

B-29 Superfortress

mpe


IMPORTANT!

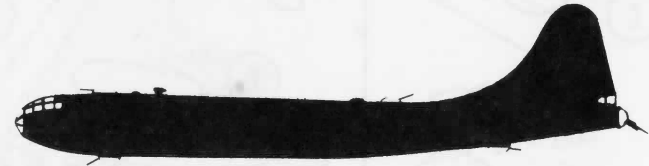
Before you begin building look over the instructions. Read all the notes. This will familiarize you with the parts and will assist you when building. Test fit all parts before applying cement. Be especially careful when applying cement to clear parts. It is best to use a toothpick. Do not try to twist parts from "runners", use a modeler's knife. Use only paint and cement made for styrene plastic. Watch for painting notes and, for best results, paint small parts prior to assembly, don't try to paint them after they are in position. Follow assembly procedure and you should have no trouble assembling your model. All parts are numbered, look them over carefully and be sure you're using the right part in the right place.



The Superfortress will probably be always remembered as the aircraft which first dropped an atomic bomb and was thus directly responsible for the sudden ending of the Second World War, but should also be considered as one of the most important of all weapons in the war against Japan.

The B-29 represented an enormous advance over previous heavy bombers and yet was designed, built, tested and put into service in only four years. Design began early in 1940 in response to a specification for a high altitude long range "superbomber" to replace the B-17 and B-24 bombers which were then entering service. The Boeing XB-29 prototype first flew in September 1942. The XB-29 was powered with new and comparatively untried Wright Double Cyclone engines and its fuselage was divided into three pressurized compartments, the nose and midships being connected by a tunnel another radical development was the remote control fire system directing the gun turrets, the only manned turret was that in the tail. Flight tests continued into 1943 marred by a tragic accident in February when the second XB-29 crashed, killing Boeing Test pilot Eddie Allen in the aircraft as well as factory workers on the ground.

Even before the prototype had flown the U.S. Army had ordered large scale production and B-29's were being by Boeing at Wichita and Renton, and by Bell and Martin: the Superfortress becoming the largest single aircraft program of the war. Crew training was carried out at the same time as flight testing and in March 1944 the first squadrons of the 20th Air Force were sent out to India. Initial operations were in the China-Burma-India theatre and all raids on Japan had to be carried out from advanced bases in China, this en-

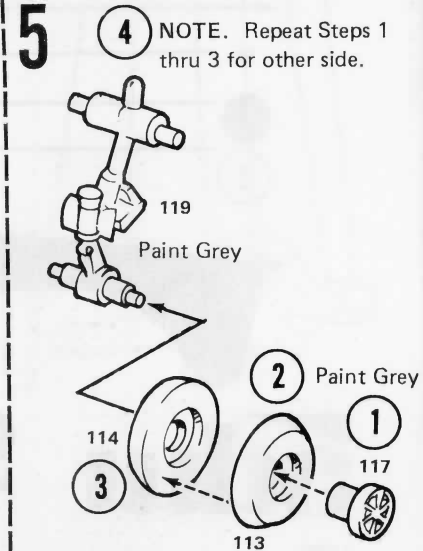
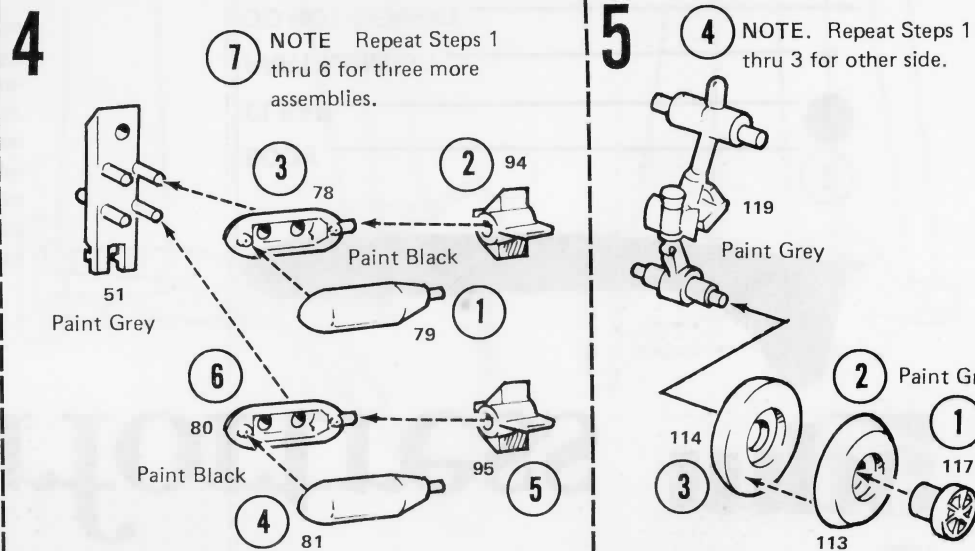
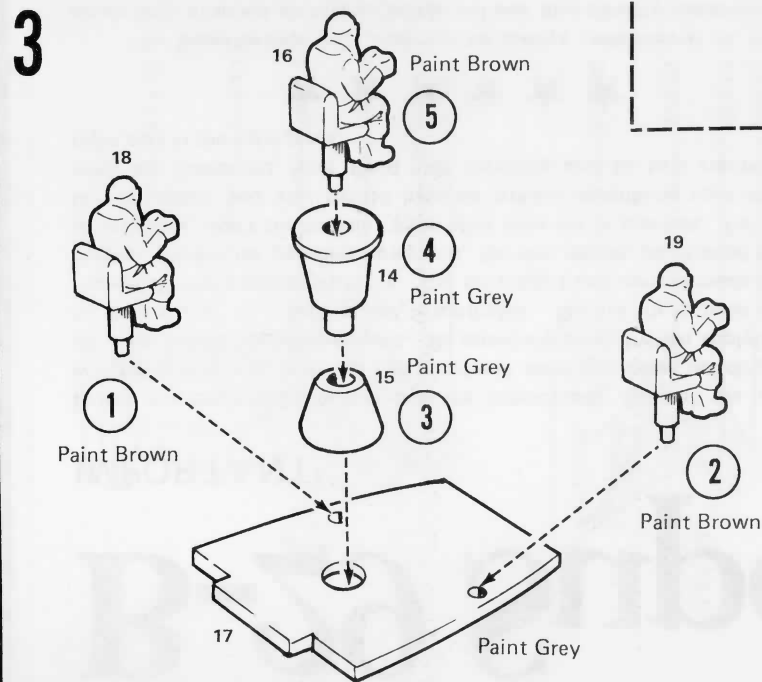
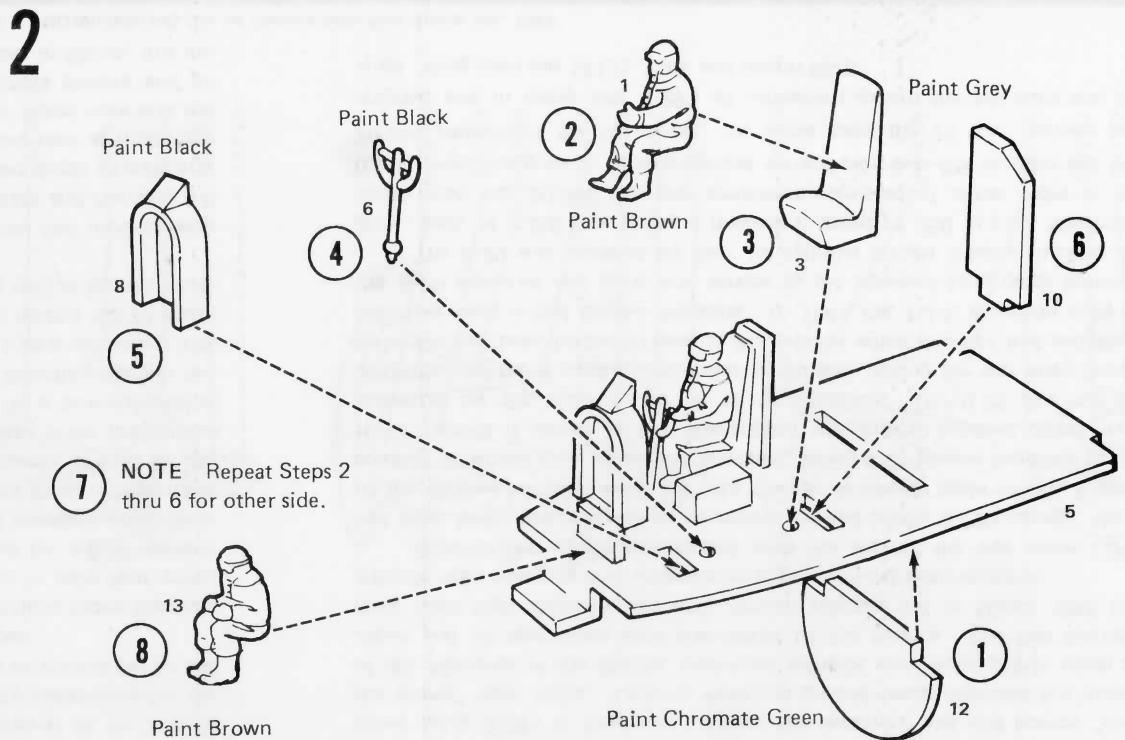
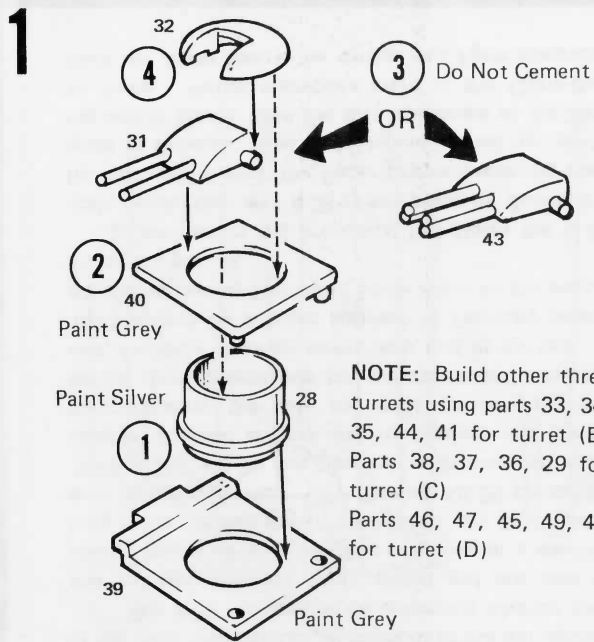


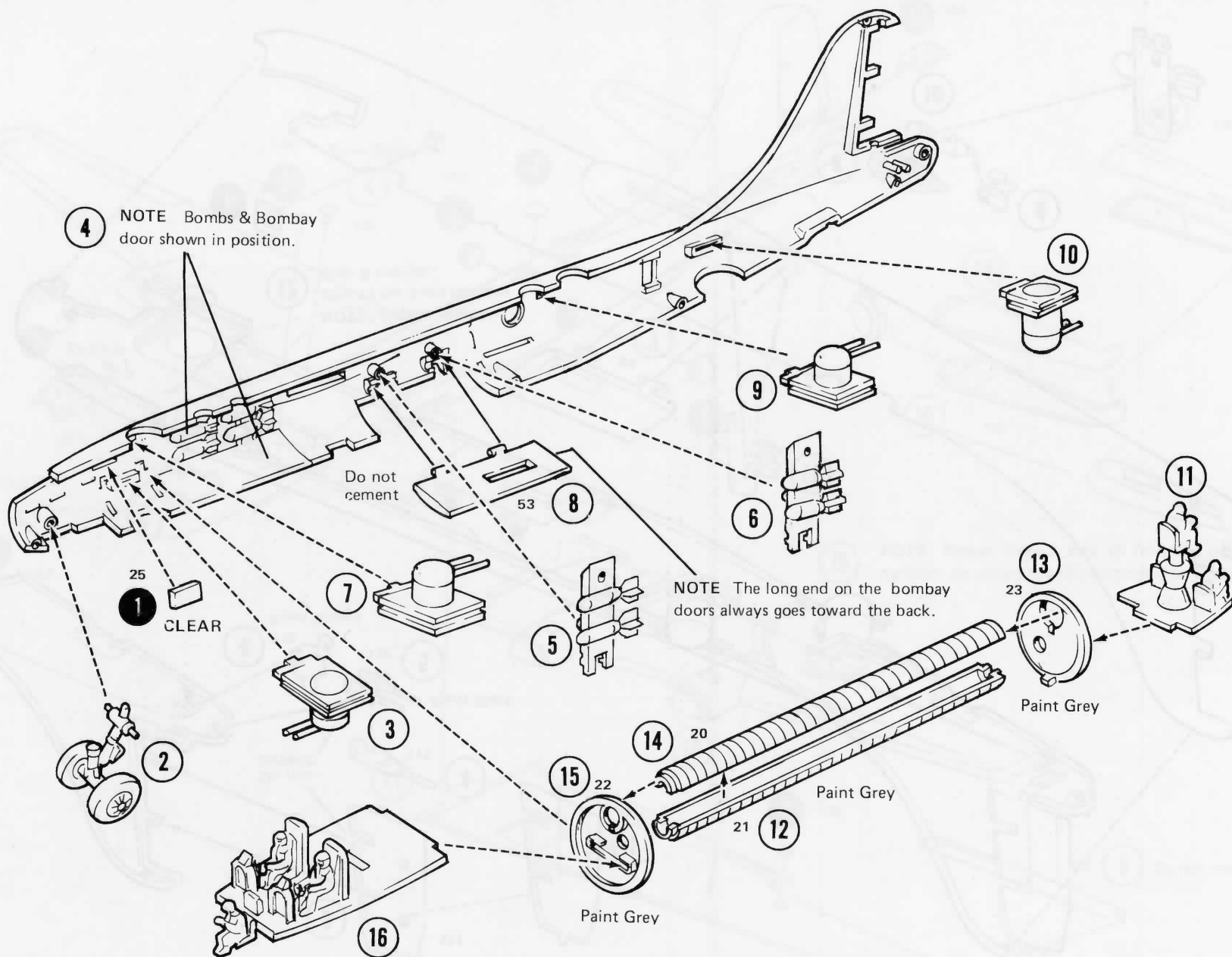
BODY _____ ②
 CLEAR _____ ①
 PART NUMBER _____ 15
 DO NOT CEMENT _____ →
 CEMENT - - - - - →

tailed using B-29's as freighters to carry the necessary fuel and bombs "over the hump" from India. Later as American ground forces captured the islands of the Marianas in the Pacific, enormous airfields were built within reach of Japan and all operations were transferred to this theatre. The first daylight raids from high altitudes had only limited success, but in March 1945 low altitude night bombing with incendiaries began with devastating effect.

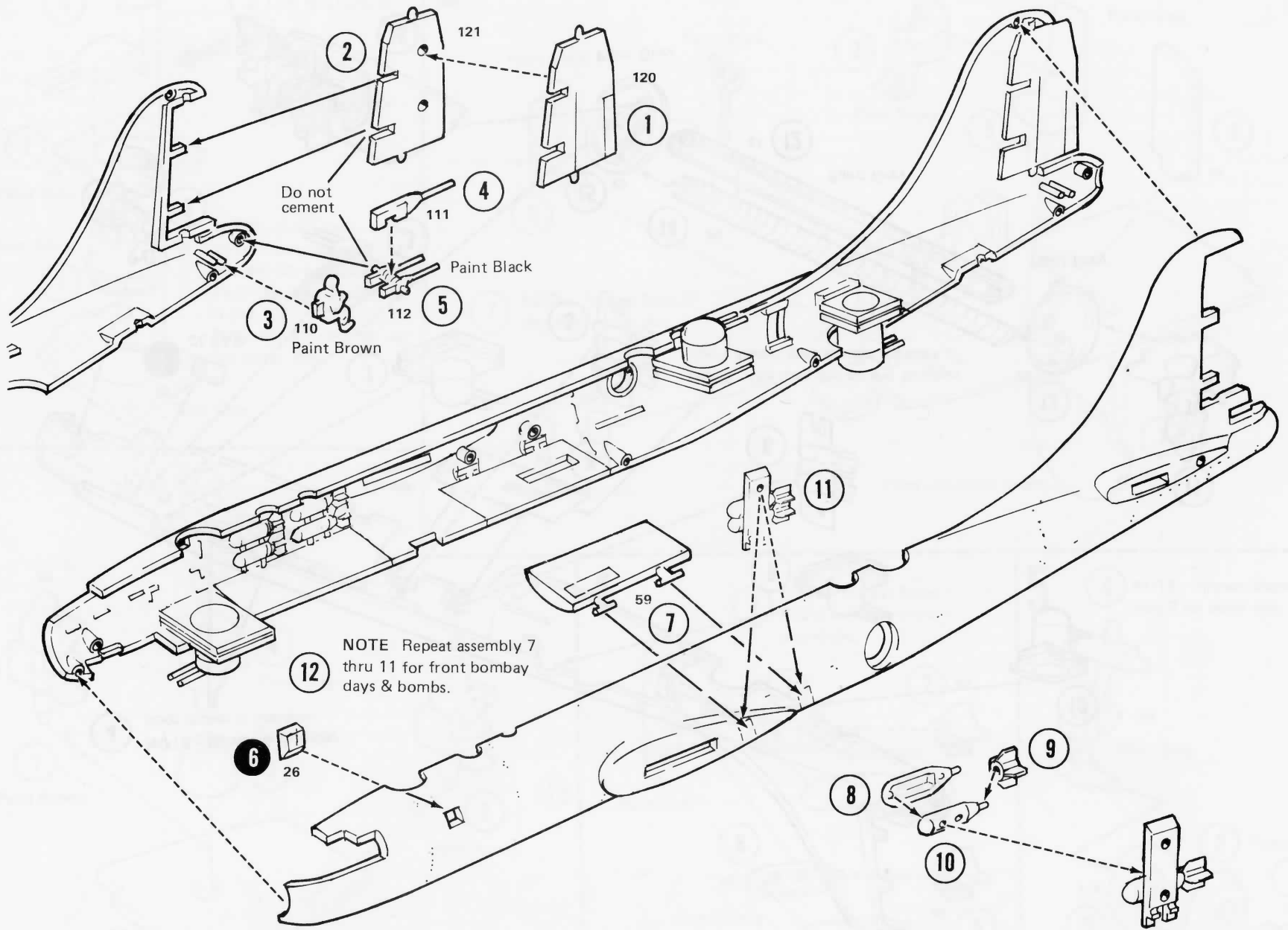
Superfortress production ceased with the end of the war when 3,970 had been built, but this was by no means the end of the B-29's career. Many of the surplus bombers were put into storage to emerge again for the Korean conflict in which nine squadrons operated, other B-29's were supplied to the R.A.F where it served as the 'Washington' and several hundred others were converted by the U.S.A.F. for air to air refueling. The B-29 also had the distinction of being produced post-war in Russia. During the war three Superfortresses had been forced to land at Vladivostok when short of fuel and these machines were seized by the Russians. In 1947 the TU-4, a carbon copy of the B-29 appeared and went into service as the standard long range bomber.

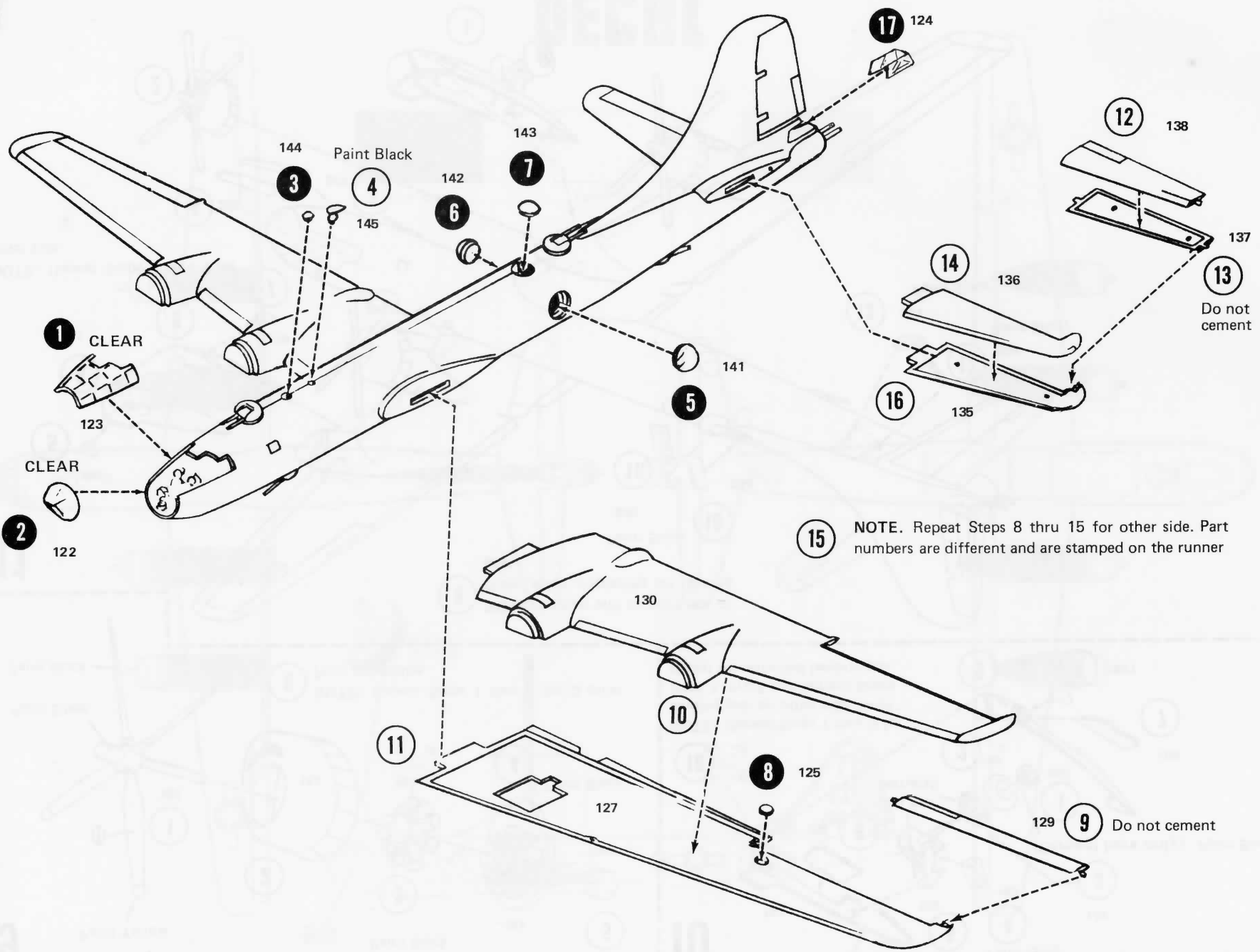
The B-29 was powered by four 19 cylinder Wright Double Cyclone engines, each of 2,300 h.p. giving a maximum speed of 350 m.p.h. Maximum bomb load was 20,000 lbs. and armament consisted of either eight or ten 0.5 in. machine guns in remote-control turrets plus two 0.5 in. guns and one 20mm. cannon in the tail turret. In some cases the 20 mm. cannon was omitted and in many late B-29's all armament except the tail guns was deleted. Wing span was 141 ft. 3 ins. and length 99ft.





7





1 CLEAR
123

2 CLEAR
122

3 144
4 Paint Black
145

6 142
7 143

5 141

17 124

12 138

14 136
16 135

13 Do not cement

15 NOTE. Repeat Steps 8 thru 15 for other side. Part numbers are different and are stamped on the runner

11

10 130

8 125

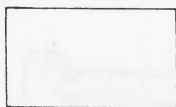
9 129 Do not cement

127

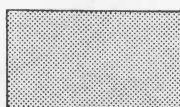
DECAL



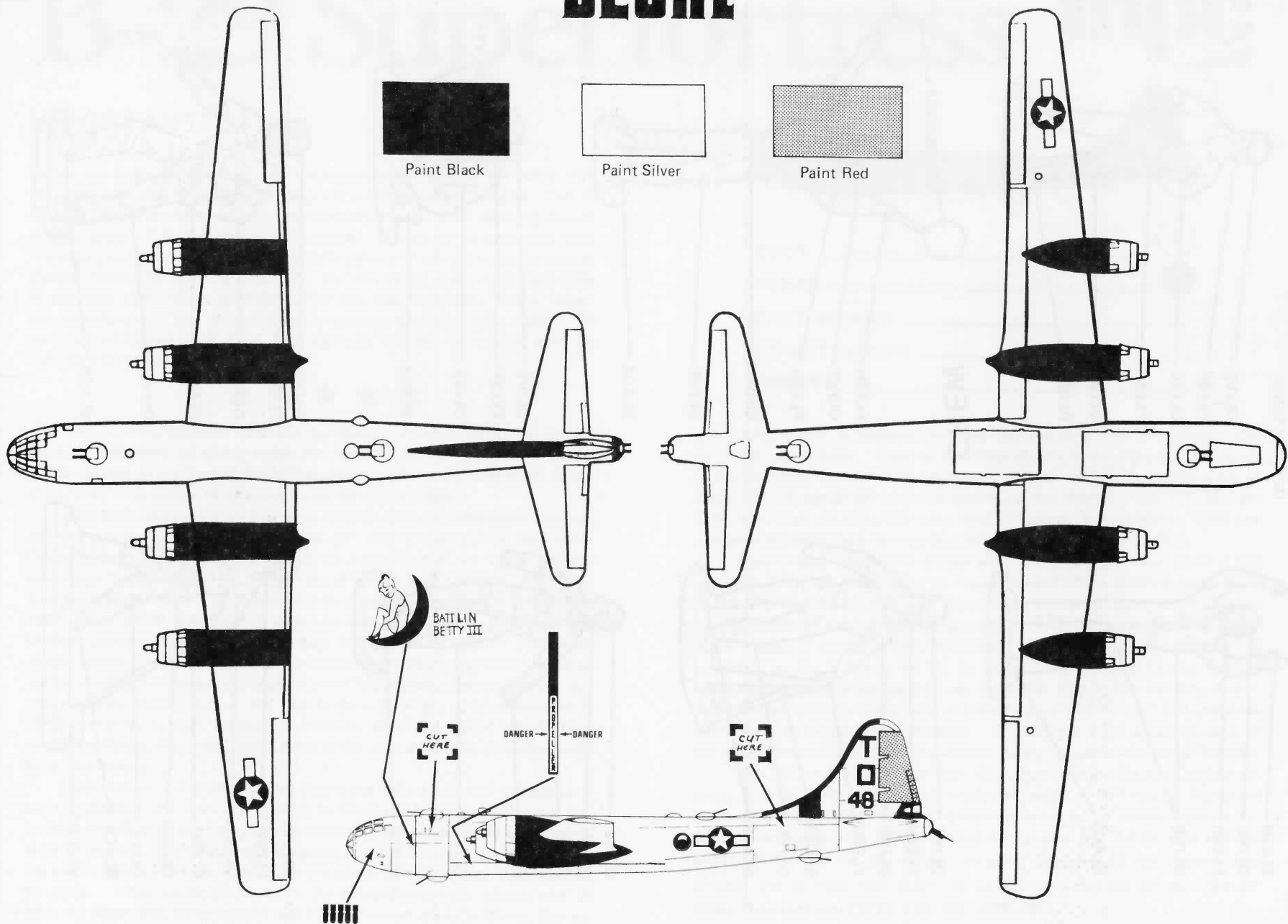
Paint Black



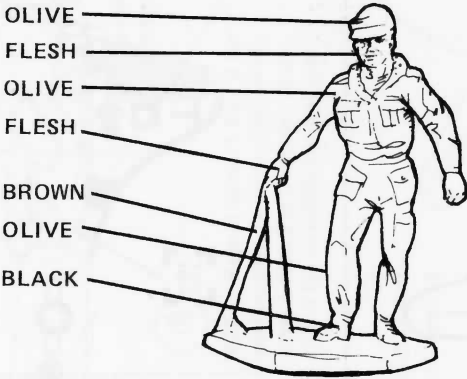
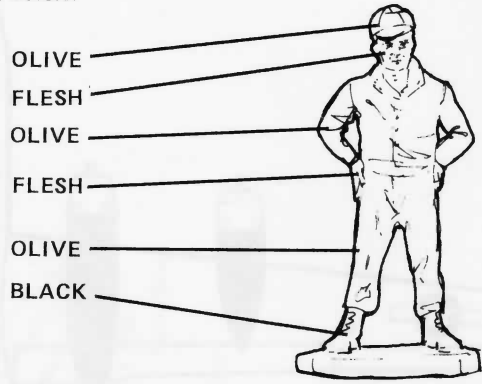
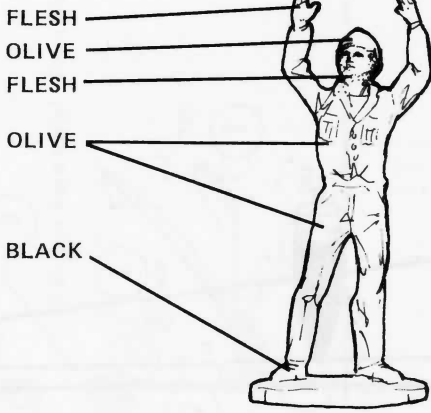
Paint Silver



Paint Red



Paint Crew Members As Shown,
Using Flat Colors.



CREW

