

SWS07-D01

A-1 Air Force Type Marking Set 1

1st SOS / "BLOOD, SWEAT, & TEARS" & "Stump Jumper" Set Decal, collaboration with Cartograf, set of 2 sheets

1st SOS (1st Special Operations Squadron), A-1H *

During the Vietnam War, the U.S. Air Force began using A-1s to perform air strikes in June of 1964. The first models that were used were the 4-seater A-1Es, which operated under the call sign "Hobo" and were primarily used to carry out air strikes against the Ho Chi Minh Trail (the North Vietnam supply route) and guerrilla units. Subsequently, the war situation continued to get more chaotic as American intervention in the Vietnam War increased, and a large number of single-seater A-1H/J Skyraiders were transferred to the U.S. Air Force. In addition to air strike missions, the A-1s also carried out SAR (search and rescue) missions for pilots who had been shot down, under the call sign "Sandy." The single-seater Air Force A-1s were essentially identical to those used in the Navy, with the exception of a few small antennas. Also, the "Yankee Extraction System," which was only used in later-model Navy Skyraiders, was equipped in all Air Force models. The A-1s that were flown in Vietnam were primarily deployed in the 1st, 6th, 22nd, and 602nd SOS (Special Operations Squadron) units. Each wing was designated with its own code letters, such as TC, ET, TS, TT, etc. The Skyraider's missions made best use of its long cruising time, large capacity for armament, stability at low speeds, and flight mobility, but due to the missions' high amount of risk, there was a correspondingly high amount of casualties. The A-1 would continue to carry out missions in the Vietnam War until November of 1972.

*Although the SWS U.S. Air Force Skyraider is an A-1J, because the A-1Hs and A-1Js which were transferred to the U.S. Air Force were given identical treatments, their external appearances are largely the same. H models and J models can be reliably differentiated by their serial numbers, with numbers in the 130000 range being H models, and numbers in the 140000 range being J models. That being said, this decal sheet is based on an A-1H aircraft. (The first 1 is omitted from the serial number printed underneath the AF marking on the vertical stabilizer of an Air Force aircraft. If the number starts with a 3, it's an H model; if it starts with a 4, it's a J model.)

Please use this marking set while referring to both the assembly manual and the Navy type decals included with the Zoukei-mura 1/32 "U.S. Air Force A-1J Skyraider" kit.

TC608

1st SOS "BLOOD, SWEAT, & TEARS"
 Sr.no. 139608

(These markings are from the time period when the aircraft undersides were painted black.)

Left Side of the Fuselage

Right Side of the Fuselage

Propeller

Main Gear Tires

BLOOD, SWEAT, & TEARS

Decal Placement

71057 (MA057) Black

Upper Aircraft Surface: Tan Fs.no.30219
 Upper Aircraft Surface: Green Fs.no.34102
 Upper Aircraft Surface: Green Fs.no.34079
 Aircraft Underside: Black Fs.no.17038

(These markings are from the time period when the aircraft undersides were painted black.)

For basic paint job instructions, please refer to the "U.S. Air Force A-1J Skyraider" assembly manual.

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Upper Side of the Aircraft

—25 Places where this decal should be applied.
 —24 Places where the default Navy decals included with the "U.S. Air Force A-1J Skyraider" should be applied.

Bottom Side of the Aircraft

(These markings are from the time period when the aircraft undersides were painted black.)

For basic paint job instructions, please refer to the "U.S. Air Force A-1J Skyraider" assembly manual.