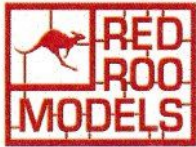
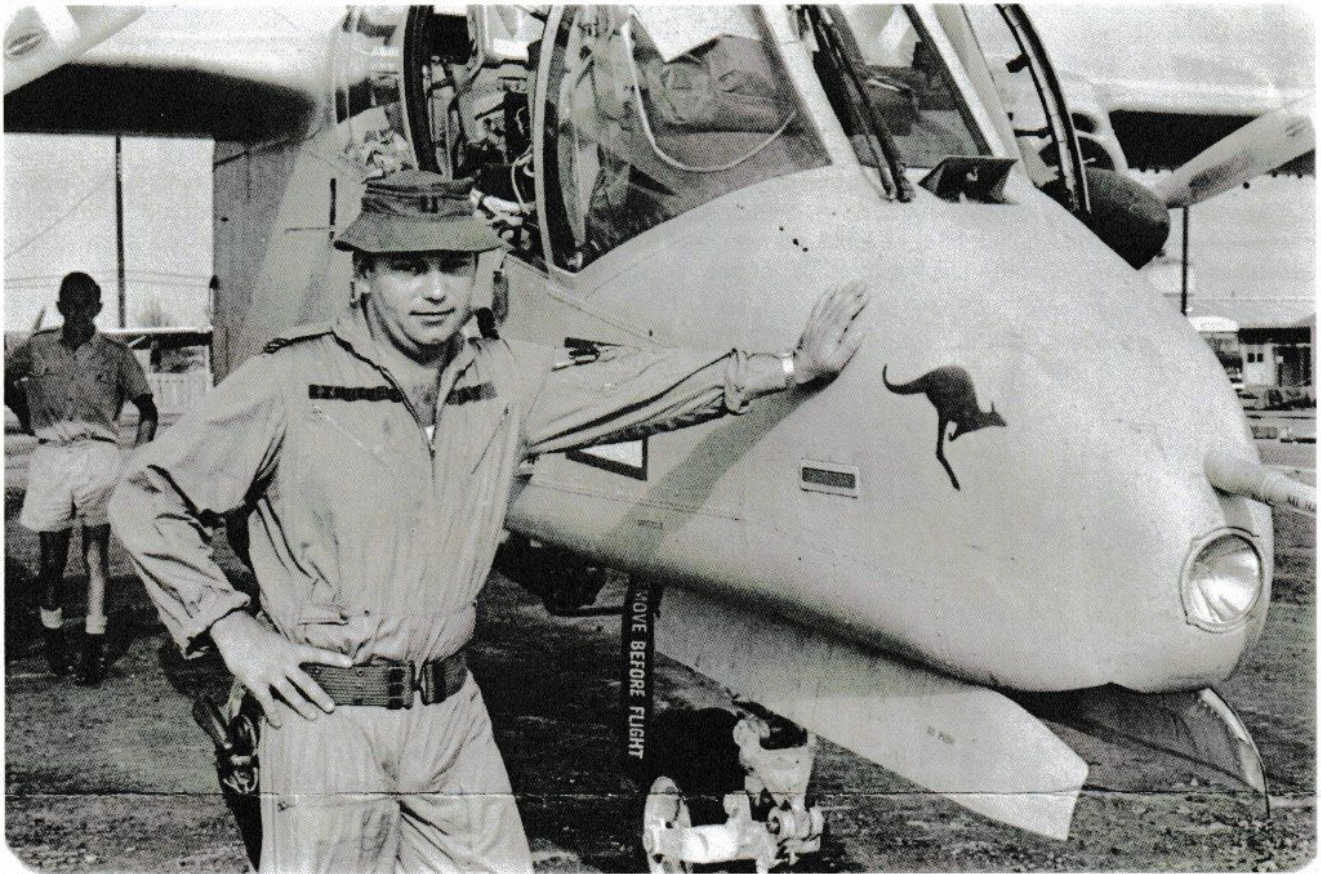


RRD7279



North American OV-10A Bronco
Bronco 67-14639, Australian War Memorial Collection
1/72 scale decals, suitable for the Academy kit



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL VN/68/0096/11

Whilst not a RAAF aircraft, North American Aviation Bronco 67-14639 has a strong Australian service connection. It is one of a number of USAF aircraft flown by RAAF Forward Air Controllers in Vietnam whilst attached to the 19th Tactical Air Support Squadron (TASS) and is a significant addition to the Australian War Memorial (AWM) Collection.

The 19th TASS dates its lineage to the Second World War. It was first constituted as the 19th Observation Squadron (Light) on 5 February 1942, and was activated on 2 March 1942 at Miami Municipal Airport, Florida. It was redesignated the 19th Observation Squadron on 4 July 1942, and the 19th Liaison Squadron on 2 April 1943. It was deactivated on 1 December 1945 at Fort Lewis, Washington.

In Vietnam, the Squadron primarily provided visual and photographic reconnaissance and airborne forward air control of fighter aircraft. Operations included combat support liaison, artillery and naval gunfire adjustment, forward air control of helicopters, and escort for convoys and trains. Psychological warfare missions, radio relay, and resupply missions were flown as well. Finally, the Squadron trained USAF and VNAF Pilots in the O-1, O-2, and OV-10 aircraft. The O-1 was operated from 1963 to 1970. The O-2 and the OV-10 came into service in 1968, and were operated until departure to Suwon AB in 1972.

The Bronco is a twin-engine turboprop aircraft. The AWM Bronco was flown in Vietnam by Flight Lieutenant Ken Mitchell, DFC, who was posted to the RAAF Element of Headquarters, Australian Force Vietnam in the Forward Air Control role. The photograph shows Flight Lieutenant Mitchell standing beside the Bronco at Vung Tau in 1968. The red kangaroo applied by ground crew to the aircraft nose marked it as flown by an Aussie pilot.

This aircraft, which belonged to the 19th Tactical Air Support Squadron (TASS), is now in the Memorial's collection, having been acquired in 2003 as a gift it arrived in Sydney in March 2007 aboard HMAS Tobruk. The aircraft was then placed in store pending restoration which began in 2017. It has been restored to a very high standard by a small but professional AWM team.

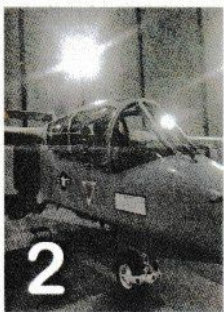
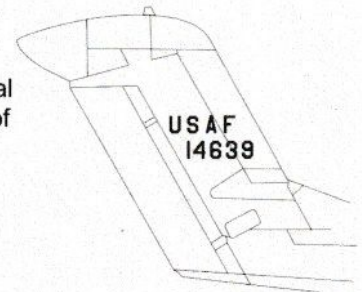
To learn more, visit the Australian War Memorial web page at:
<https://www.awm.gov.au/about/our-work/projects/asteedreborn>

How to use the decals:

Ensure model has received a suitable coat of gloss varnish before applying the decals. Carefully cut around the decal required. Trim as close as possible in order to obtain the best results. Moisten the application site with your favourite settling solution. Soak the decal in water for 30 to 40 seconds, then place the decal on a soft surface (say a piece of foam rubber) and keep moist until decal releases. Apply decal carefully by sliding off backing paper with a soft, long bristle brush. Position carefully and once satisfied with result use tissue paper to absorb excess moisture. Use decal settling solution to draw the decal down over surface detail. If air bubbles or silvering form during drying phase wait till decal is thoroughly dry, then pierce affected area with a pin and re-apply settling solution. Do not try to force decals to conform to surface or express air bubbles as doing this will tear the decals or cause them to adhere to the item pressed against them. Apply a coat of gloss varnish over the decals once they are completely dry and allow to the varnish to dry thoroughly then finish with a coat of semi matt varnish.



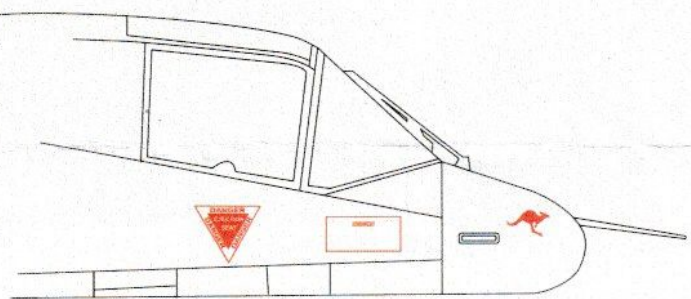
The USAF and aircraft serial number go on the outer sides of the fins.



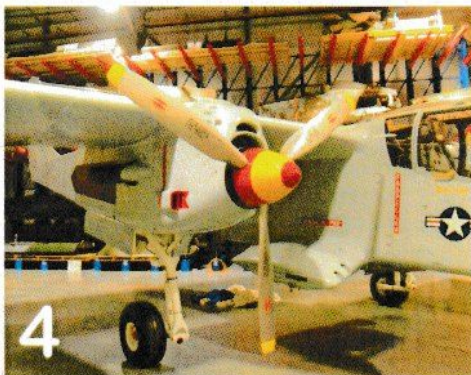
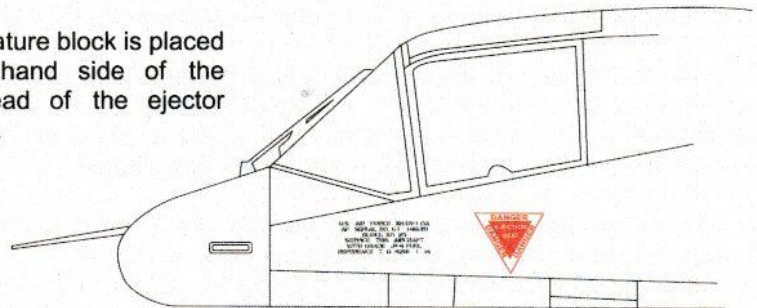
The ejector seat triangles are placed on the forward fuselage sides.

The kangaroo is placed on the right hand side of the forward fuselage. Note this is only on one side.

The armament load panel is placed on the right hand side of the fuselage.



The nomenclature block is placed on the left hand side of the fuselage ahead of the ejector seat triangles.



The Hamilton Standard logos are placed on the propeller front faces.

