against several Soviet-built designs and emerged victorious.

This YF-16A was the second F-16 built and was used to evaluate the characteristics of the new type. One of the important factors of the evaluation of a combat machine is in the determining of a proper color scheme to help conceal the plane from the eyes of the enemy pilots. The markings on this model of the YF-16A represent one of the interesting color patterns used to determine the effectiveness of the camouflage. Eventually a scheme of all gray shades was adopted, but it is interesting to note that the latest French camouflage schemes for their new fighters is almost identical to this papers.



