

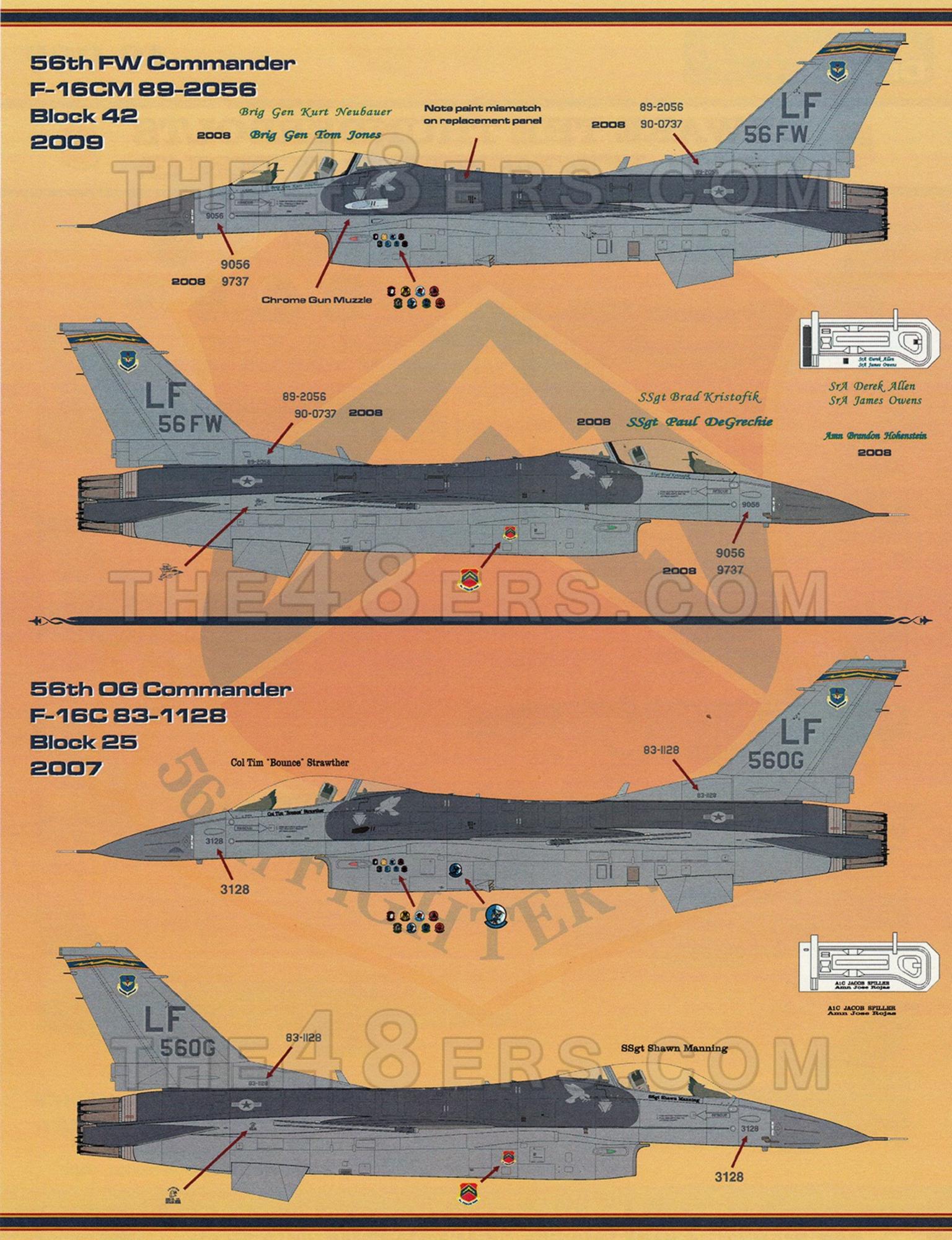


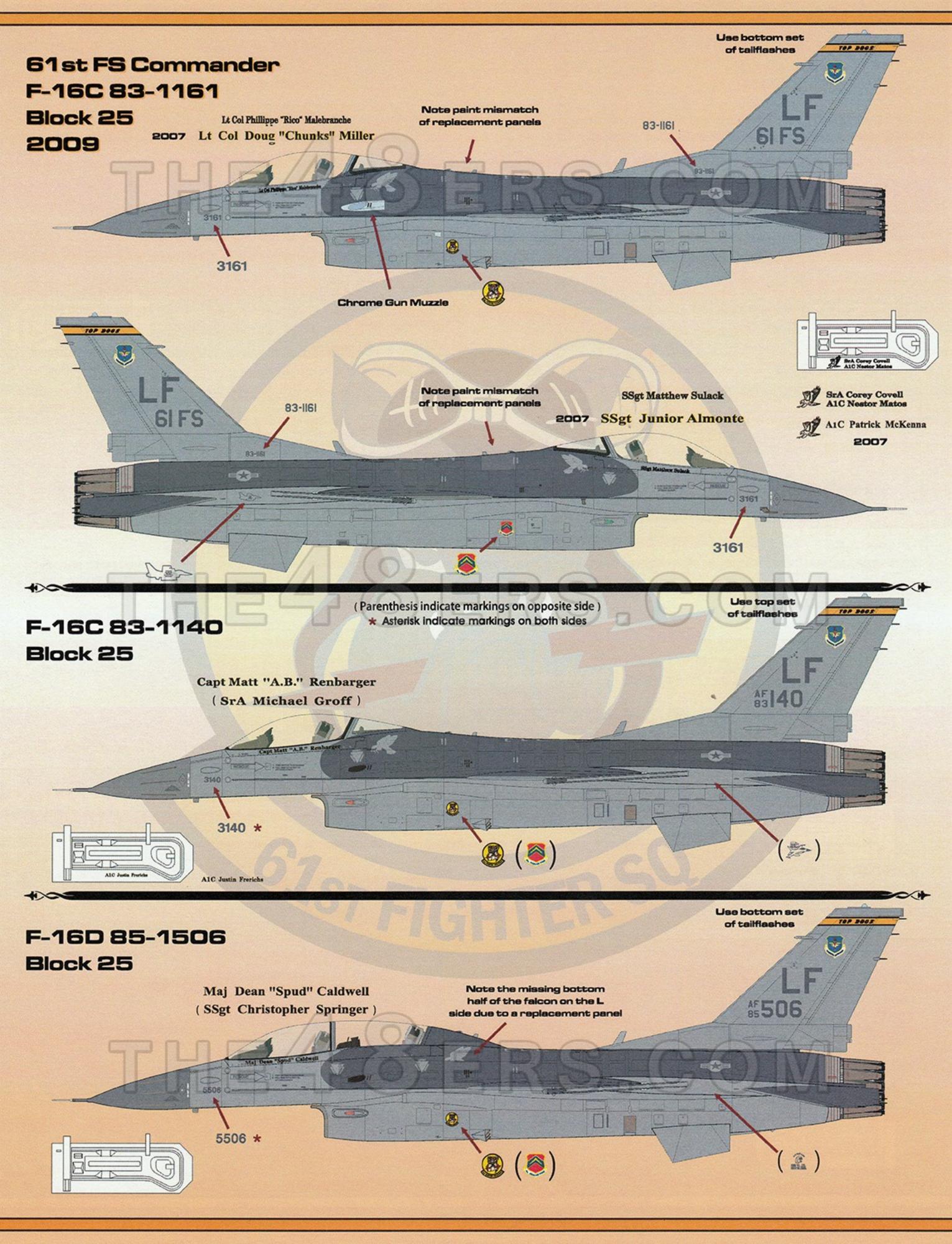
# BEWARE THE THUNDERBOLTS 56th FIGHERS WING



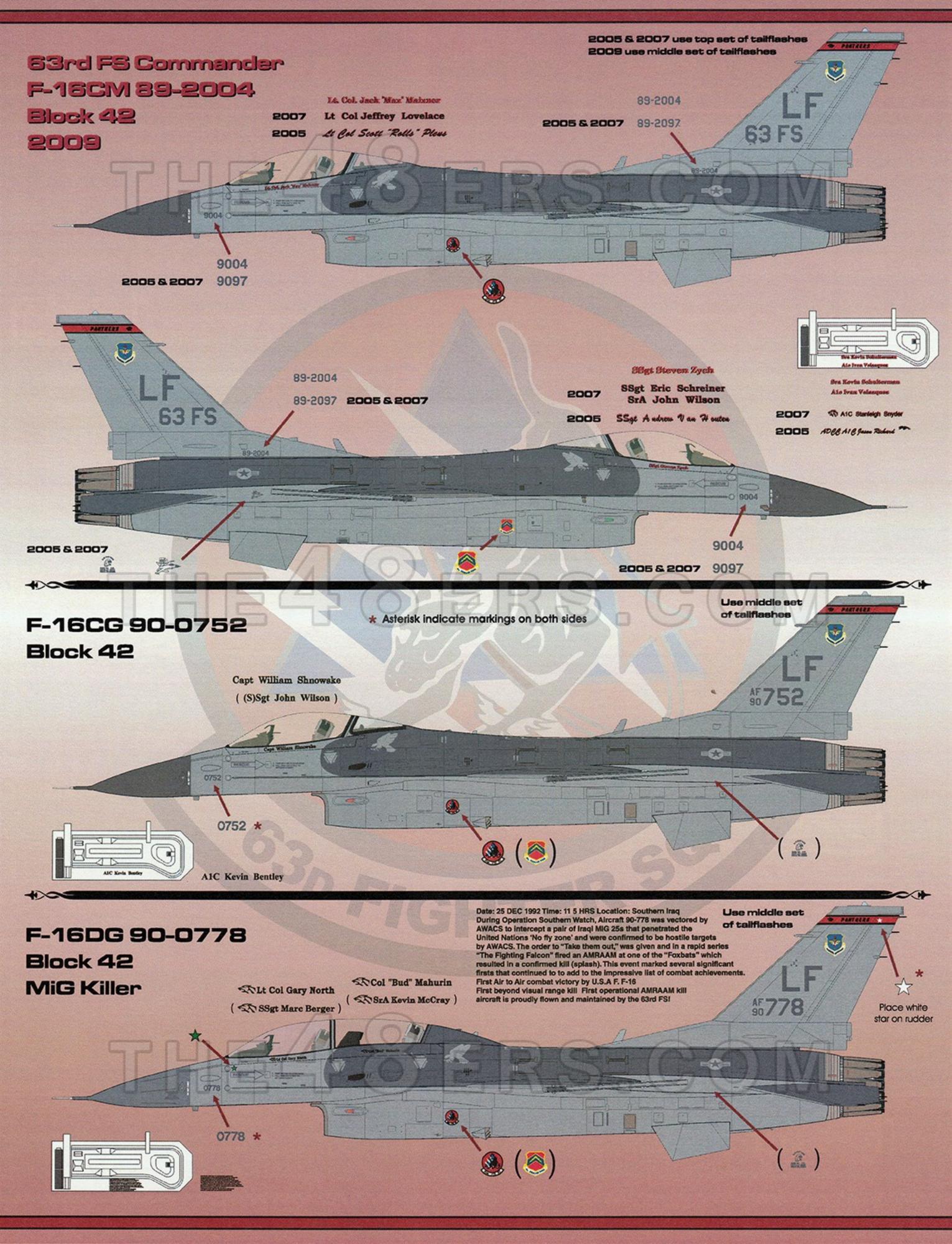










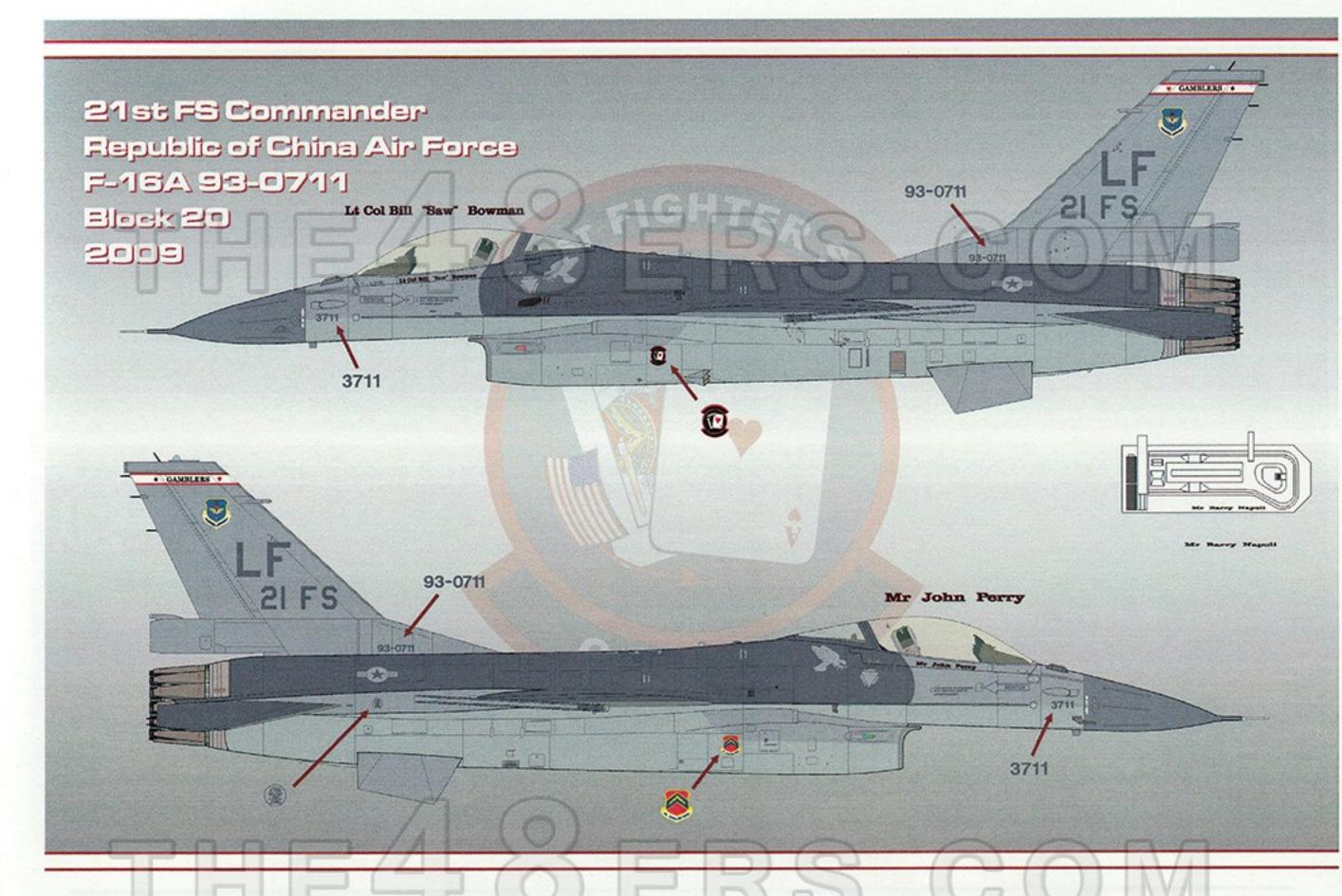












#### **Modeling Notes**

#### F-16 Kits

**Block 20** Kinetic makes the only out of the box block 20 kit. Well, our slobbering love affair with the Tamiya F-16s is no secret, but sadly they don't do early vipers. Starting with the block 25/42 kit, it wouldn't be that hard to use the small parabrake tail from a Hasegawa kit or an aftermarket one, and fix a few panel lines.

**Block 25/42** Best kit would be Tamiya's F-16 C/N "Aggressor/Adversary" boxing. It has both type intakes, exhausts, and HUD, everything you need in one box.

Block 52+ For the C model, best kit, again, would be Tamiya's F-16 C/N "Aggressor/Adversary" kit. It has the NSI intake, P&W exhausts, and heavy weight gear. The other P&W engined kits (ANG & thunderbirds) only have the lightweight gear. The only thing missing would be the alternate style of IFF antennas.

For the D model, best bet would be the Hasegawa F-16D block 52 kit, until Tamiya finally decides to make a D! This kit does come with the appropriate spine & IFF antennas for the RSAF jets.

This sheet is the culmination of several years of reference gathering, from personal, as well as numerous outside sources both civilians and military, and we'd like to thank them publicly for their gracious and indispensable assistance.

Jake Melampy Wally VanWinkle Cliff Bossie Mike Idacavage Bill Hammond Shawn Hull Capt. James Ellison Maj. Melissa May SSgt John Wilson Jason Cheah SSgt Duke Newsome Bruce Biggs

Roberto Samper
John Kerr
Maj. Troy Gilbert
Mike Reeves
Pete Biddle
LTC Keith Miller

#### **Aftermarket Reccomendations**

Yeah, me too. Hopefully I should have a D model conversion for the Tamiya kit done by the time you are reading this. I will also soon have available other weapons sets applicable to this sheet, such as the mk.82 ballutes, mavericks, LAU-131 rocket pods, and AMA pods.

<u>Royale Resins</u> makes really nice replacement wells, and a one piece radome, if you hate fiddling with the Tamiya 2-piece part. You know how we feel about 2-piece stuff.

**Eduard** If you like photo-etch origami, they make a nice boarding ladder, set 48578. They also make some pretty decent replacement wheels & ejection seats in their Brassin line.

#### **Photo Reference**

For more information about the F-16, we highly recommend the photo reference books *The Modern Viper Guide, the F-16C/D Exposed* by Jake Melampy.

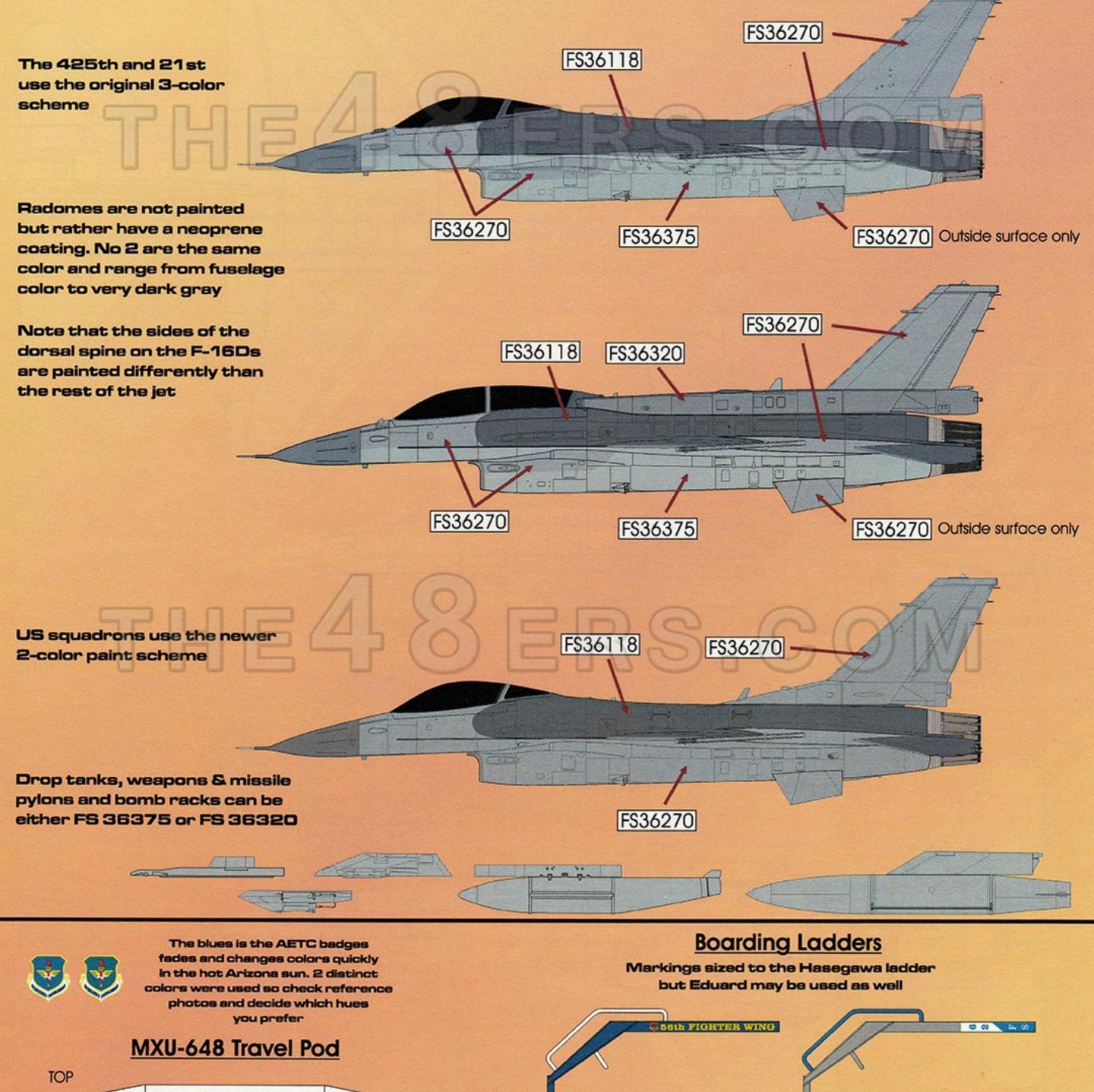
Jake also covers the jets from Luke in his hardcover book The Viper Story, Part II: Test & Training F-16s.

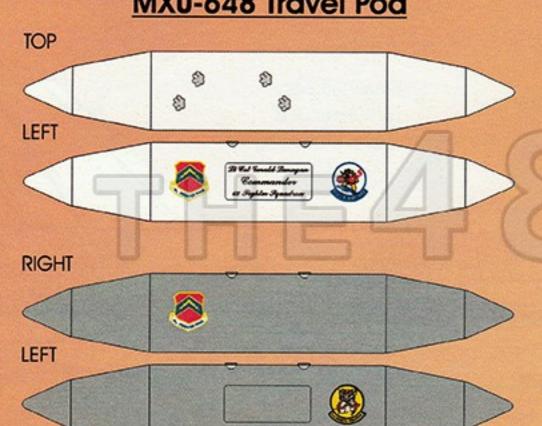
The Scale Viper: A modeler's Guide to Building the F-16 by Pete "Pig" Fleischmann, World's Greatest Fighter Pilot and all-around good guy, is a new and incredibly valuable reference on how to model the viper.

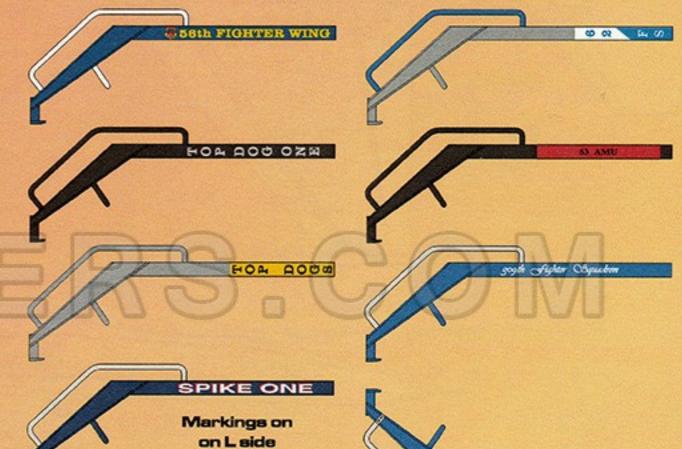
Available through www.reidairpublishing.com, or wherever awesome books are sold.

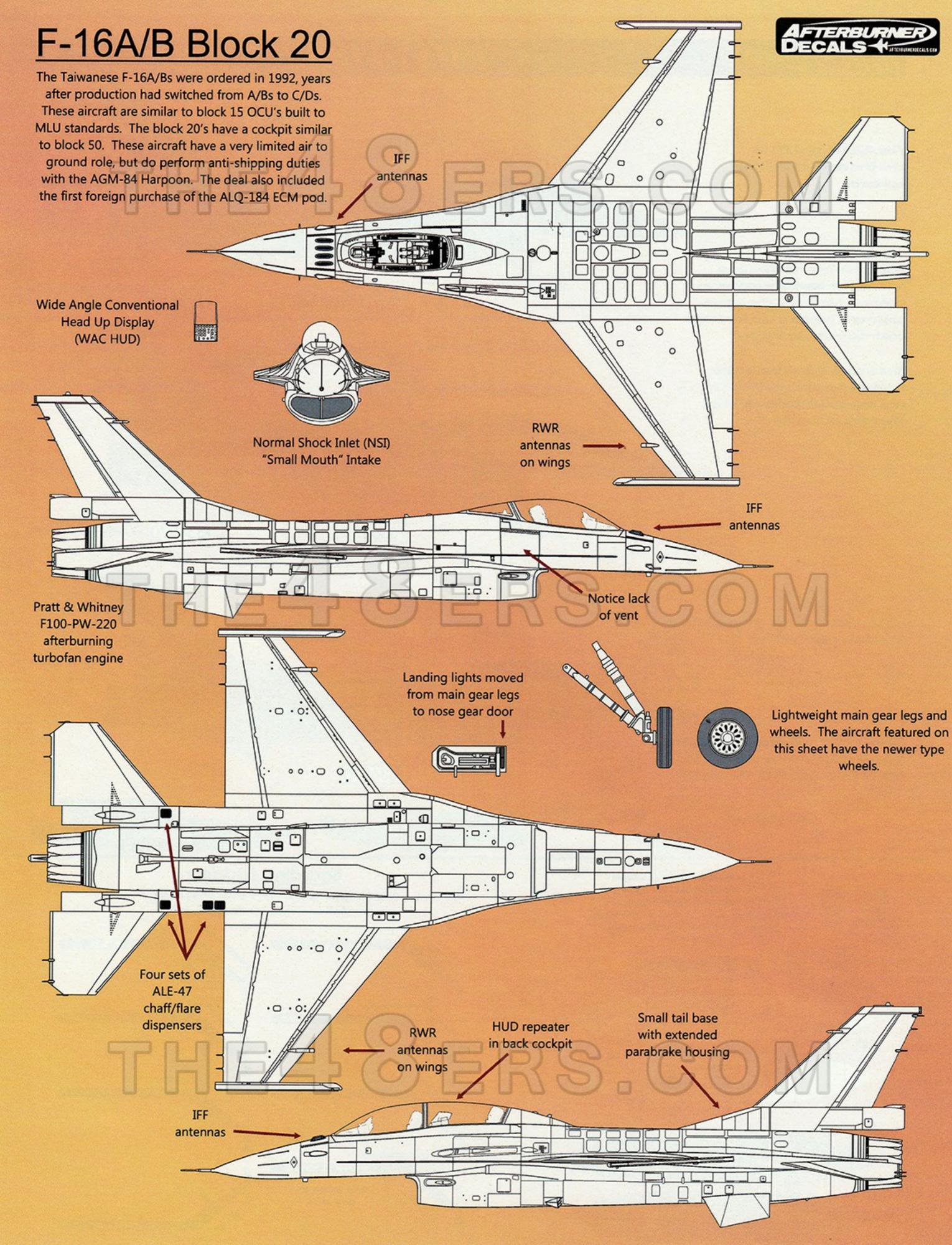
REID AIR PUBLICATIONS

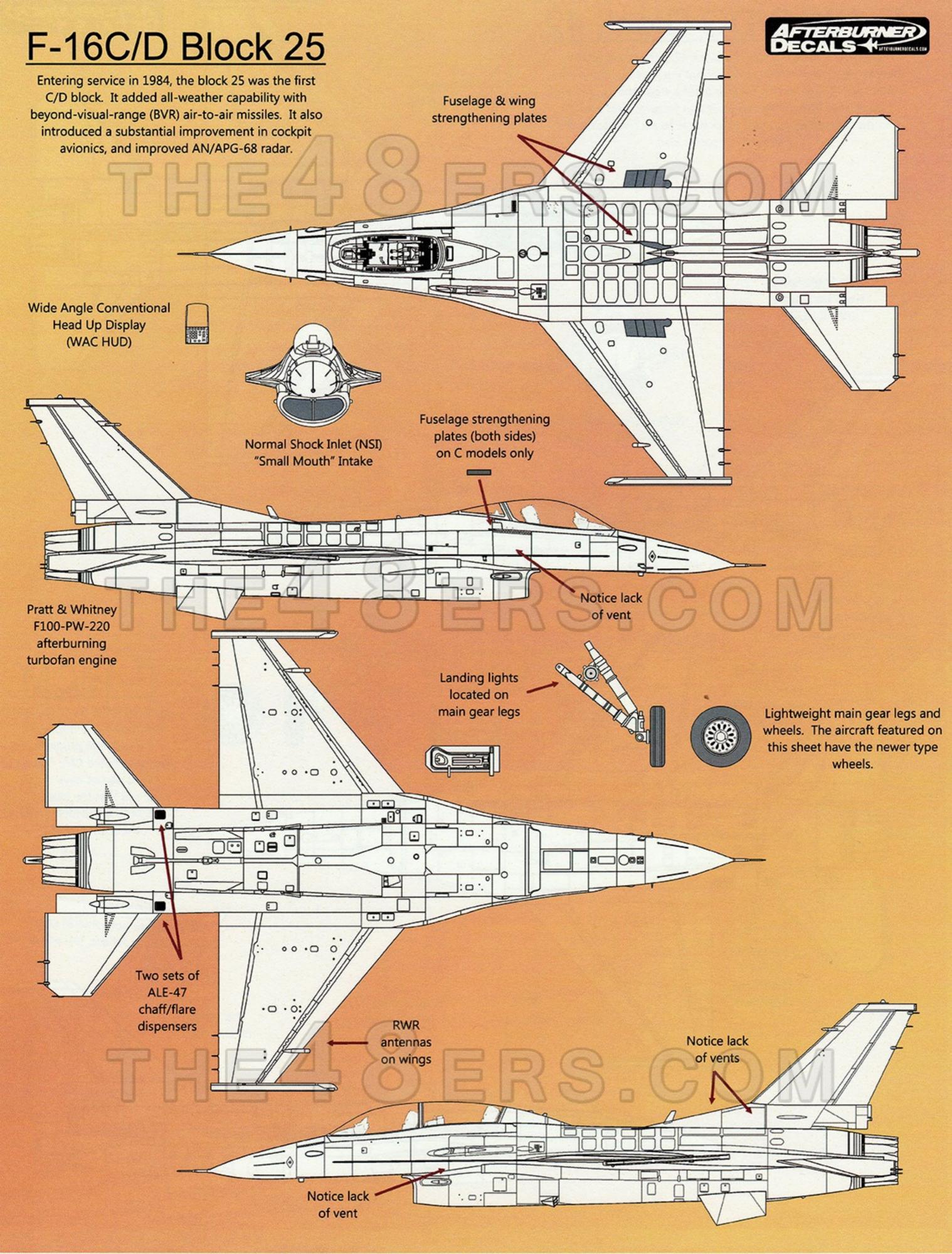
## PAINT GUIDE

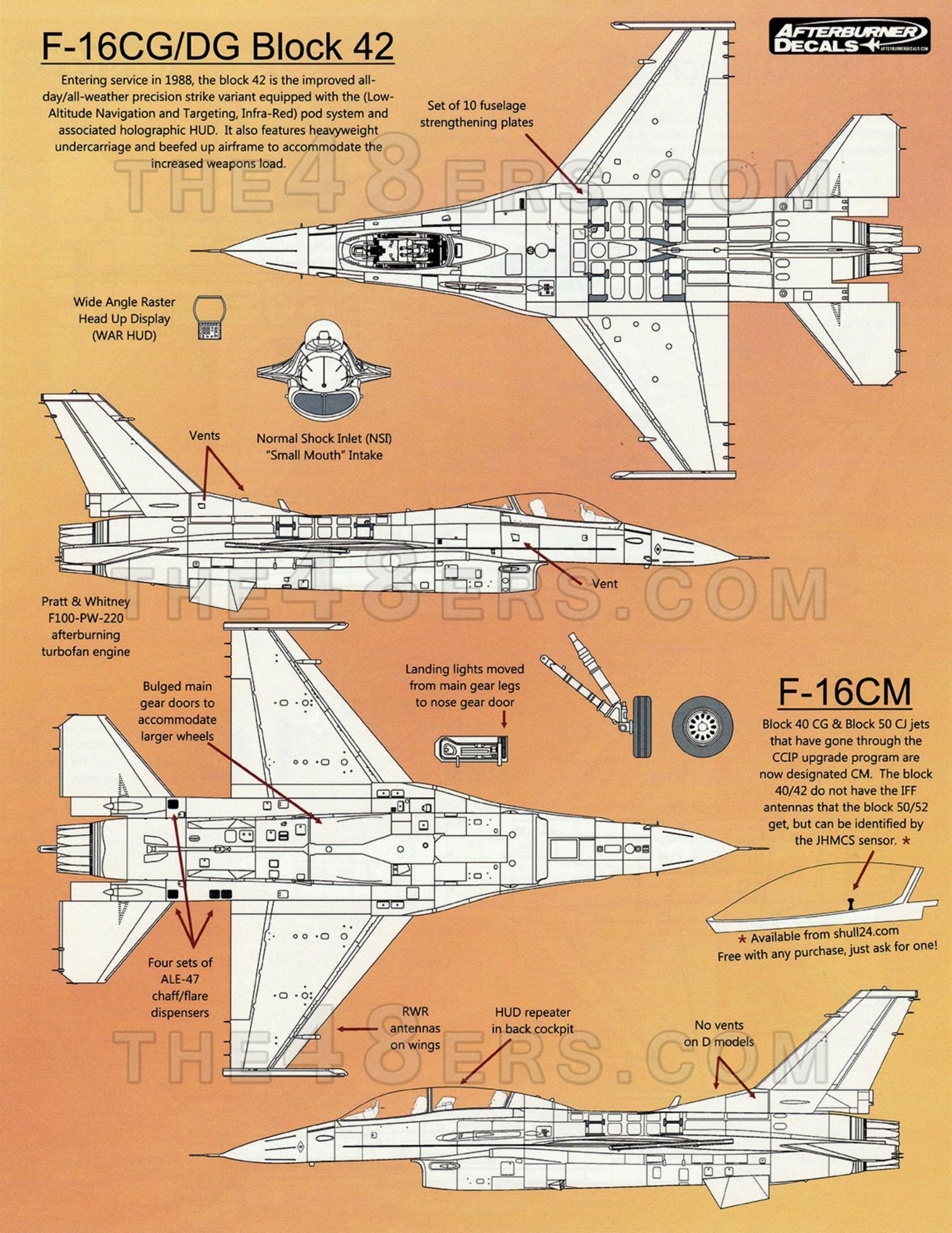


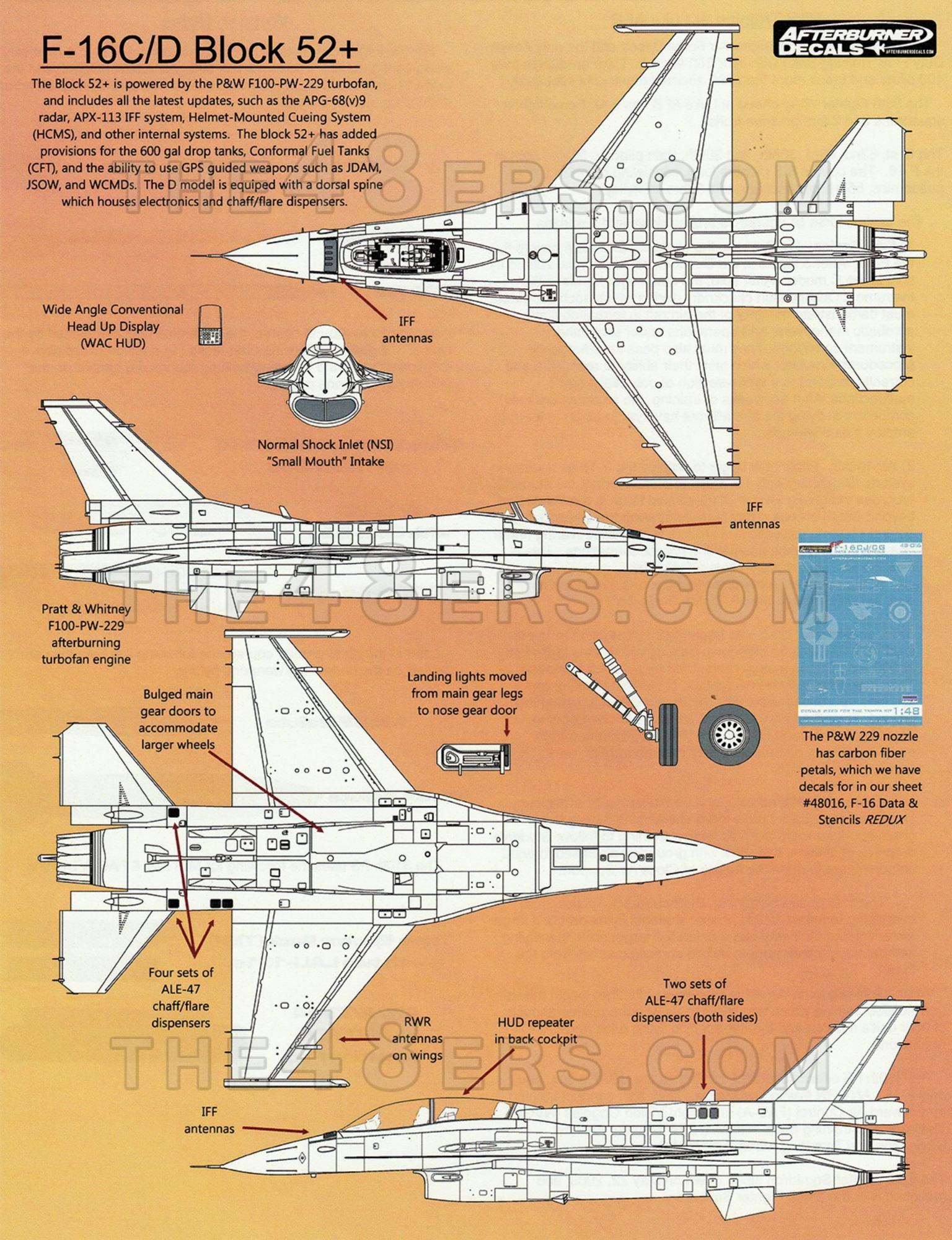














### EA CT FILE

#### Pilot Training at Luke AFB

Luke AFB is one of the largest Air Force Bases and the only Active Duty F-16 Training Base with over 200 aircraft. Luke graduates over 400 pilots and trains more than 700 aircraft technicians ever year.

The 56th Fighter Wing based at Luke AFB has 6 Air Force fighter squadrons and 2 foreign squadrons.

The 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 308th, and 309th, train pilots to fly and fight in the F-16. The course is 6 months long, consisting of 265hrs. of academics, 55hrs. of simulator, and 80hrs. of flying.

The basic course (B-course) is broken down into 3 phases:

- 1) F-16 Basics. For 6 weeks the student pilots learn how to fly the F-16. After 5 flights in the D model, pilots are now able to fly solo in the C model. After solo, the next major hurdle is the Instrument/Qualification checkride, during which each candidate must demonstrate mastery of the aircraft in formation flight, acrobatic maneuvers, and operations under simulated instrument conditions. They must also pass an emergency procedures simulator which tests their ability to recognize and correctly respond to a cross-section of potential aircraft malfunctions. After six weeks of training, the students are now competent at flying the aircraft--but have yet to begin to learn to employ it as a weapon.
- 2) Air-to-Air. Pilots now begin to employ the F-16 as a weapon system. Beginning with 1 v. 1 visual maneuvering, the students progress to fighting as part of a two-ship team in the visual and beyond-visual arenas. They learn to operate the aircraft's fire control systems correctly and skillfully while maneuvering under heavy g-loading while maintaining briefed formations. This is also the first time student pilots refuel in air.

At the completion of the air-to-air phase, the students are over halfway through the six-month Basic Course.

3) Air to Ground. Students begin their introduction to "air-to-mud" with low altitude stepdown training where they learn to fly at 500 feet, first as a single ship, then as part of a formation. They juggle low altitude navigation, formation-keeping, and systems operations tasks with the imperative of avoiding the ground. They then practice basic surface attack--dropping unguided bombs and firing the F-16's 20mm cannon from medium and low altitude at clearly marked targets, on a sanitized firing range.

After being cleared solo, and as the students' proficiency increases, the attacks grow more challenging, laying the groundwork for more realistic tactical training to follow. Students drop live munitions, and work with ground or air-based forward air controllers to learn the basics of Close Air Support.

The final phase of training, Surface Attack Tactics, pulls everything together. In this phase, students fly as part of a large force, fighting their way into a defended target area, identifying and destroying their targets before egressing safely from the threat.

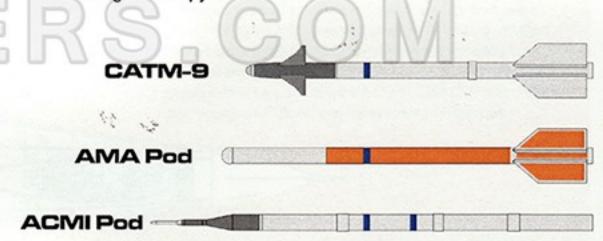
When pilots graduate depart to their new units, they begin mission qualification training which acquaints them with the unique aspects of their unit's mission and theater-specific flying rules and regulations.

The 310th FS offers advanced training as the USAF's first, and only F-16 LANTIRN training squadron. They also conduct training for Forward Air Control (FAC-A) and Night Vision Goggles (NVGs). They are now training pilots with MATIRN (Medium Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared for Night).

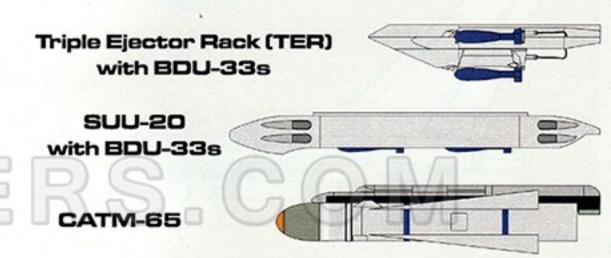
The 63rd Fighter Squadron stood down on May 22, 2009, and realigned with the 310th Fighter Squadron.

#### Weapon Notes

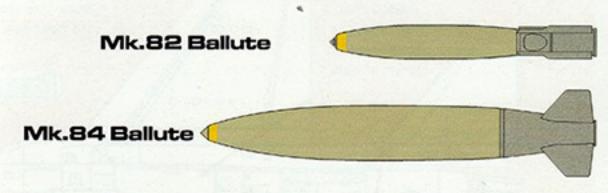
For the first two phases of training, the jets are kept in a relatively clean configuration. The centerline 300 gallon tank is used, and the following sidewinder type ordnance are carried on the wingtip and/or underwing missile pylons:



For the air to ground course, the centerline tank is replaced by the typical 370 gallon underwing drop tanks. In addition to the above mentioned pods, the following training rounds are carried on the underwing weapons pylons:



Later in the air to ground course, the following live weapons are carried on the underwing weapons pylons:



The 310th FS uses the following for MATIRN & FAC-A Training:

