



mmd48005

Afghan War series

SU-17M4



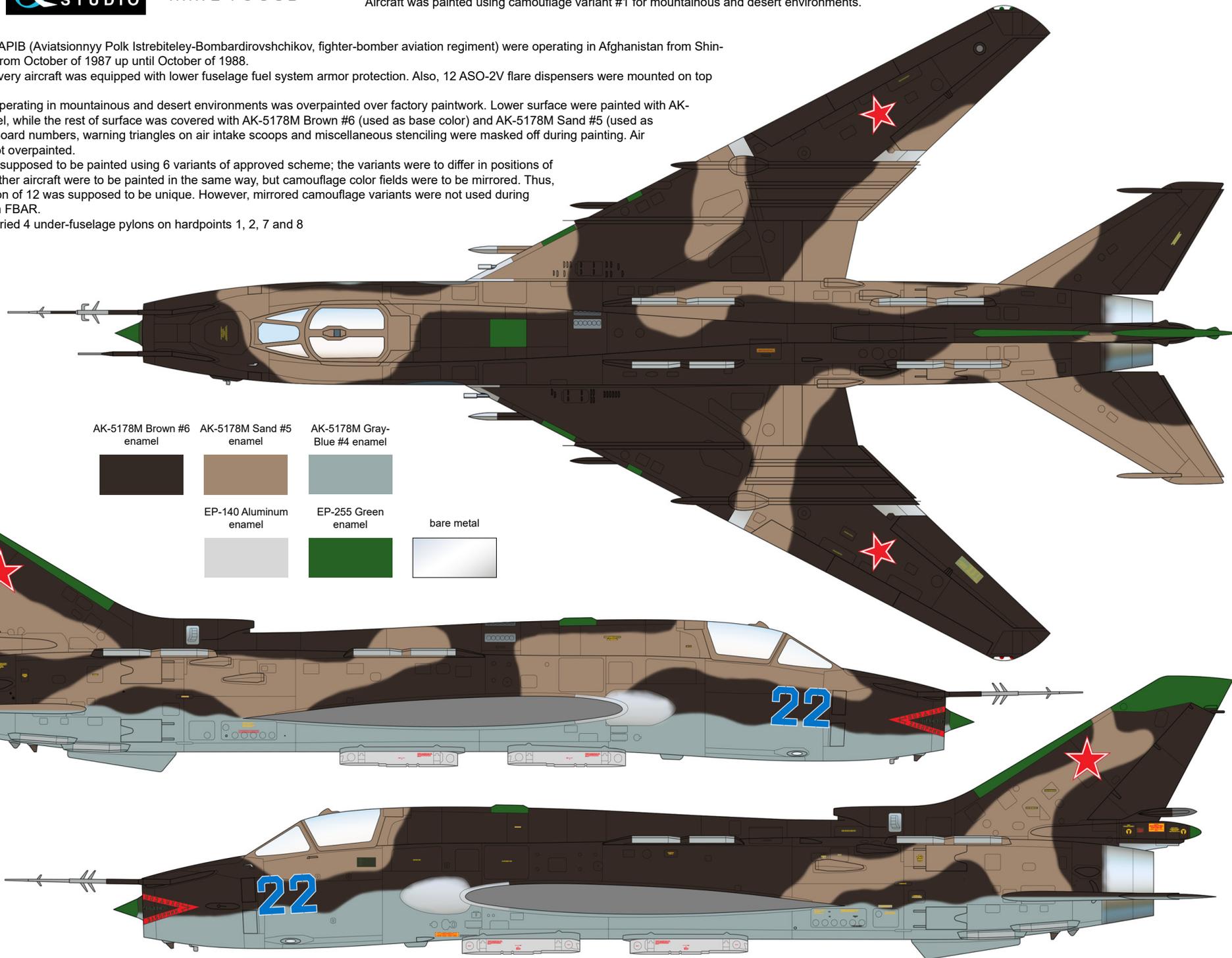
Two squadrons of 274th APIB (Aviatsionnyy Polk Istrebiteley-Bombardirovshchikov, fighter-bomber aviation regiment) were operating in Afghanistan from Shindand and Bagram airfields from October of 1987 up until October of 1988.

Before the deployment every aircraft was equipped with lower fuselage fuel system armor protection. Also, 12 ASO-2V flare dispensers were mounted on top and bottom of the fuselage.

Camouflage for aircraft operating in mountainous and desert environments was overpainted over factory paintwork. Lower surface were painted with AK-5178M Gray-Blue #4 enamel, while the rest of surface was covered with AK-5178M Brown #6 (used as base color) and AK-5178M Sand #5 (used as additional color) enamels. Board numbers, warning triangles on air intake scoops and miscellaneous stenciling were masked off during painting. Air intake scoop cones were not overpainted.

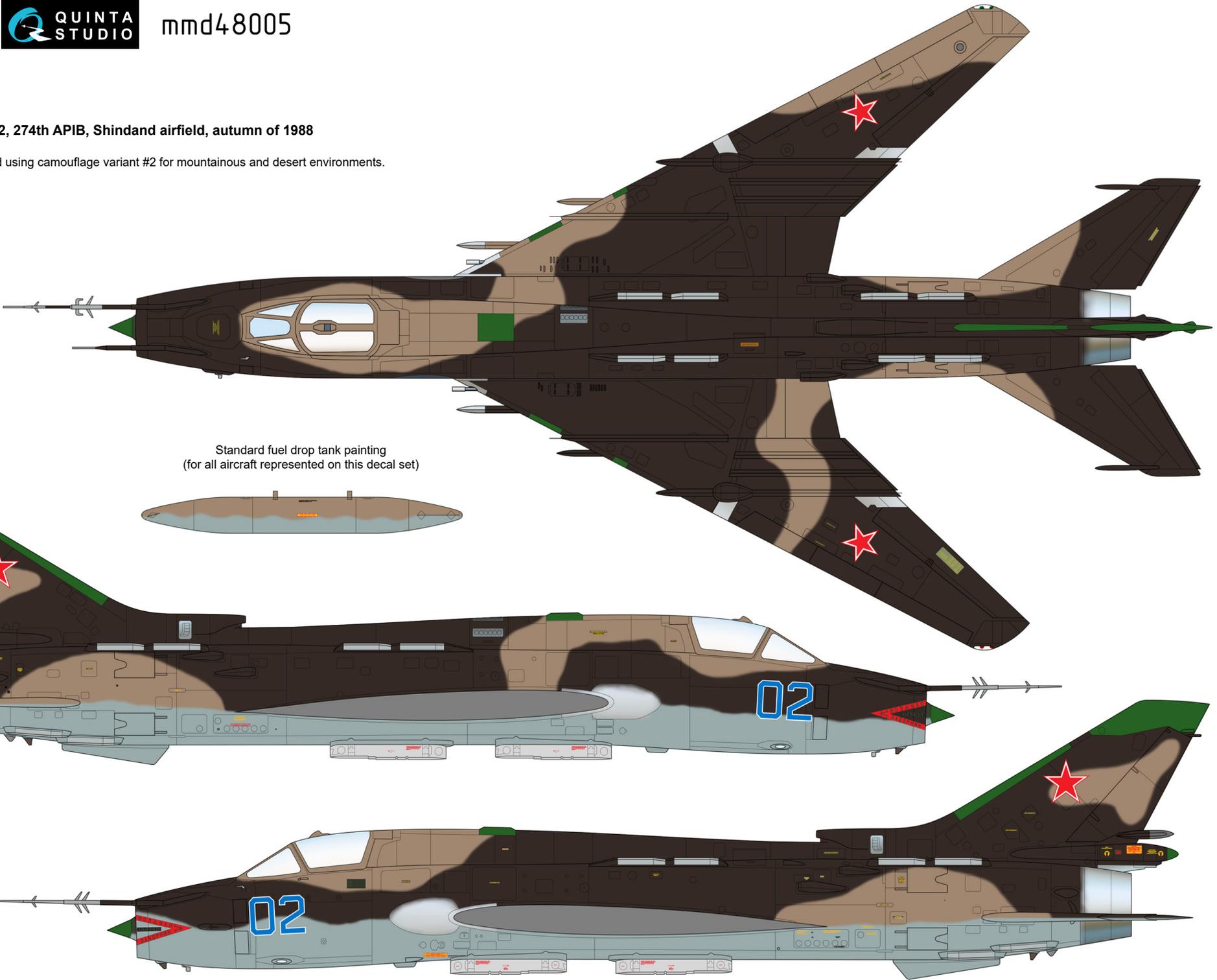
6 squadron aircraft were supposed to be painted using 6 variants of approved scheme; the variants were to differ in positions of camouflage color fields. 6 other aircraft were to be painted in the same way, but camouflage color fields were to be mirrored. Thus, every aircraft out of squadron of 12 was supposed to be unique. However, mirrored camouflage variants were not used during painting the aircraft of 274th FBAR.

All regimental aircraft carried 4 under-fuselage pylons on hardpoints 1, 2, 7 and 8



Su-17M4 Blue 02, 274th APIB, Shindand airfield, autumn of 1988

Aircraft was painted using camouflage variant #2 for mountainous and desert environments.



Su-17M4 Blue 06, 274th APIB, Shindand airfield, 1989

Aircraft was painted using camouflage variant #3 for mountainous and desert environments.
Note the flare racks in yellow primer.



Su-17M4 Blue 26, 274th APIB, Shindand airfield, 1989

Aircraft was painted using camouflage variant #4 for mountainous and desert environments.
Note the flare racks in yellow primer.



Su-17M4 Blue 23, 274th APIB, Shindand airfield, 1989

Aircraft was painted using camouflage variant #5 for mountainous and desert environments.



Su-17M4 Blue 34, 274th APIB, Bagram airfield, 1989

Aircraft was painted using camouflage variant #6 for mountainous and desert environments.



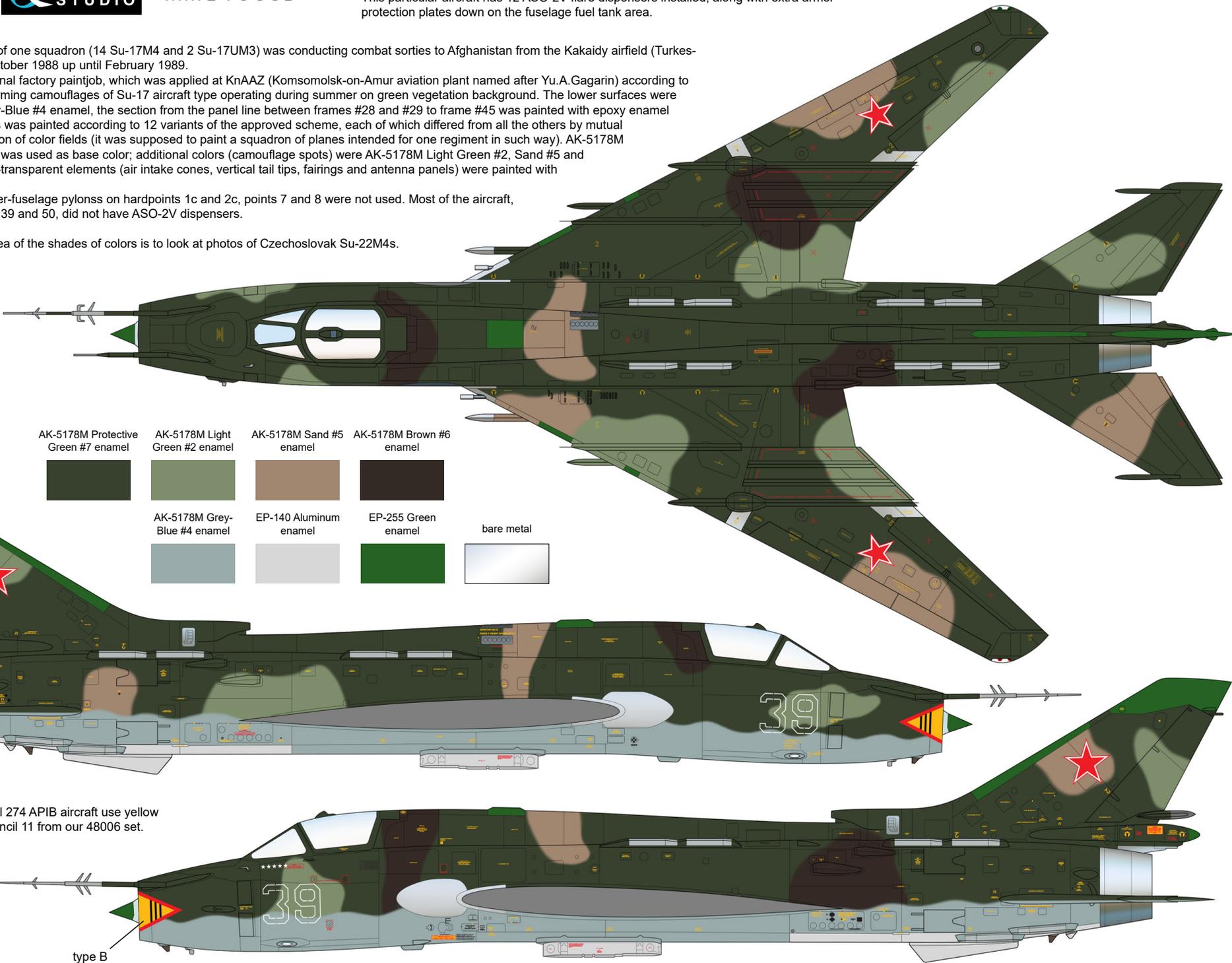
This particular aircraft has 12 ASO-2V flare dispensers installed, along with extra armor protection plates down on the fuselage fuel tank area.

302 APIB with the forces of one squadron (14 Su-17M4 and 2 Su-17M3) was conducting combat sorties to Afghanistan from the Kakaidy airfield (Turkistan Military District) since October 1988 up until February 1989.

Every aircraft carried original factory paintjob, which was applied at KnAAZ (Komsomolsk-on-Amur aviation plant named after Yu.A.Gagarin) according to regulation schemes for deforming camouflages of Su-17 aircraft type operating during summer on green vegetation background. The lower surfaces were painted with AK-5178M Grey-Blue #4 enamel, the section from the panel line between frames #28 and #29 to frame #45 was painted with epoxy enamel EP-140. Remaining surfaces was painted according to 12 variants of the approved scheme, each of which differed from all the others by mutual arrangement and configuration of color fields (it was supposed to paint a squadron of planes intended for one regiment in such way). AK-5178M Protective Green #7 enamel was used as base color; additional colors (camouflage spots) were AK-5178M Light Green #2, Sand #5 and Brown #6 enamels. All radio-transparent elements (air intake cones, vertical tail tips, fairings and antenna panels) were painted with EP-255 green enamel.

Every aircraft carried under-fuselage pylons on hardpoints 1c and 2c, points 7 and 8 were not used. Most of the aircraft, with the exception of boards 39 and 50, did not have ASO-2V dispensers.

The best way to get an idea of the shades of colors is to look at photos of Czechoslovak Su-22M4s.



For all 274 APIB aircraft use yellow stencil 11 from our 48006 set.

type B

Su-17M4 White 40, 302nd APIB, Kakaidy airfield, February of 1989



type A

Su-17M4 White 48, 302nd APIB, Kakaidy airfield, October of 1988



type A

Su-17M4 White 50, 302nd APiB, Kakaidy airfield, February of 1989

The aircraft had 8 ASO-2V flare dispensers installed on top of fuselage.



type B

Su-17M4 White 51, 302nd APIB, Kakaidy airfield, February of 1989



type A

Su-17M4 White 54, 302nd APiB, Kakaidy airfield, February of 1989

The board number was applied over the old one, which had been painted over.



type A

Su-17M4 White 61, 302nd APIB, Kakaidy airfield, October of 1988

The board number was applied over the old one, which had been painted over.



Su-17M4 White 73, 302nd APIB, Kakaidy airfield, February of 1989

The board number was applied over the old one, which had been painted over.



Su-17M4 White 81, 302nd APIB, Kakaidy airfield, February of 1989

The board number was applied over the old one, which had been painted over.
Also note the uncommon light blue triangle on the air intake.



Su-17M4 White 89, 302nd APIB, Kakaidy airfield, February of 1989

The board number was applied over the old one, which had been painted over.



Su-17M4 White 68, 523rd APIB, Vozdvizhenka airfield (Far Eastern Military District), 1990

Earlier the aircraft belonged to 302nd APIB. In 1990 it was transferred to 523rd APIB.
The board number was applied over the old one, which had been painted over.

Please note that Board 68 did not take part in the Afghan war.



Su-17M4R Red 07, 263th ORAE (Otdel'naya Razvedyvatel'naya Aviatsionnaya Eskadil'ya, independent reconnaissance aviation squadron), Bagram airfield, winter of 1988-1989

Variant #3 of the color scheme for the mountain-desert environment was used as the basis for the camouflage.

