

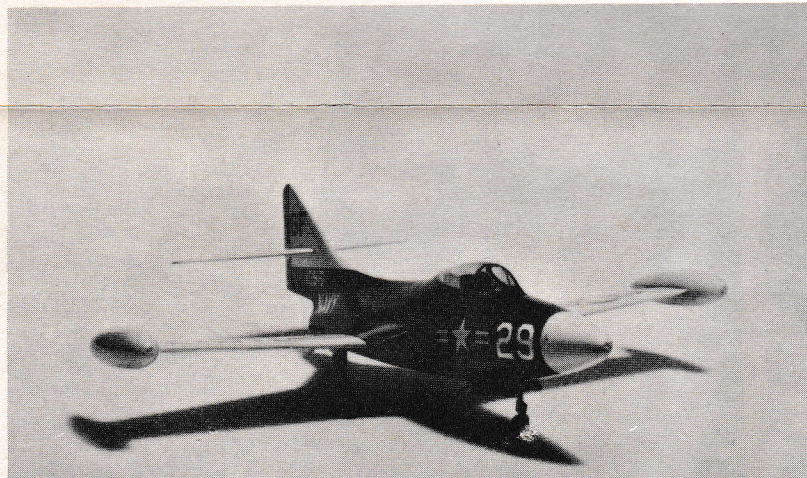
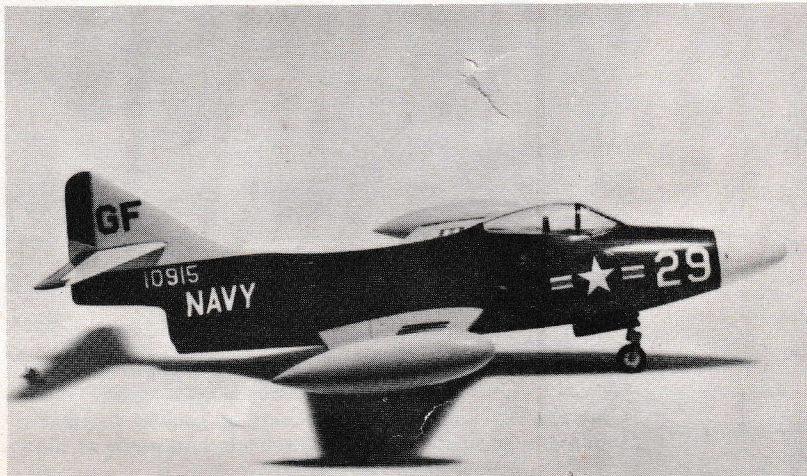
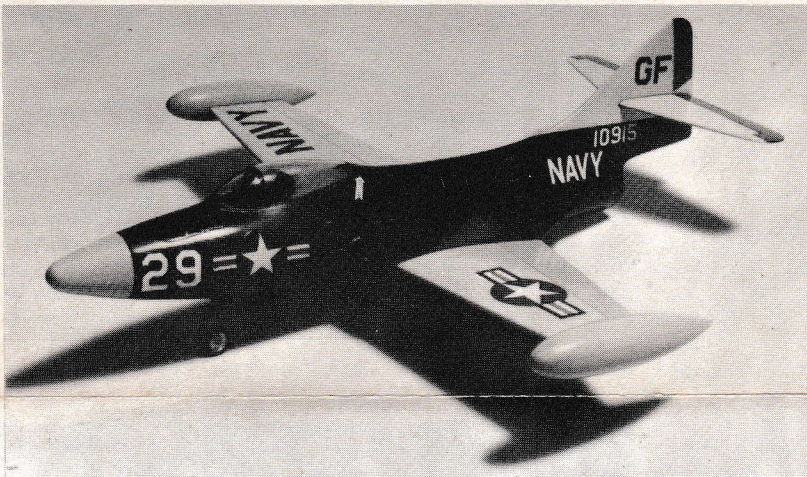
Most
Trusted
Name
In
Modeling

GRUMMAN F9F-3KD

TARGET DRONE

Kit No. 502-100

MADE AND PRINTED IN U.S.A.



"Whatever happens to old planes?"

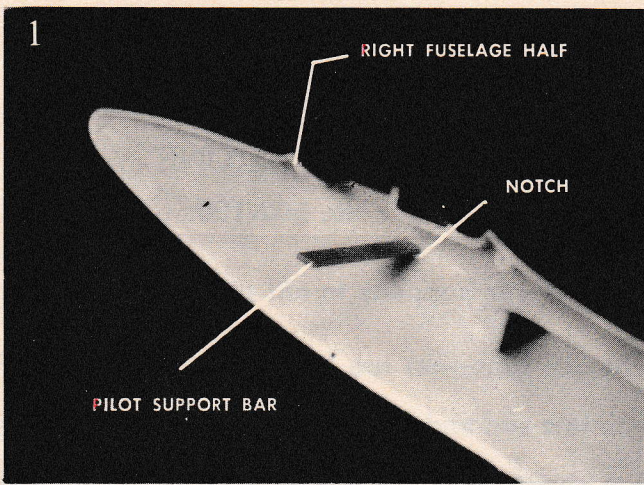
At one time—not too long ago—retired aircraft came to a sad end at some scrap depot where they were chopped to pieces and sold for their metal value. While many aircraft still meet their end in this manner, many others are converted into radio controlled target drones and are used to train combat crews in the use of anti-aircraft missiles.

The Grumman F9F-3KD is one of these aircraft. Once a proud first-line fighter, the Panther has now become as colorful as a Peacock in its red and yellow paint. Instead of carrying a pilot aloft, she now carries radio control equipment that enables her to takeoff and land without a pilot.

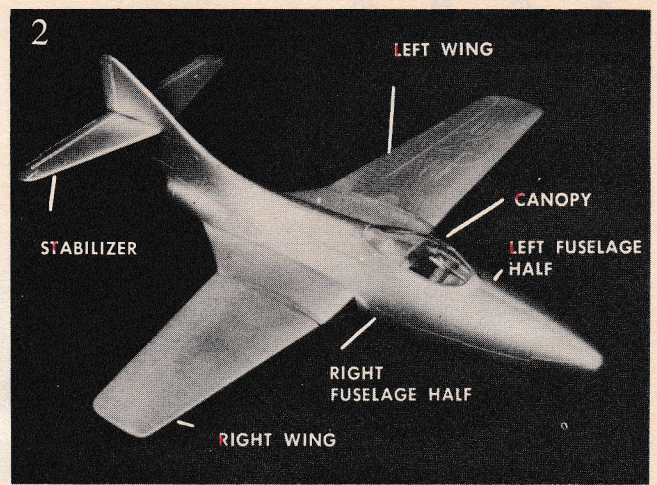
One of the Navy units to fly the aircraft was Guided Missile Service Squadron Two (GMSRon Two) and the HAWK F9F-3KD is modeled after one of GMSRon Two's planes. The unit has also flown F9F-6K's; FJ-3's; T-28's; P2V-5F's; JD-1D's; and KDA-1's.

Drone aircraft remain interesting model studies because of their colorful paint schemes and because use of the aircraft as a target portends the end of a particular aircraft's long career.

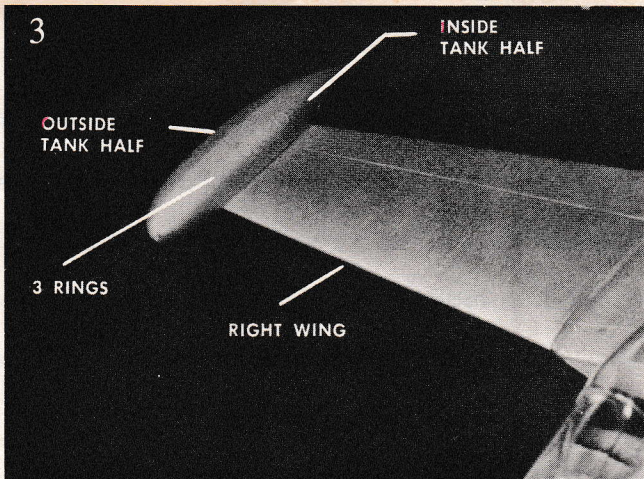
Assembly of the F9F-3KD should be done with a good grade of polystyrene plastic cement. Paint used for the model should be enamel—not lacquer. Be sure to follow the instructions closely and work carefully. The photographs of the finished model and the box cover should provide you with sufficient data for paint and decal placement.



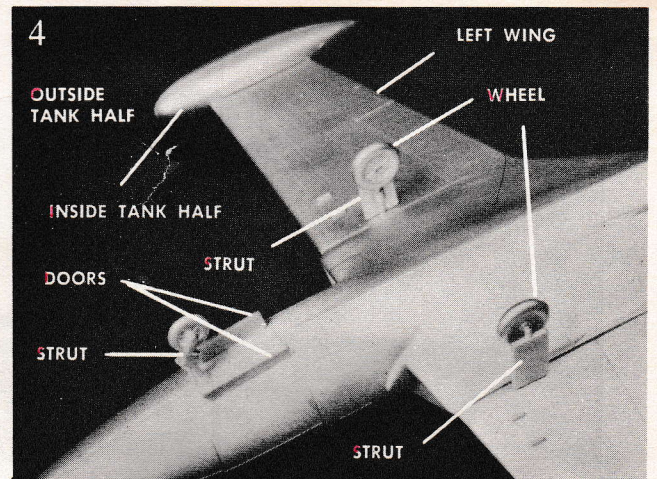
Do not cement the *pilot support bar* into place if you intend to use the model as a pilot drone. Pilots are used to taxi the aircraft to the takeoff point only. However, we include the pilot for those modelers who will customize the F9F-3KD into F9F-3 and F9F-2 conversions. In this case glue the *bar* into position.



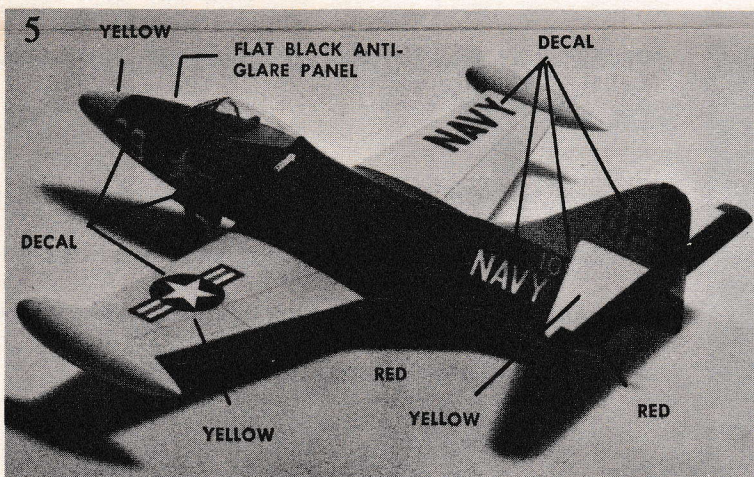
Cement the *fuselage halves* together. Paint the inside of the cockpit area gray. Glue the *canopy* into place. Slide the *stabilizer* through the fin slot and cement. Glue the left and right wings to the fuselage stubs.



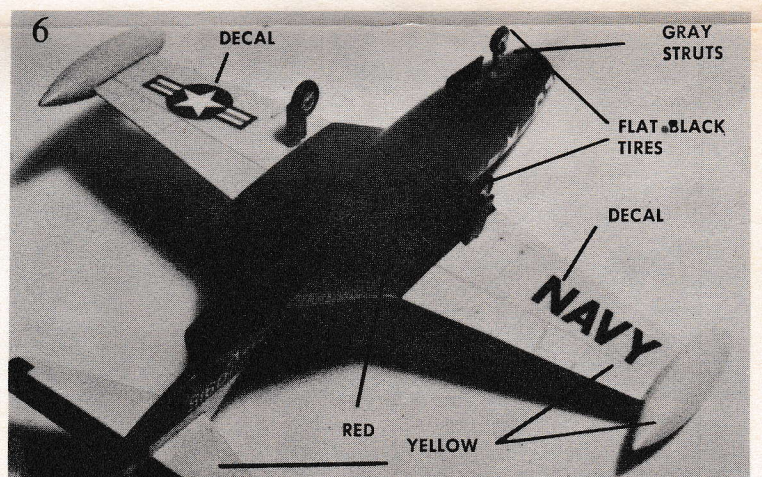
Glue *inside tank halves* (with slot) to *outside tank halves* (no slot). Now glue a tank to the right wing so that the 3 engraved rings on the inside tank half are located *above* the wing surface.



Glue the fuel tank to the left wing as shown. Cement the landing gear *struts*, *doors*, and *wheels* into place as shown.



The landing gear struts are painted gray as are the wheel hubs. Tires are flat black. Add the decals on the lower surface as indicated.



Carefully paint the model using gloss enamels except where noted. Carefully add the decals as shown.