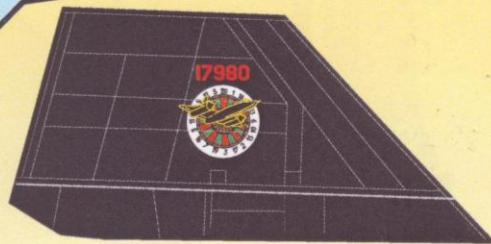
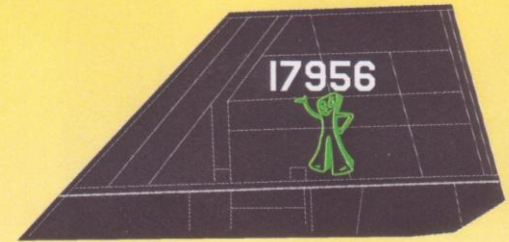
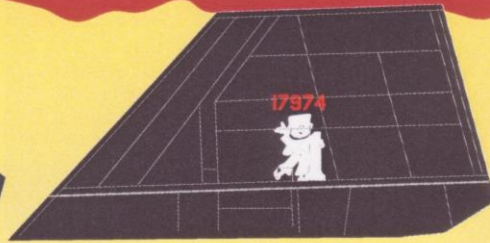


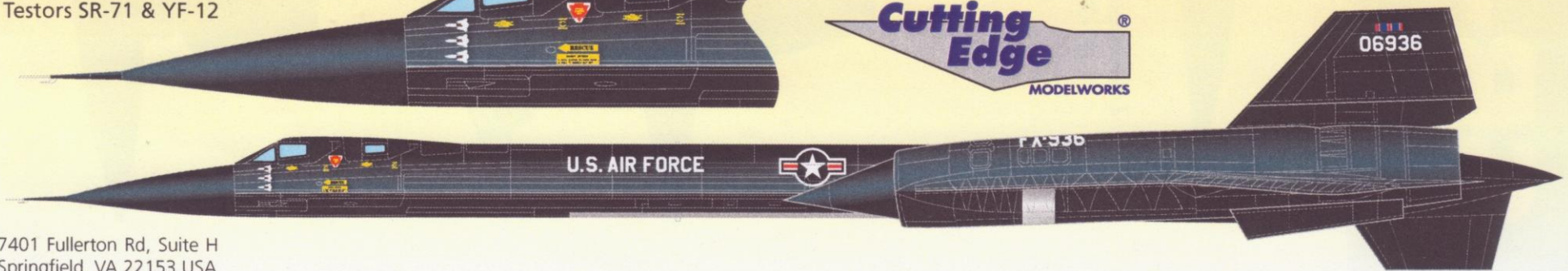
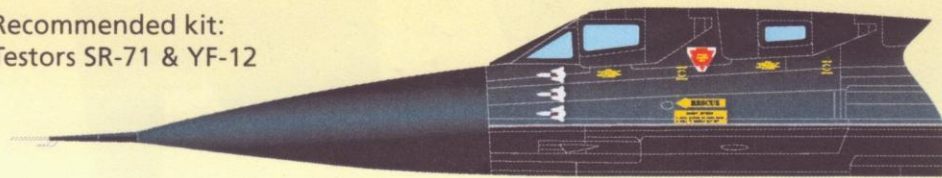
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# SR-71/YF-12A/B Blackbird

Markings  
for **SIX**  
jets!



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# SR-71/YF-12A Blackbird



Lockheed SR-71B  
61-7956



Lockheed SR-71A  
61-7980



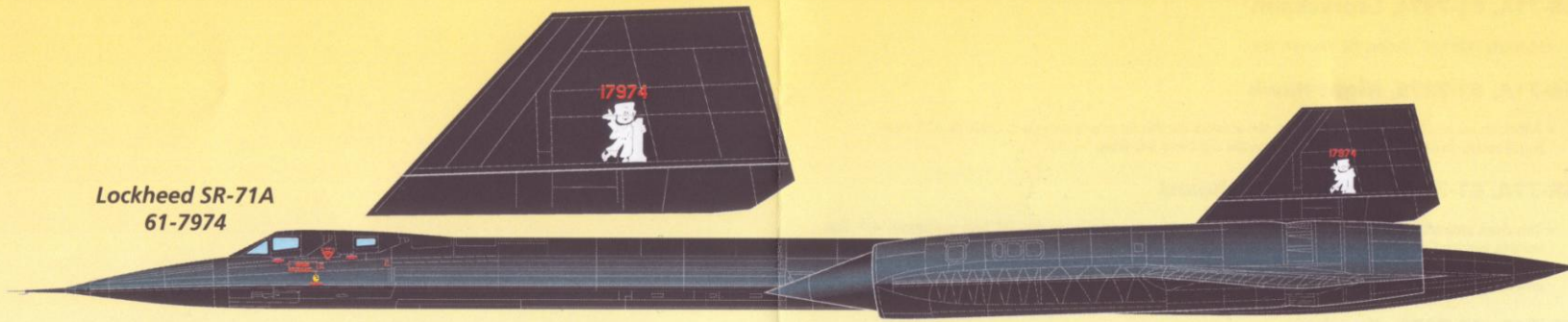
Lockheed SR-71A  
61-7979

Thanks to Tony Landis for all his help!

# SR-71/YF-12A Blackbird



Lockheed SR-71A  
61-7962



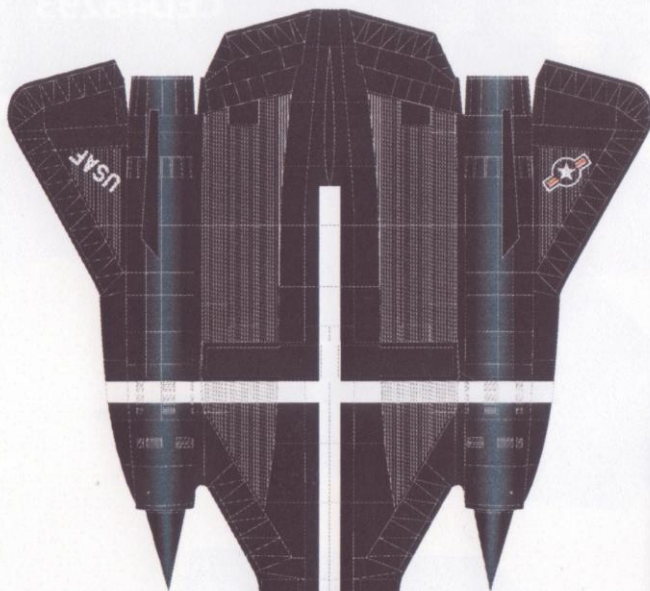
Lockheed SR-71A  
61-7974



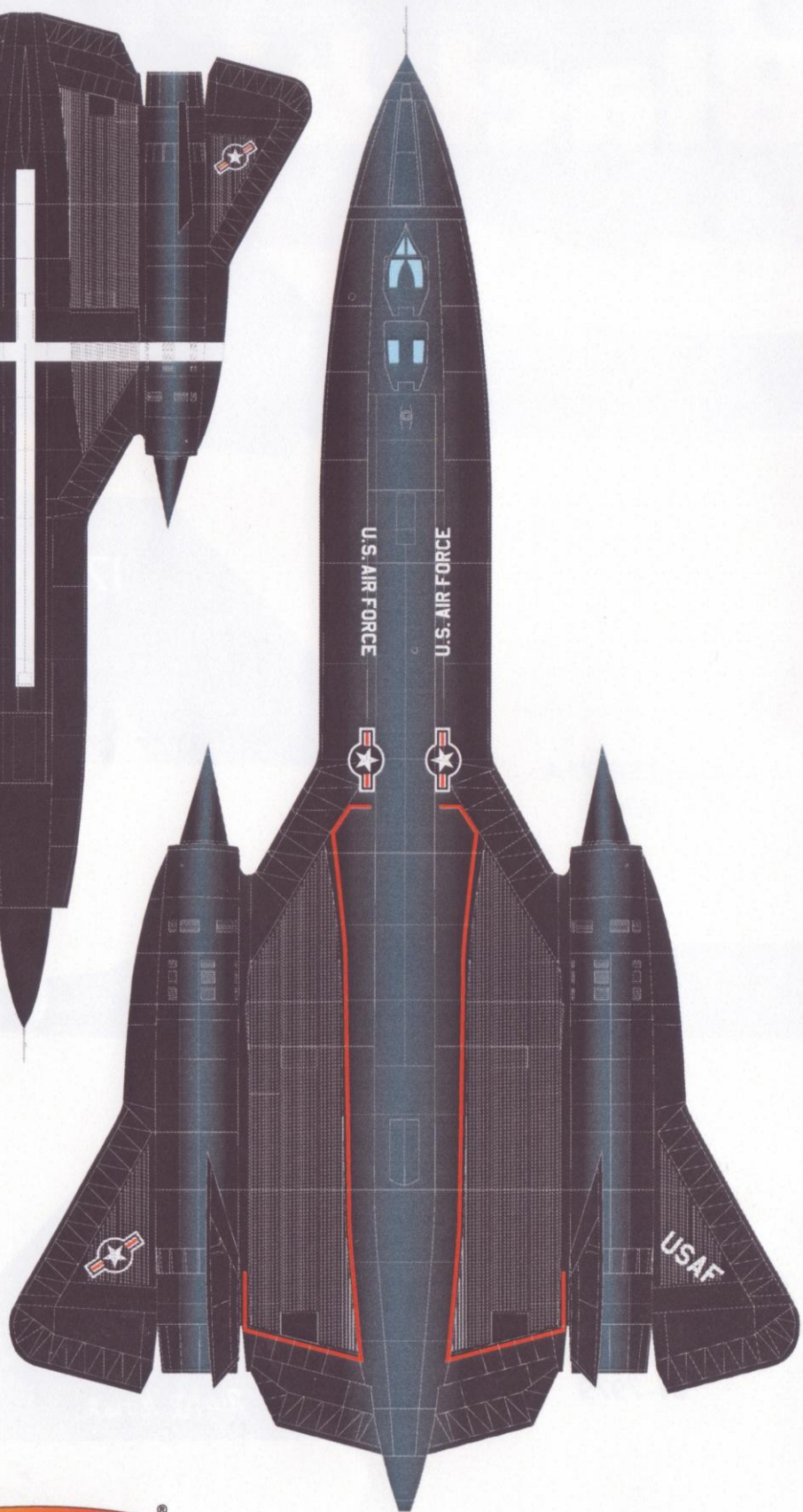
Lockheed YF-12A  
60-6936







YF-12A bottom



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conversions, tools, books, magazines,  
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### Low visibility (red marking) aircraft

- These aircraft did not have any national insignia applied to the fuselage or wings.

### Serial numbers

- Aerofax Minigraph #1 lists the SR-71 serial numbers as all beginning with 64-1XXXX. This is totally incorrect, each SR-71's serial number begins 61-7XXX.

### SR-71A, 61-7962, R.I.P

- Indicating the Blackbird community's unhappiness with the Air Force's decision to retire the entire SR-71 fleet, R.I.P. returned from Kadena to Beale with tail art not entirely appreciated by the Air Force "leadership." Needless to say, the artwork did not survive long at Beale!

### SR-71A, 61-7974, Leprechaun

- Formerly "Ichi Ban" during the Vietnam War

### SR-71A, 61-7979, Night Hawk

- Although we don't have the time period, the artwork for this jet was drawn on in chalk by A1C Pam Engelbrecht. Note the logos are different on the right and left sides.

### SR-71A, 61-7980, Farewell Dartboard

- This chalk artwork is reputed to have been Det 4's logo (the dart sticking in the "2" field indicating "4." The insignia was applied to the outboard surface of each vertical fin.
- This artwork survived the fleet retirement and can be seen in many of the Lockheed photos showing the entire fleet on their ramp.

### SR-71B, 61-7956, Gumby

- Sgt Robert Strouse drew "Gumby on the right fin only. At a later point, the words "IROC at 3+" were added to the left fin, but we unfortunately were not able to find a photo of that artwork. For those of you who have forgotten, IROC stands for "International Race Of Champions."

### YF-12A, 60-6936, "Record Flights"

- The three silhouettes painted just below the canopy on each side are of YF-12As, and contrary to some published descriptions, do NOT have anything to do with AIM-47 (Phoenix) missile launches. Actually, they commemorated the three world records earned by the YF-12A in May 1965: 1643 MPH on a 500 km course; 1689 MPH on a 1000 km course; and 2069 MPH on a 15-25 km course. These details were actually stenciled on the small silhouettes!
- Note that on the actual record setting flights, the silhouettes were of course not applied (they hadn't been earned yet!), and a huge white cross was painted under the fuselage and wings.
- This jet was lost 24 June 1971 just outside Edwards AFB.
- It's also interesting to note that three similar markings were applied to SR-71 955 at some later point. On the SR they were painted aft of and in line with the large yellow rescue instructions box under the pilot's canopy. They were also in "line astern" layout, almost directly under the RSO's canopy. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to find photos of 955 from this time period showing the right side of the jet, so we cannot confirm whether they were on both sides or only the left side.

## Applying the Decals

You probably already know all this stuff, so feel free to use your regular process; however, if you're new to aftermarket decals, here goes:

- Generally, use the Microscale Finishing System. We don't recommend extremely strong decal solvents such as Solvaset.
- Your model must have a smooth, glossy surface, as decals won't adhere well to matte surfaces. Use gloss paints or your favorite clear gloss overspray over matte or semigloss paint.
- Cut each subject out without trimming off the slight excess film (this helps the decal film disappear when dry).
- Put the decal in warm water that has a drop or two of liquid dishwashing soap or photo-flo for 10 seconds.
- When the decal will slide off the backing paper without forcing it, apply it to the proper position on your model. Slide the backing paper out from underneath.
- Gently blot off excess water and smooth out bubbles under the decal surface. If you wish, carefully brush on a mild decal softener such as Micro-Sol.
- When all decals are completely dry, gently wash off all excess decal adhesive.
- Finally, overcoat your model with a good quality gloss coat, followed by your choice of matte or eggshell clear topcoat.



CED48293

**SR-71**  
**Blackbird**

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**RESCUE**  
CROSS THE BRIDGE  
FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER

**RESCUE**  
CROSS THE BRIDGE  
FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER

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17979

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"Night Hawk" "Night Hawk"

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**RESCUE**  
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**RESCUE**  
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FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER

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**RESCUE**  
CROSS THE BRIDGE  
FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER



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