

General Dynamics/ Lockheed F-16 in Asia PART 3: Indonesia

For 1/32 scale (other scales possible)

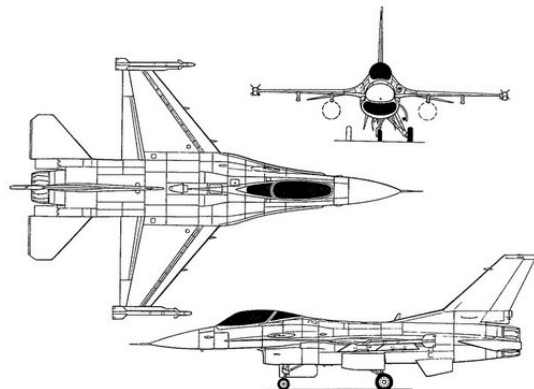


F-16 Fighting Falcon



HISTORY

The American Light Fighter competition in the 1970s led to the General Dynamics F-16 program and the first YF-16 flew 30 years ago in January 1974. It was selected as winner as opposed to the Northrop YF-17 and the F-16A fighter and F-16B trainer went into series production. Since that time the F-16 has appeared in many sub-variants. For the F-16 the Block number is the main indicator of the type of the F-16 airframe, as several distinct variants of the aircraft are covered by the same model suffix letter. Early F-16As were produced to Block 1, 5 and 10 and 15 standards. Various modification standards within the same block numbers are identified by an added letter e.g. for example Block 15A, 15B etc. The next main variant was the F-16C. Initially the Pratt and Whitney F100 engine was used with a standard air intake but later also General Electric F110 engine was an option with a "big mouth" MCID intake.



Even in the 2000's new F-16 variants were developed fitted with sophisticated avionics capable of firing and dropping advanced weaponry. Weights increased and beefed up gear and structures were needed. To increase range on some variants a pair of conformal fuel tanks CFT could be fitted on the mid fuselage section and to accommodate systems a thicker long spine fairing.

MODEL KITS

In 1/32 scale several F-16 kits have appeared over the years:

F-16A by Revell and Hasegawa (old kits)
 F-16AM by AFV club based on Academy kit
 F-16B two seater by AFV club based on Academy kit
 F-16C by Tamiya, Academy (and old Revell, Hasegawa)
 F-16D two seater by Hobbytime based on Academy kit
 KF-16D two seater by Academy
 F-16I two seater by Academy (SUFA with long spine)
 F-16N by Revell (old kit)

Depending on the specific variant/ Block number a specific kit may be needed with still some modifications and extra's. Check engine type and intake configuration: P&W F100 with std intake or GE F110 with larger MCID intake.

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.

Note that a decal that contains a white section is often split in two sections. 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).

Each cut out decal can be applied as usual after soaking it a short while in water. tweezers! They will fold doubled! Decals are EXTREMELY THIN, so slide off from the wet backing sheet on a horizontally held GLOSSY model surface. Do not use

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.

NOTES:

Only the specific air force decals are provided on the decals sheet. The smaller stencils and service markings are to be obtained from the kit or spares box. Walkway lines may also vary in colour.

There are quite some variations in the RESCUE markings on the cockpit sides, sometimes on the decals sheet a specific style may be provided. Check photos.

REFERENCES

Many F-16 books have been published.

On internet it is very easy to find photos by searching.

A great source on internet is: <https://www.f-16.net/>

Also on my website a lot of information and models can be found:

<https://aircraftinplastic.com/models/F16-32/f16-32.htm>

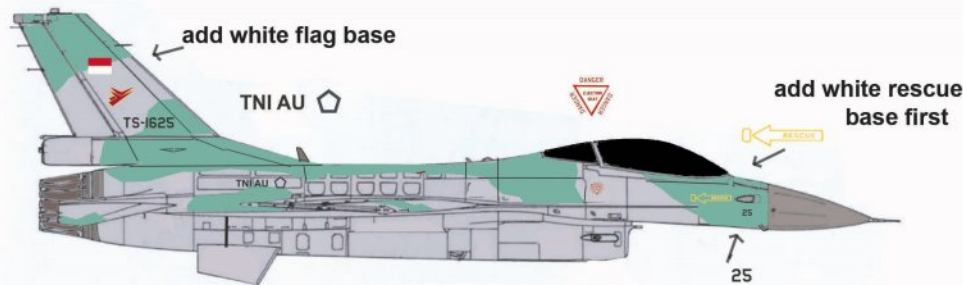


Indonesia Air Force

"Tentara Nasional Indonesia-Angkatan Udara" - TNI-AU

Indonesia after independence end 1949 set up their air force with a lot of former Dutch (Colony) aircraft. The first jet aircraft were some De Havilland DH-115 Vampires arriving February 1956. President Sukarno tightened relations with the Soviet Union and Soviet combat aircraft received. In 1965 Suharto did a putch, ending the tight Soviet relations turning to the West. From 1989 under the U.S. program "Peace Bima-Sena I" some 8 second hand F-16A Block 15 OCU and 4 F-16B Block 15 OCU aircraft were acquired.

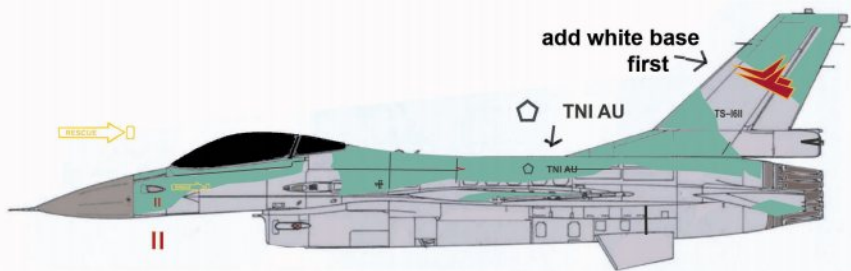
A variety of paint schemes were applied with first a blue/white /light blue scheme. End 1995 the aerial demonstration team "Elang Biru" started flying the F-16. A new paint Millennium scheme followed from 2000. A new F-16 order was cancelled in 2001. Finally in 2012 a new order was placed and through "Peace Bima Sena II" 19 F-16C Block 25 and 5 F-16D Block 25 were delivered from 2015. It seems that remaining old F-16's were upgraded with new systems.



[A] F-16C Block 25 of the Indonesia air force coded TS-1625 serial no. 83-1130. It has the Pratt and Whitney F100 engine with standard intake. Probably stiffer plates on upper fuselage.

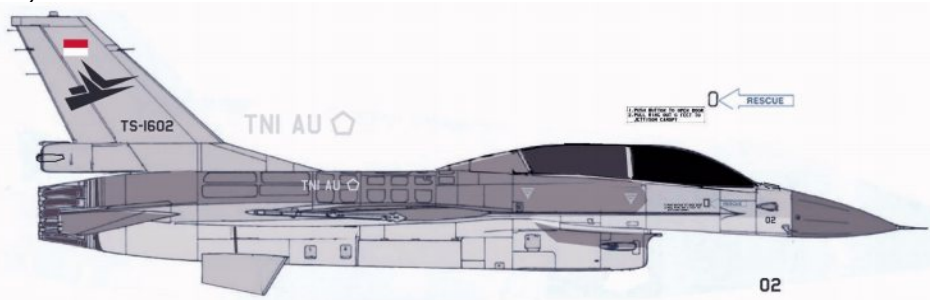
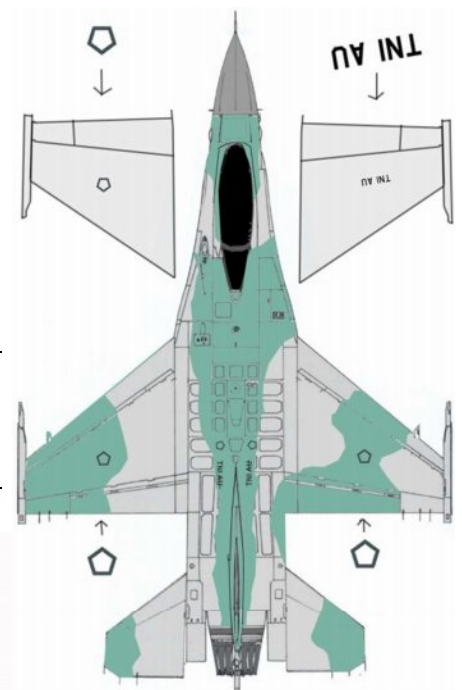
Shown is later Millennium camouflage pattern of grey with a medium grey-green pattern. The colours codes are unknown but grey looks about FS36307 and the grey-green pattern about FS34223. The pattern has rather "hard demarcations". Radar nose grey FS36270.

Black TNI AU markings. It has the small Wing Udara 3 badge and flag on the tail. (apply the white base decals first). Add white base flag decal and then coloured portions. The stencillings and walk way lines are probably dark grey but not always applied on the TNI AU F-16's. Yellow RESCUE arrows and red triangles (apply white base decal first and then yellow, align carefully). Black small code on nose.



[B] F-16C Block 25 of the Indonesia air force coded TS-1611 serial 87-0719. It is similar as scheme [A]. It has the large coloured Wing Udara 3 badge on the tail. (apply the larger white base decal first). Note red code on nose (add white base first).

The general Millennium upper camouflage pattern with two TNI-AU national markings. Two national insignia on upper wing, one on lower starboard wing and large TNI AU on lower port wing. >>



[C] F-16B Block 15 OCU of the Indonesia air force TS-1602 serial 87-0722 is an early F-16. This second hand jet has the standard U.S. paint scheme of FS36270 lower surfaces and FS36375 on forward upper surfaces, part of intake, belly fins and tail and FS36118 on upper surfaces. Flag on tail on both sides.

Large grey Wing Udara 3 badge on the tail and flag on both sides. The TNI AU and national insignia are now light grey (apply the white base decal first and on top the grey marking). Note small code on nose. Darker grey RESCUE and lighter grey triangles below cockpit.