

In 1948 USAF specified the request for substition of F-82 and F-61 to counter the Soviet Tupolev Tu-4. Curtiss-Wright XF-87 Blackhawk was the first answer, but its poor performance led to sending request to Lockheed.

The request was to make jet night fighter and easiest possibility was to adapt T-33 for this purpose. A lengthened nose area with guns, radar and automatic fire control system was added.

Since the conversion seemed so simple, a contract was awarded to Lockheed in early 1949, with the first flight on 16 April 1949.

The added weight of the new electronic equipment soon dictated that a more powerful engine to be fitted, the afterburning Allison J33-A-33 replacing the standard J-33 fitted to the T-33A.

The F-94 was to be the first US production jet with an afterburner.

The initial model was the F-94A. Its armament was four .50 in (12.7 mm) M3 Browning machine guns mounted in the fuselage with the muzzles exiting just behind the radome. 109 were produced. The subsequent F-94B, which entered service in January 1951, had upgraded and more reliable electronics and engines, as well as a new landing systém. 356 of these were built.

In March 1951, F-94Bs were sent to combat in the Korean War, where they equipped the 339th, 68th, 4th, and 319th FIS.

The F-94B remained in USAF service through 1954 before being transferred to the Air National Guard.

The F-94C Starfire was significantly modified from the early F-94 variants; to improve performance, a totally new wing was fitted, much thinner than the previous one and a swept tail surface. The J33 engine was replaced by a more powerful Pratt & Whitney J48.

The fire control system was upgraded to the new Hughes E-5 with AN/APG-40 radar in a much larger nose.

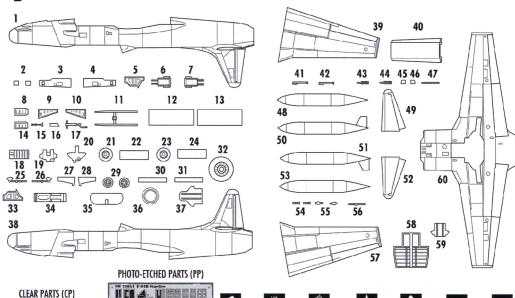
The guns were removed, replaced with an all-rocket armament mounted in a ring around the nose radome.

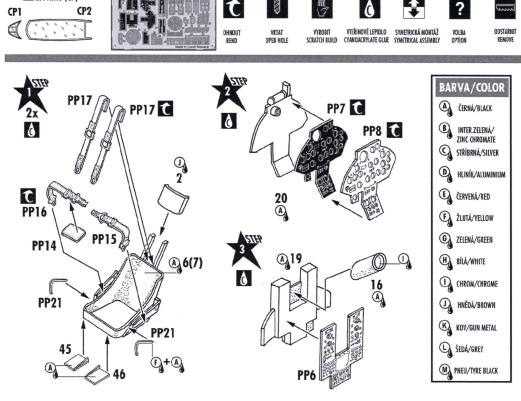
The first production F-94C aircraft were delivered in July 1951, 387 examples being delivered before May 1954.

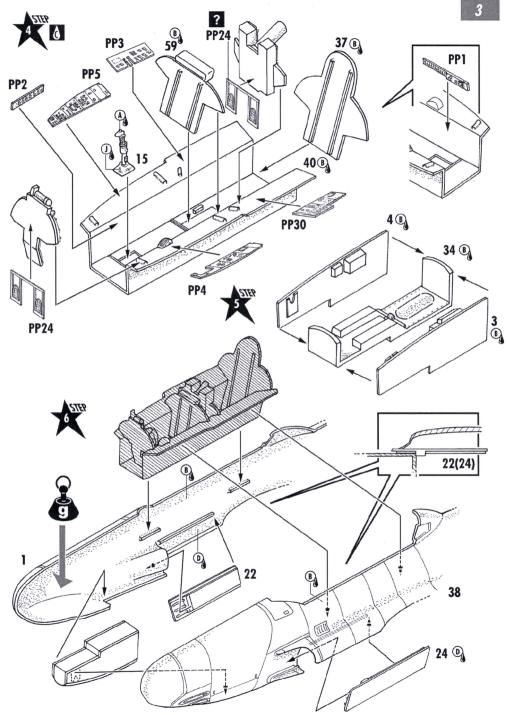
The F-94C was retired from USAF service in 1959, in ANG in 1960.

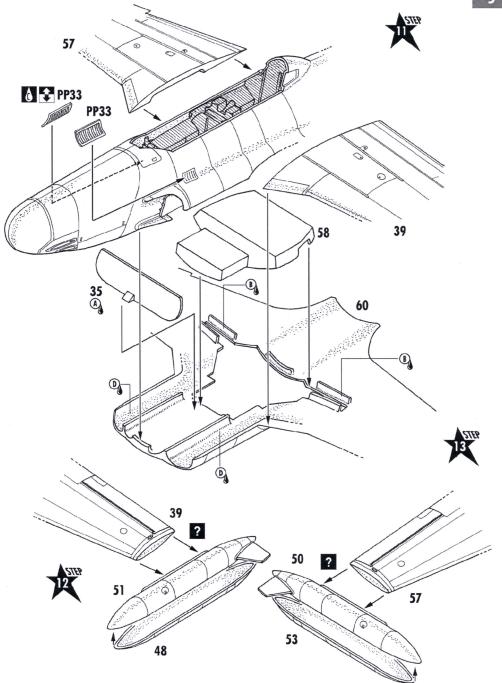


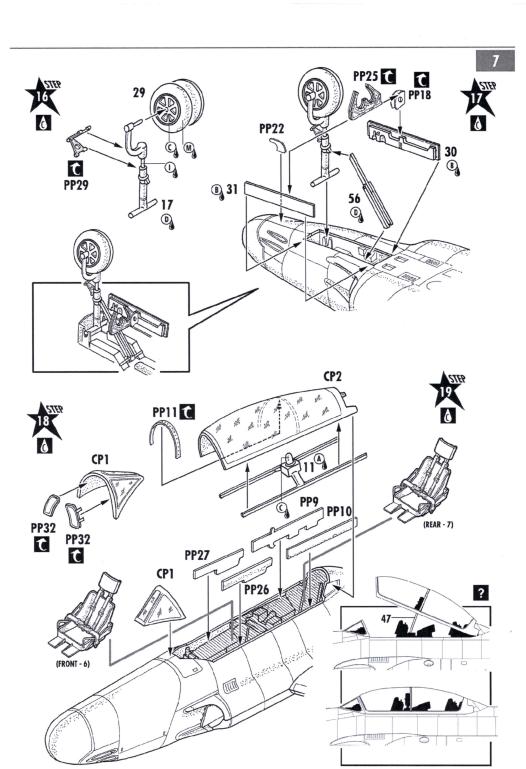
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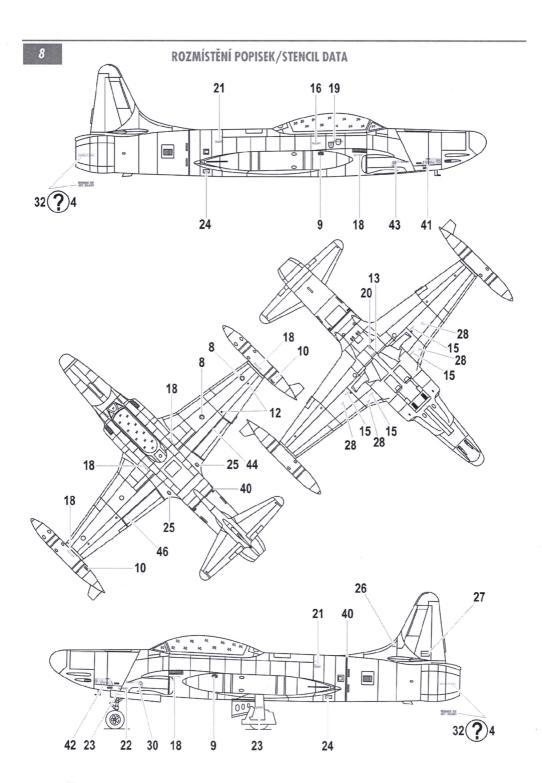


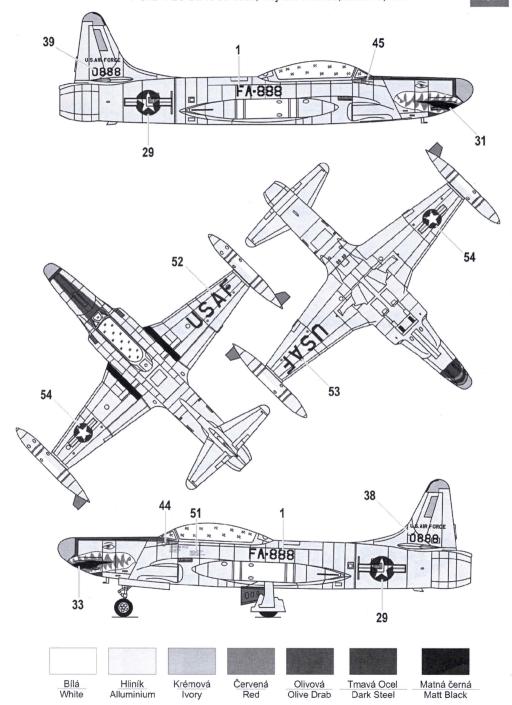












White

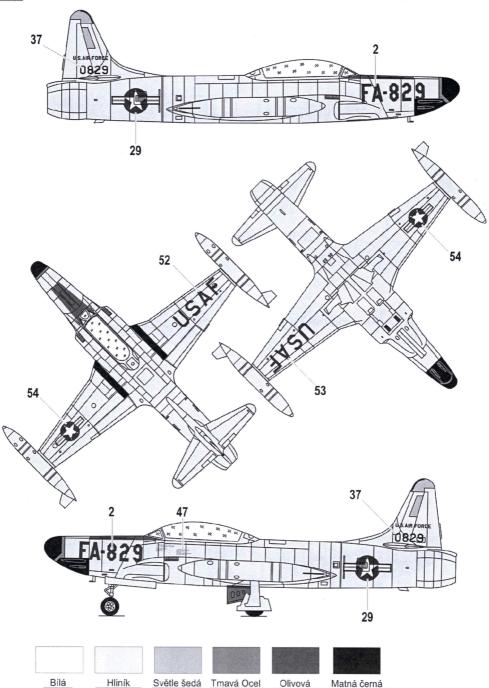
Alluminium

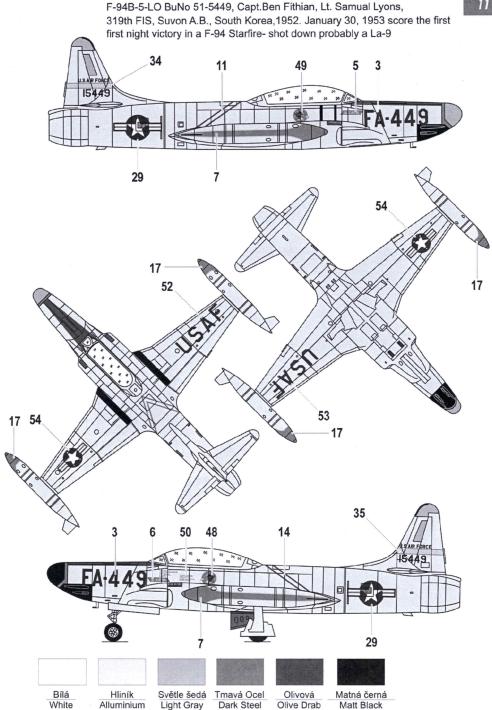
Light Gray

Dark Steel

Olive Drab

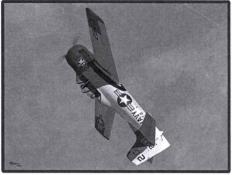
Matt Black





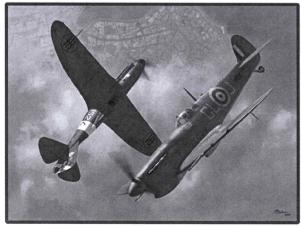










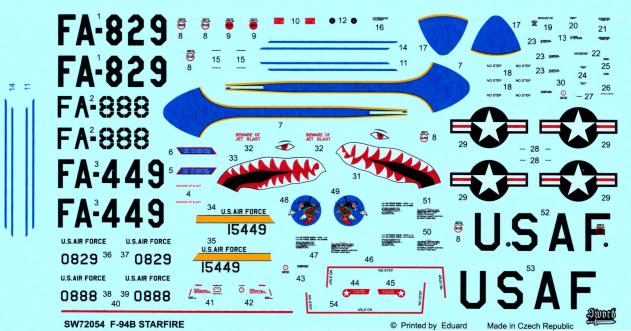


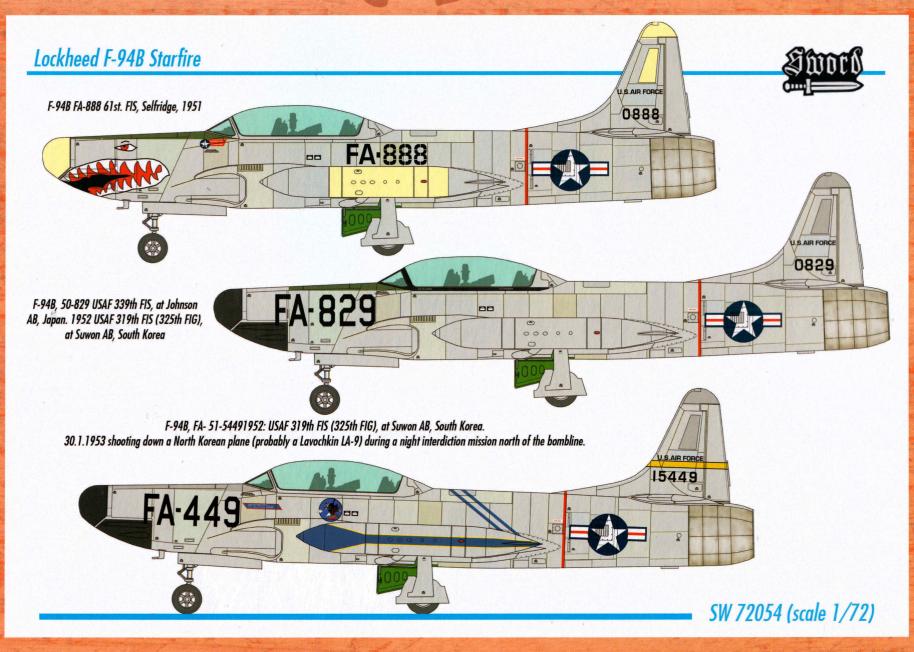


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F-94B Starfire