

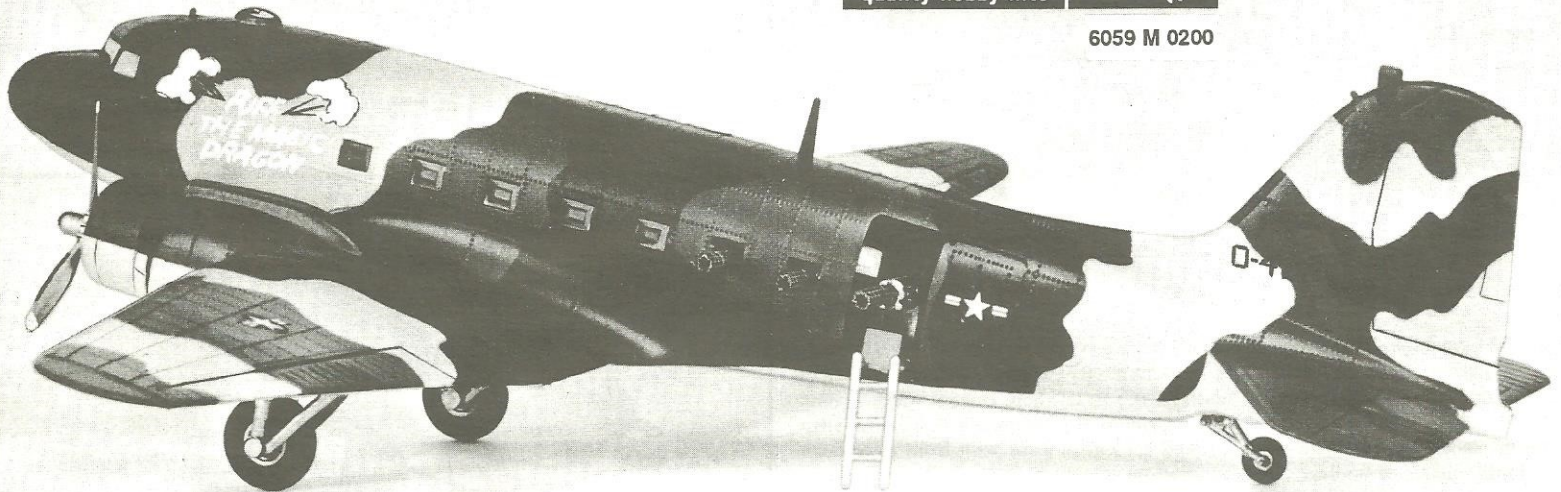
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6059 M 0200



DOUGLAS AC-47 "PUFF THE MAGIC DRAGON"

FLYING DRAGON AS USED IN VIET NAM FEATURING GENERAL ELECTRIC MINIGUNS

The Douglas C-47, a military version of the famed DC-3 was the first Douglas plane designed and built as a large transport. The aircraft is correctly named "workhorse," for it has performed more diversified tasks, than probably, any other plane in military service. At various times and in various theaters of war, it has seen duty as a personnel and cargo transport, hospital plane, glider tow-plane, airborne infantry, artillery, engineer and paratroop transport, and even a makeshift, low level bomber.

The most recent modification is the AC-47, or attack version, called the "flying dragon" by the superstitious Vietnamese.

These Dragon ships are armed with new Miniguns designed by General Electric. The Miniguns are modern Gatlings with a spinning cluster of six barrels firing 7.62 mm slugs at the rate of 6,000 rounds per minute. It has been said that one Gatling gun can fire more rounds in 60 seconds than an infantry company can shoot in 20 minutes. The three guns mounted on the left side of the plane are aimed and fired by the pilot in the left seat. Rolling into a steep left bank, or pylon turn, he sights through a simple reticle near his left shoulder and triggers the guns with a button on the steering yoke. In a pylon turn, the pilot can stay on target, saturating the area until the vast supply of ammunition in the cargo cabin is exhausted. At night, spewing neon-tube streaks of brilliant tracers, the bullet stream resembles a dragon's fiery tongue.

The Air Force reports the system has proved effective in breaking up night attacks by the Viet Cong and the number of conversions to AC-47's is being increased. The AC-47's form the 4th Air Commando Squadron assigned to the 2nd Air Div. at Tan Son Nhut Air Base, Saigon.

The AC-47 is a twin engined monoplane of all metal construction with an overall wing span of 95 feet, a length of 64 feet, 5½ inches, and a height of 17 feet. A seven-man crew operates the dragon ship—pilot, co-pilot, navigator, flight engineer, and three gunners. Although the gunners do not aim the guns, they are kept busy feeding ammunition, clearing away spent shells, freeing jammed bolts and making inflight repairs.

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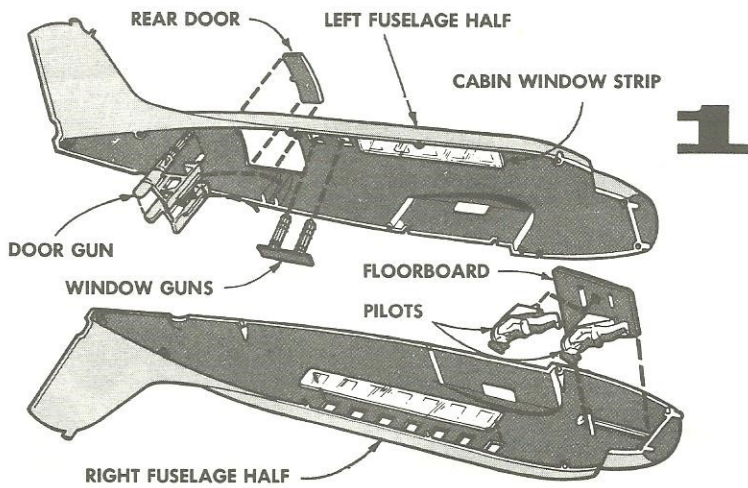
READ THIS BEFORE YOU BEGIN ASSEMBLY

Read the instructions and study the assembly drawings carefully before you begin the assembly.

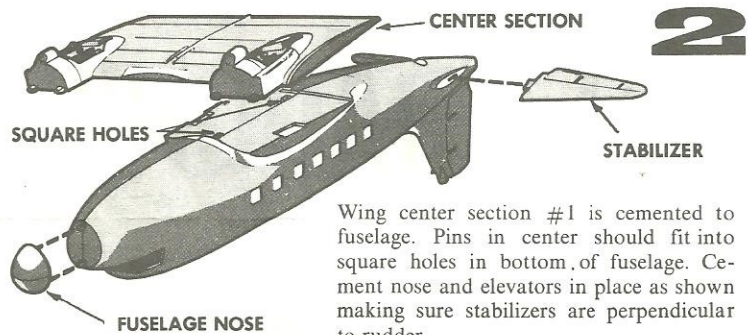
Do not detach parts from the trees until you are ready to use them. After cutting or breaking off the required part, trim away any excess bits of plastic. Use a small sharp knife, such as an X-acto knife, available at your hobby counter.

Keep in mind the importance of not rushing the assembly of your model and avoid the use of excessive amounts of cement. All plastic cements contain solvents which dissolve the plastic forming a solid weld between the cemented parts. Too much cement can soften and distort the plastic, spoiling your model's appearance. When applying cement to small or confined areas, use cement on the end of a toothpick instead of the tube nozzle to better regulate the amount being applied.

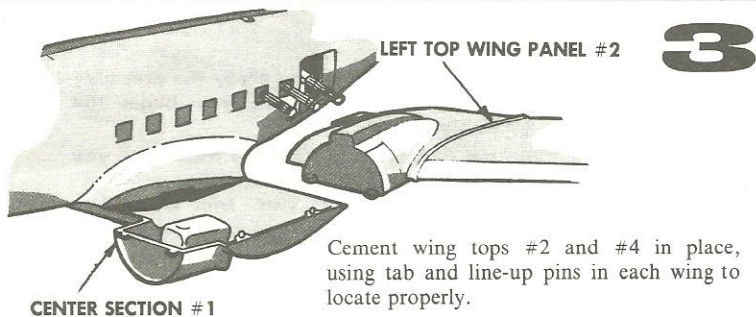
If you plan to paint your model, refer to the instructions, for helpful hints on painting. It is best to paint some parts before cementing them into place. Remember to scrape paint away from areas which will be cemented. Cement will not stick to paint.



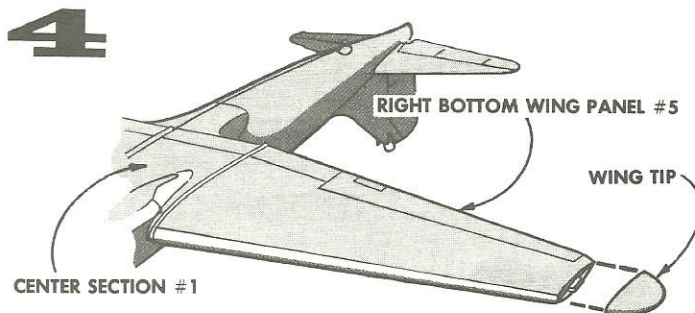
(A) Cement pilots to floorboard facing narrow end. Cement floorboard onto raised rib below pin in right fuselage half. (B) Cement cabin window strip with 7 windows in right hand fuselage. (C) In left half, cement window guns in last two windows nearest door. Cement the remaining 5 window strip in place. (D) Assemble door gun and cement in door with front edge flush with outside of fuselage and rib at bottom of guns between 2 ribs in fuselage. Now cement rear door in place. Cement fuselage halves together.



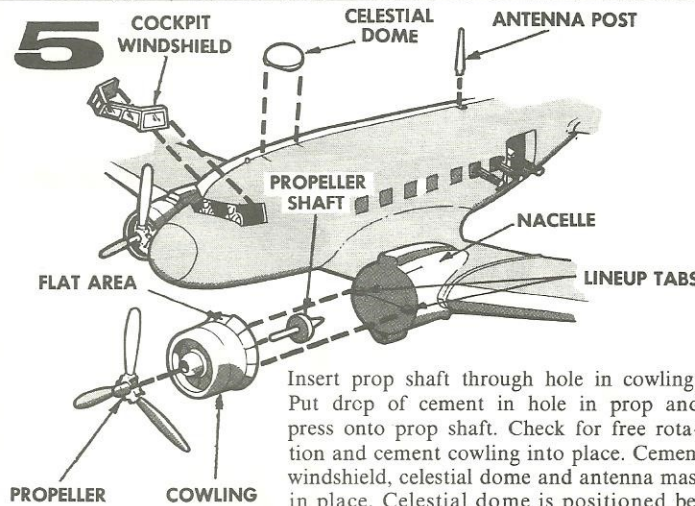
Wing center section #1 is cemented to fuselage. Pins in center should fit into square holes in bottom of fuselage. Cement nose and elevators in place as shown making sure stabilizers are perpendicular to rudder.



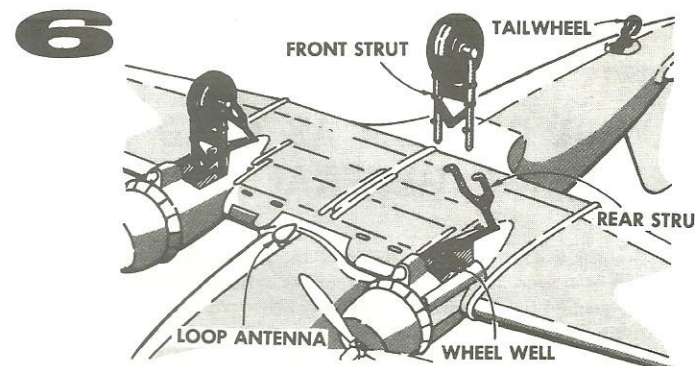
Cement wing tops #2 and #4 in place, using tab and line-up pins in each wing to locate properly.



Cement wing bottom #3 to wing top #2 and wing bottom #5 to wing top #4. Cement wing tips in place.



Insert prop shaft through hole in cowling. Put drop of cement in hole in prop and press onto prop shaft. Check for free rotation and cement cowling into place. Cement windshield, celestial dome and antenna mast in place. Celestial dome is positioned between two fine lines on left fuselage half.



Cement rear strut into hole at rear of nacelle. Press wheel in place in front strut, then cement strut in place with two holes facing rearward. Cement rear strut into these holes. Attach tail wheel and loop antenna. For model with retracted gear, cement wheels into wells.

Painting: This model will be very attractive without additional painting. However, if you wish to further enhance your model, camouflage information is shown on the three view drawing and box cover. USE ONLY ENAMEL OR PAINT FOR PLASTICS. A 1/4 inch wide brush is recommended for larger areas; a small pointed brush for fine details. Be sure to allow sufficient drying time. Smaller details are most easily painted prior to assembly.

Applying Decals: When applying decals, refer to three view drawings for proper location. To apply decals, cut individually from sheet and dip in water for a few moments until they slide easily from paper backing. (For a neat job, trim close to color outline). Next slide decal into correct position. After decal is positioned, press out trapped air bubbles and blot with soft cloth. Before completely dry, decal should be pressed firmly against surface contours, such as rivets and lines.

The following covers details not shown on camouflage drawings.

- BLACK — Gun barrels, cylinders, tires, front of air scoops
- GREY — Gear housing at front of engines
- SILVER — Propellers, landing gear struts, wheel hubs, door gun except for barrel
- YELLOW — Propellor blade tips
- FLESH — Pilots head and hands
- BLUE-GREY — Uniforms
- RED — Tail Light

- JUNGLE GREEN
- DARK GREEN
- TAN-BROWN
- LIGHT GREY

