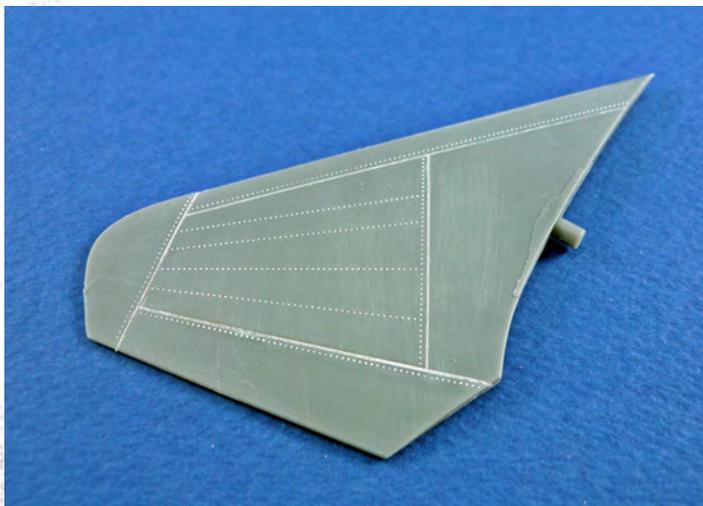


Painting US NAVY F14

By George Roidis

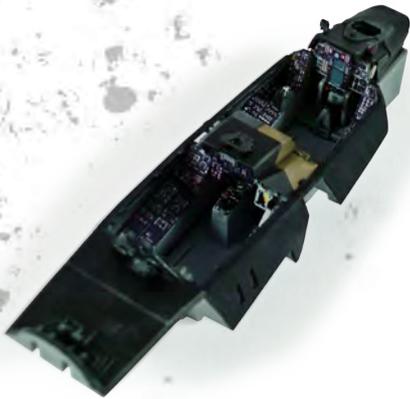
With the current turmoil in the world, modern military aircraft are often seen in the news headlines. Airstrikes and patrols are the everyday tasks for these weaponized war birds. References are easily found showing aircraft in all types of operational conditions and showing all types of operational wear and weathering. In this tutorial, we showcase the Hobbyboss F-14 Ashownin the markings of VF-84, the "Jolly Rodgers" as might be seen serving in one of the world's hotspots.



1 The project began by making some corrections to the kit. For example, references show that there are no rivets on the wings or elevators, which are filled and sanded.



2 Details such as the missiles are painted separately and will be attached later.



3 The detailed cockpit from Eduard is a nice improvement to the model. This is painted using acrylic paints and some simple dry-brush to highlight the raised details.



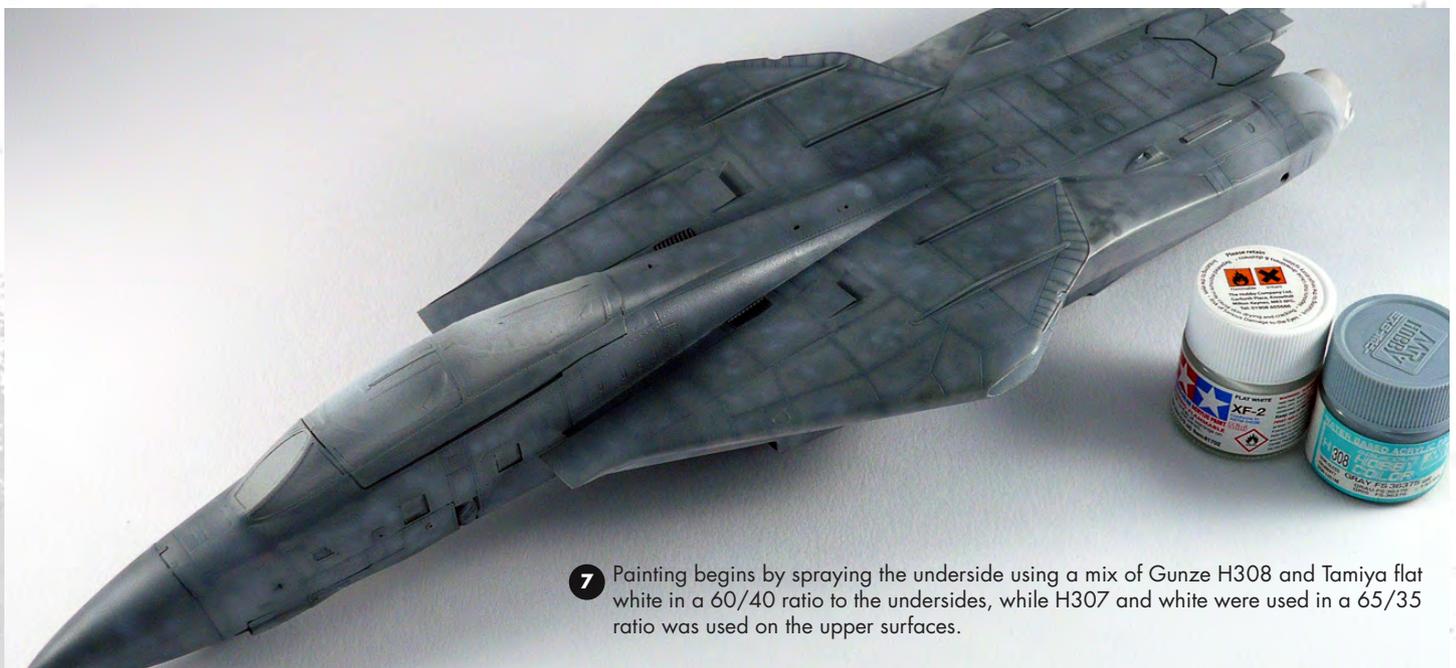
4 The wheel wells are first painted with white acrylic paint, then and then lightly washed using thinned AMMO Streaking Grime (A.MIG-1203) to bring out the details.



5 AMMO white and grey primers are used in order to prepare the surfaces for painting. Not only does the primer provide the ideal surface for paint to adhere to, but it also helps us to check for any flaws.



6 The panel lines and surface details are pre-shaded over the light grey primer using Tamiya's matte black. Although the model appears somewhat alien now, this pre-shade will help to add depth and interest to the final finish.



7 Painting begins by spraying the underside using a mix of Gunze H308 and Tamiya white in a 60/40 ratio to the undersides, while H307 and white were used in a 65/35 ratio was used on the upper surfaces.



8 Painting continues with an emphasis on creating increasing contrast and variations amongst darker and lighter colors on the panels. The centers of the panels are highlighted using a heavily thinned 40/60 ration of Gunze H308 and Tamiya XF-2.



9 The surfaces are sprayed with a light coating of AMMO gloss varnish before we move onto the finishing and weathering.



10 The exhaust nozzles were sprayed a basic silver color (Citadel's chainmail) and then tinted using Tamiya's weathering sets to achieve the effect of burnt metal. Seeing reference photos we understood the engine pods are a lot darker than the rest of the aircraft, so we decided to darken the area up using black oil color and then cleaning the excess with Ammo odourless thinners.



11 Panel lines and surface details are given definition by enamel effects from the AMMO Panel Line Washes set(A.MIG 7419). The washes are applied in a controlled, localized manner. Excess wash is cleaned away using a soft cotton bud.



12 Following the direction of the airflow oil streaks on the engine pods and wings we used Ammo's Streaking Grime applied using a cotton bud.

