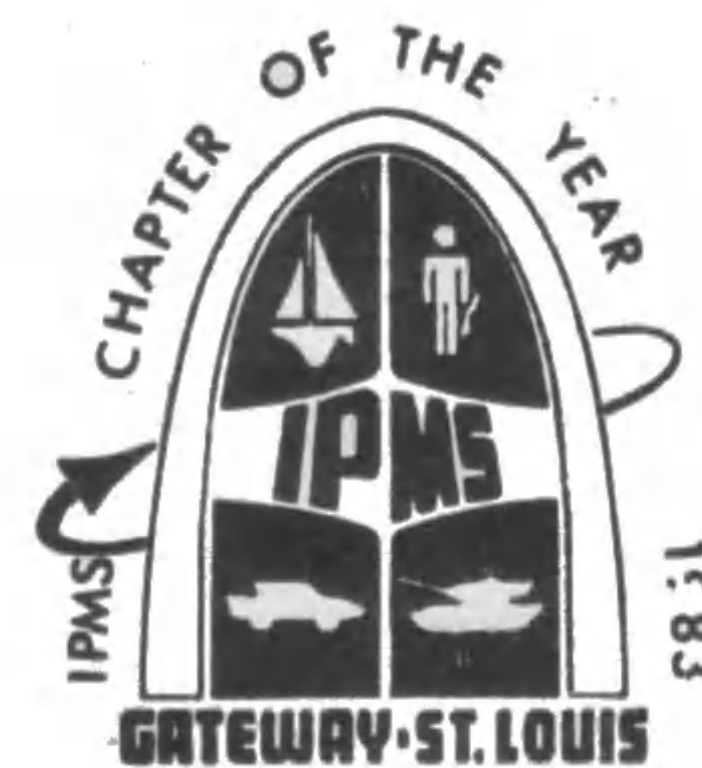


CRAZED PLASTIC #20



☆☆☆
★ SPECIAL HARRIER ISSUE ★

☆☆☆
ALSO: CZECH L-39C ALBATROS
CAUTION: Do Not Read In Enclosed Areas!

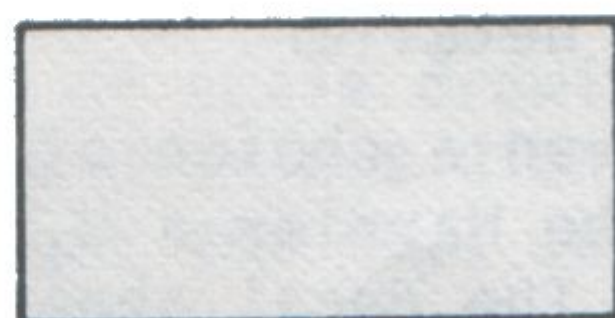
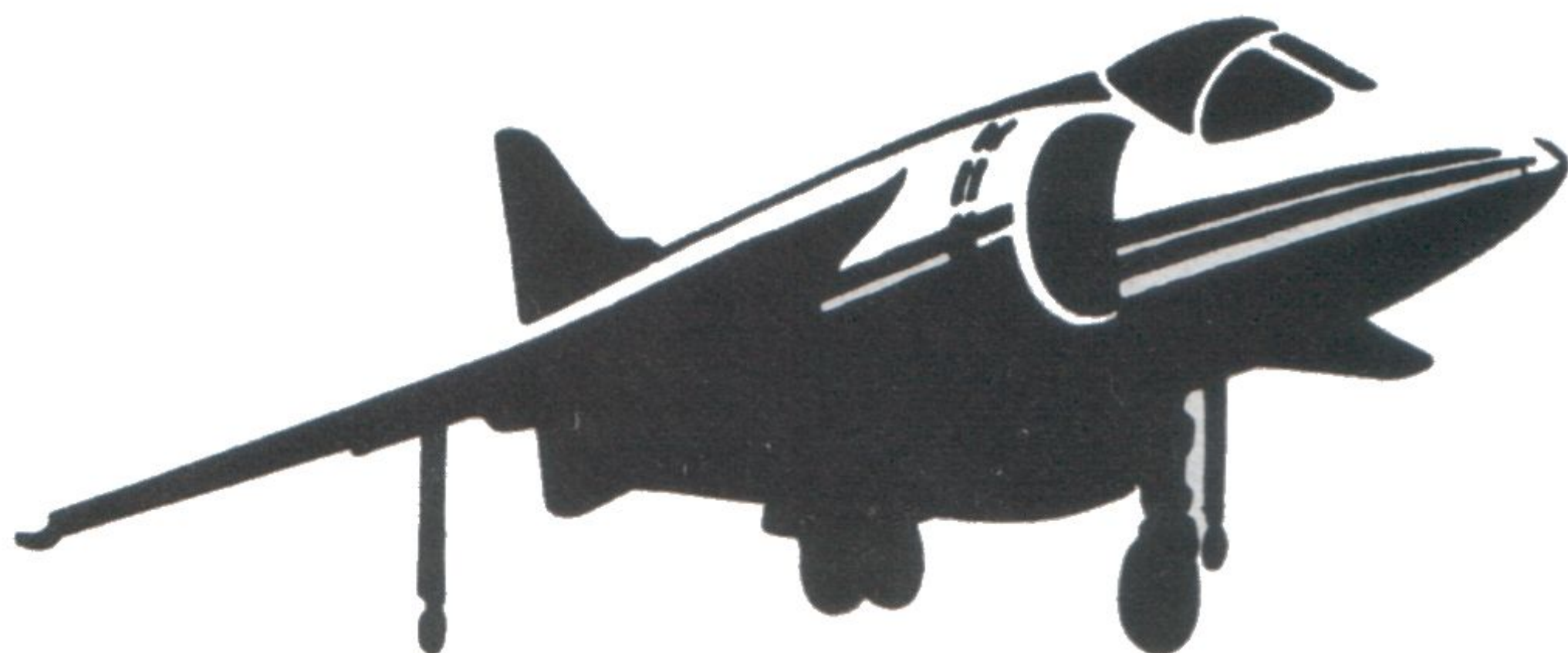
AV-8B Paint Schemes

By Bill Drescher

All drawings by Bill Drescher

The official explanation for this ugly color scheme is that it will instantly reveal the attitude of the aircraft in flight testing. The red, gold and black are U.S. Marine colors and I guess the white was left over from the F-18 rollout. Well, enough art criticism and on to the details. All the colors in this color scheme are gloss except for the anti-glare panel on the nose which is flat black. The stars and bars are full color, and the ones on the wings have a white surround as shown. "Marines" and the Bureau Number, "161397" are in black on both sides of the plane. The black and gold stripes on the wings, horizontal stabilizer and vertical tail are 3 inches wide; as is the gold stripe around the black area on top of the fuselage. The bottoms of the wings and horizontal stabilizer are red with the black and gold stripes repeated in the same locations as on the tops. The scrap view on the second page shows the black stripe with gold border on the bottom of the aircraft.

"161397" is the second pre-production Harrier II, but due to problems encountered during construction, it did not fly until after the number 3 bird "161398". (see Crazy Plastic #14) There are a few detail differences between the number 1 and number 2 Harrier IIs. The most obvious are the leading edge root extensions (LERX), but notice that there is only one leading edge fence per wing instead of two. The LERX were retro-fitted to all four of the pre-production aircraft and will be standard on all production aircraft.



FS 17875
Insignia White



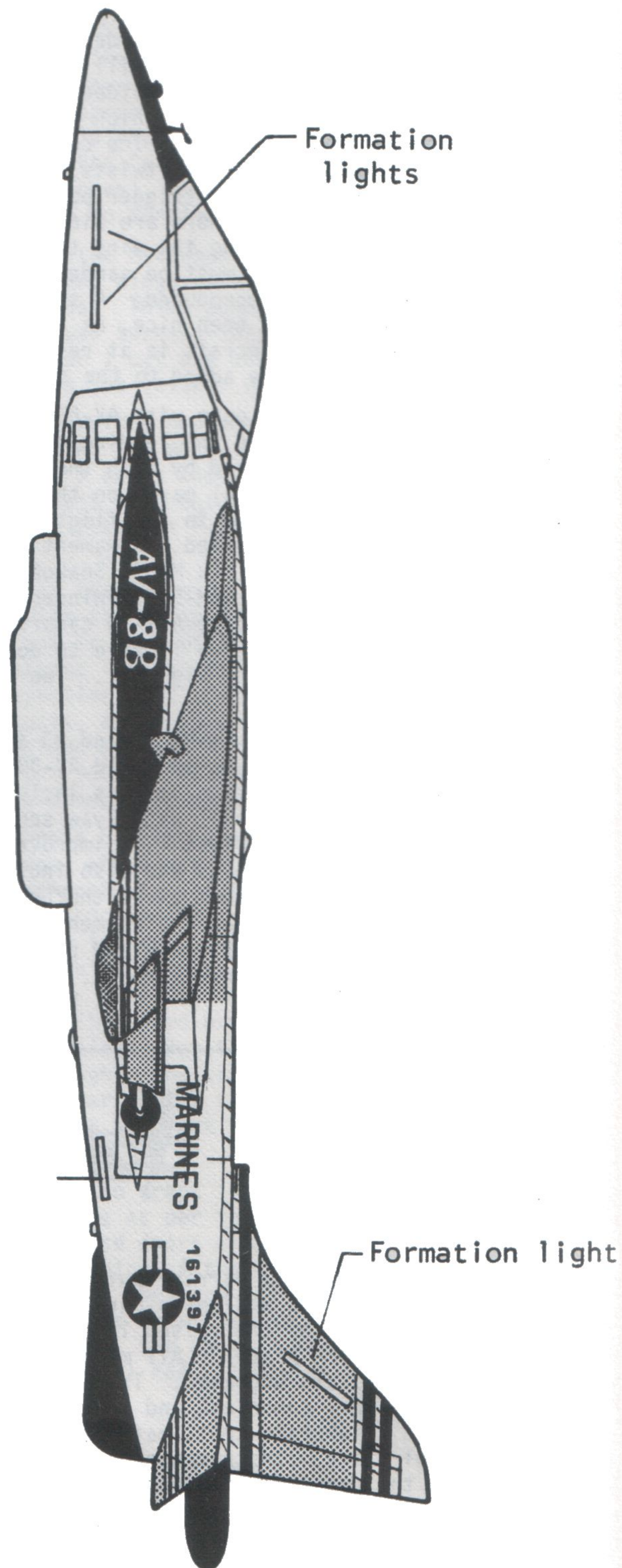
FS 11136
Insignia Red



FS 17038
Black



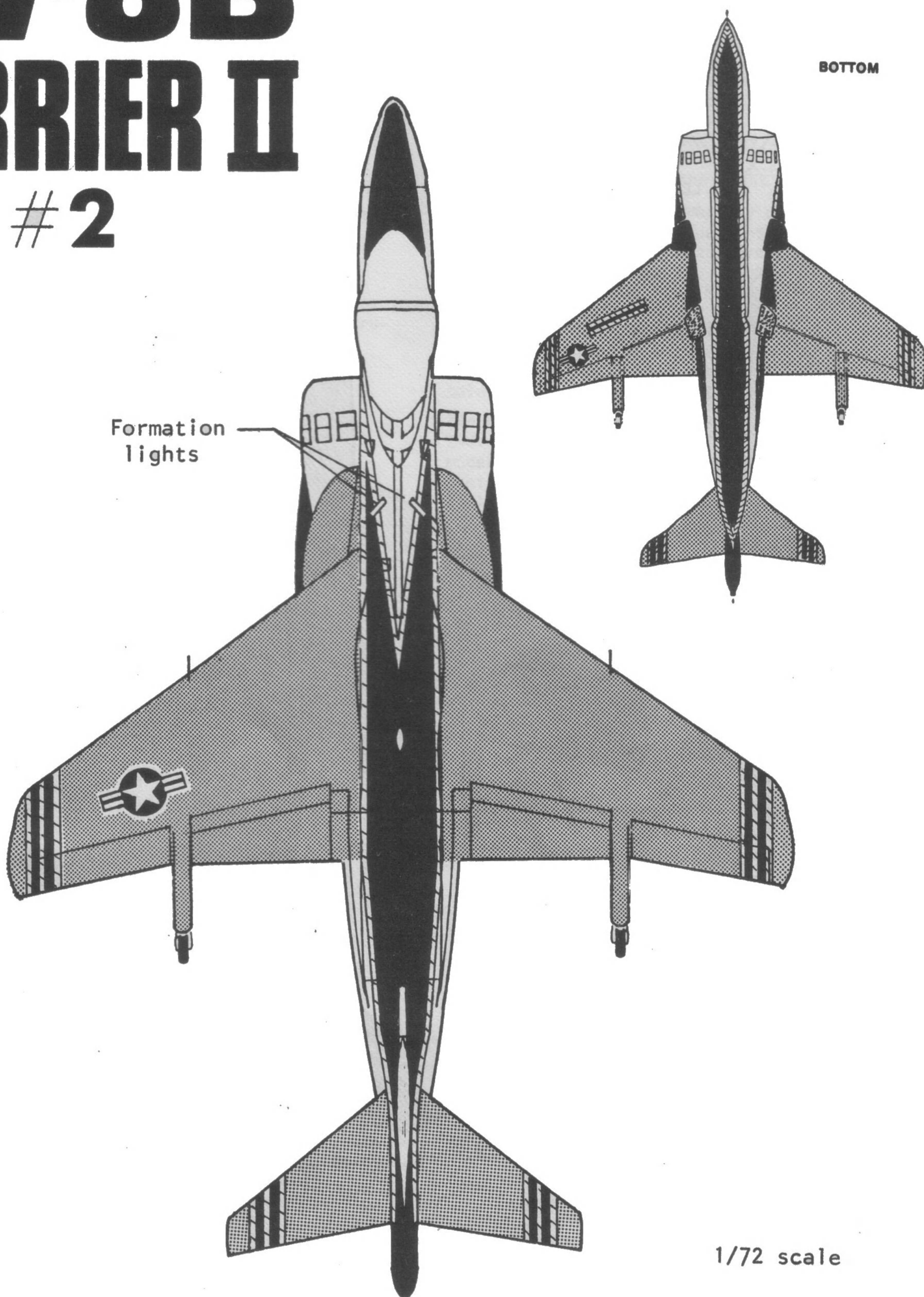
FS 17043
Gold



1/72 scale

AV-8B HARRIER II

#2



All drawings by Bill Drescher

AV-8B HARRIER II

#4

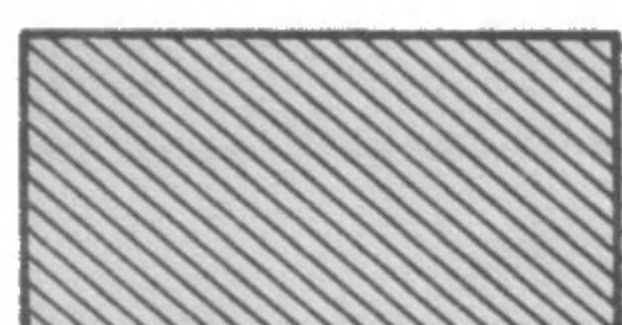
This aircraft has a blue-gray color on the upper surfaces, medium gray on the sides, and a light gray on all undersurfaces. Markings use the same three grays in a contrasting scheme. The wing insignias are in 36440, and most of the other markings, which are on side-facing surfaces, use the darker 36375 of the upper areas.

LERXs were installed on this aircraft but are not shown in this drawing.

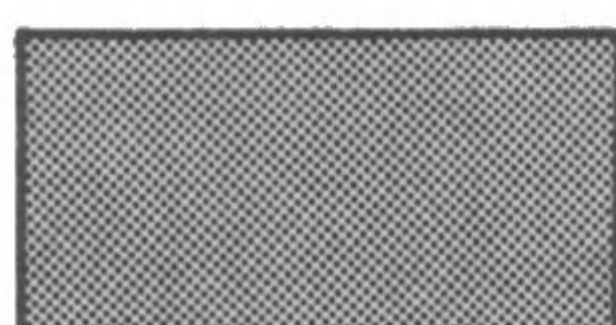
Aft nozzle and blast plate is dark bare metal.

The "4" on the tail is black, and was not on the aircraft initially

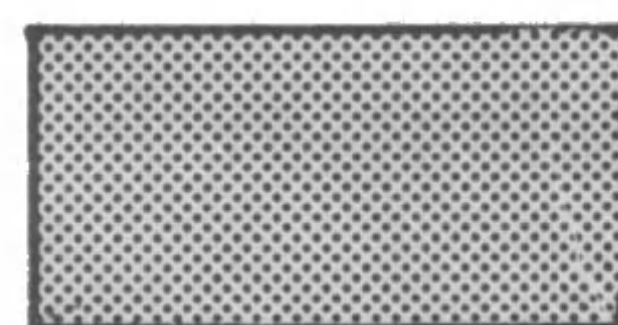
Approx. 1/72 scale



FS 36375
Light Gray



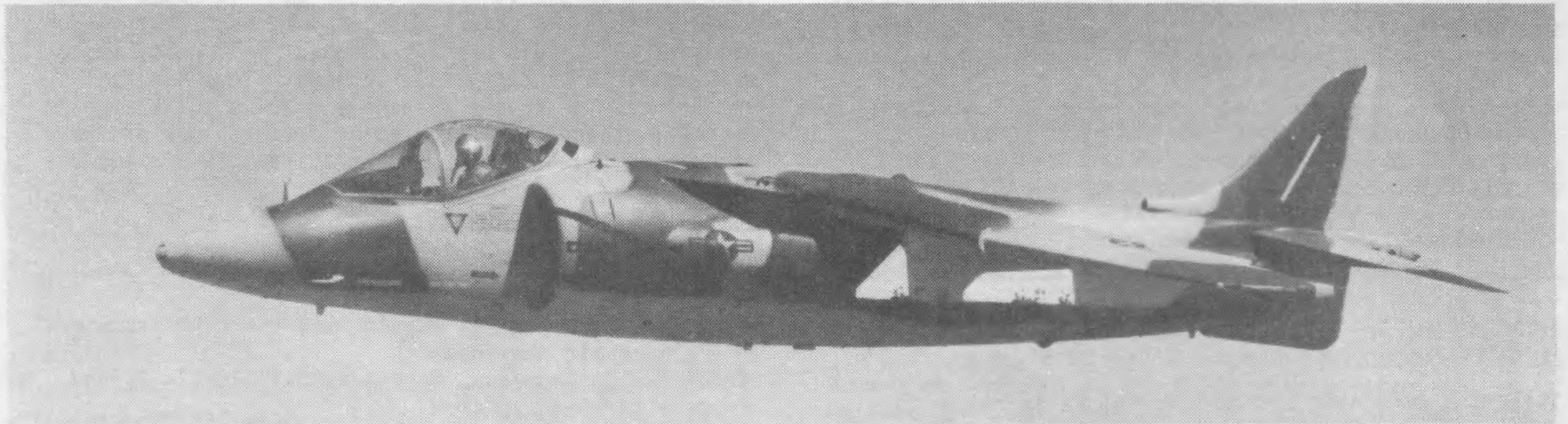
FS 36440
Gray



FS 36495
Light Gray



AV-8B #2 preproduction prototype in Marine colors of white, red, gold, and black.



AV-8B #3 preproduction aircraft in standard production-style camouflage.



AV-8B #4 preproduction aircraft in low visibility three-tone gray scheme.

All photos courtesy of McDonnell Douglas