

U S A F
N A S A
B-52
with
X-15

Revell
Easy-to-assemble
Authentic Kit

**THE SCALE OF THIS MODEL IS
1/174 ACTUAL SIZE**

"IT'S REAL BECAUSE IT'S REVELL"

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One of the major steps in America's program to conquer space is the X-15 Project. The stated aims of the tests are to discover how well an aircraft can be controlled in near-space environment, and what problems are inherent in re-entering the atmosphere in a piloted aircraft.

In order to gain as much altitude as possible without expending fuel from the X-15's limited supply, the aircraft is carried aloft nested under the wing of a modified B-52 Jet Bomber. In the fuselage of the bomber rides a crew of technicians who service the X-15 during the climb to launch altitude. Through special inspection windows, they can watch the pilot of the X-15, who is closed in the plane before take-off, as contrasted to earlier air-dropped rocket planes, whose pilots climbed in while the mother plane was gaining altitude. A constant radio contact is maintained with the pilot, and a closed circuit television monitors sections of the aircraft not visible from the inspection windows. When the B-52 reaches the drop altitude of about 40,000 feet, the X-15 drops free of its mating pod, and as the pilot cuts in the rocket engines it noses up to its programmed objective. The pilot has at his command an engine that develops 50,000 pounds of thrust, and burns 10,000 pounds of fuel per minute. It is capable of pushing the X-15 to altitudes approaching 100

miles, and speed of 4000 miles per hour.

As the X-15 reaches the peak of its climb and begins its long glide back to the dry lake bed, the pilot goes through a period of weightlessness, and as the aircraft re-enters the denser atmosphere closer to the earth, certain portions of the plane will heat up to nearly 1000° F. Then, as the pilot begins his final approach, he jettisons the lower portion of the ventral fin, and as he flares out for the final touch down, he lowers the landing skids and nose wheel. Landing speed is about 140 miles per hour.

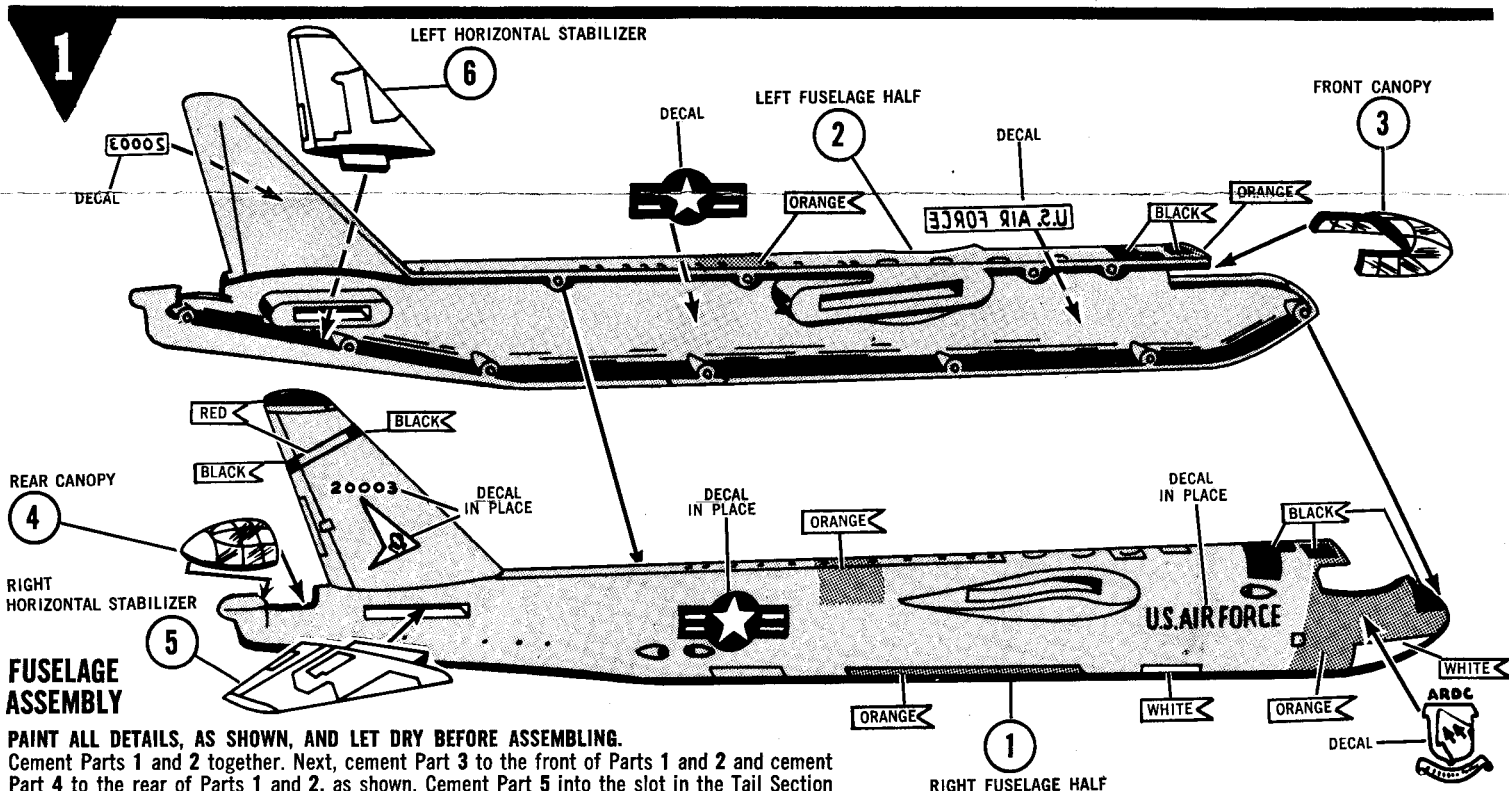
During the early stages of the program, all of the launches were in the general vicinity of Edwards Air Force Base in the California Desert, but when the final all out efforts are made, the launches are from Wendover, Utah. Some twenty minutes later the X-15 will touch down at Edwards.

The X-15 has a wingspan of 22 feet and an overall length of 50 feet, while the B-52 has a wingspan of 185 feet, and an overall length of 156 feet. This David and Goliath combination is one of the most significant steps in aviation history, and will be remembered as one of the major experiments in man's effort to move safely into space.

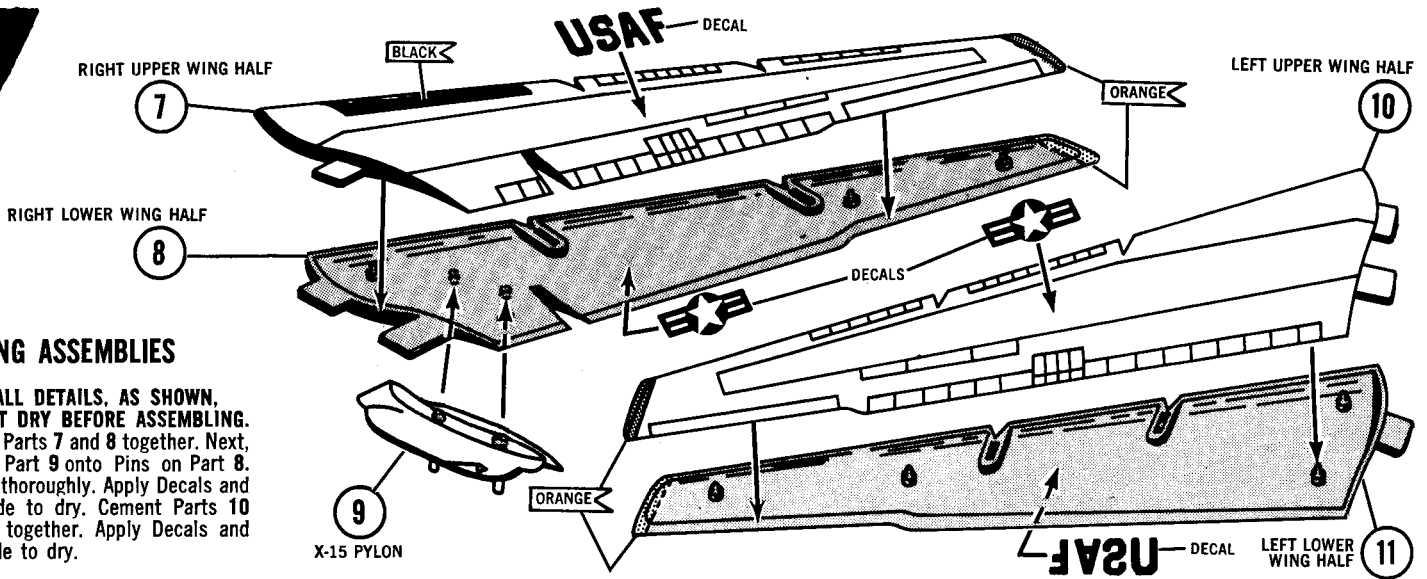
ASSEMBLY HINTS

Always fit parts together to be assured of proper assembly before applying cement. The parts are molded of styrene plastic. Revell cement and paints are made especially for use with this material. Although you will be anxious to complete your model, it is best to allow cemented surfaces to "set" before further handling. The cement actually welds the pieces of plastic together,

and a properly cemented joint will be as strong as the plastic itself. Cellophane tape, rubber bands, and spring loaded clothespins can often be used to hold parts together while the cemented surfaces are "setting." with **Revell Paint Set Colors**, paint all the parts where indicated and allow to dry before assembling. All colors are flagged as shown: **BLACK**



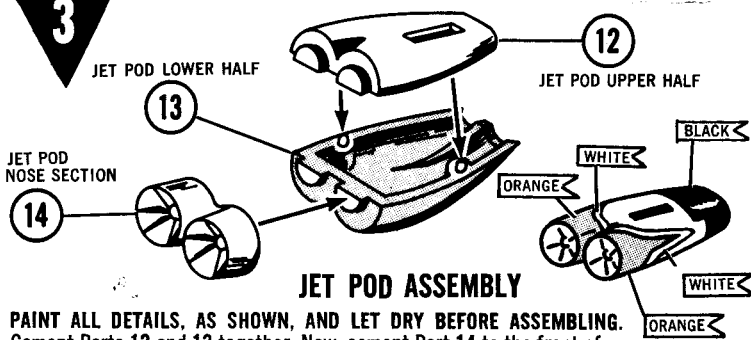
2



WING ASSEMBLIES

PAIN ALL DETAILS, AS SHOWN, AND LET DRY BEFORE ASSEMBLING. Cement Parts 7 and 8 together. Next, cement Part 9 onto Pins on Part 8. Let dry thoroughly. Apply Decals and set aside to dry. Cement Parts 10 and 11 together. Apply Decals and set aside to dry.

3



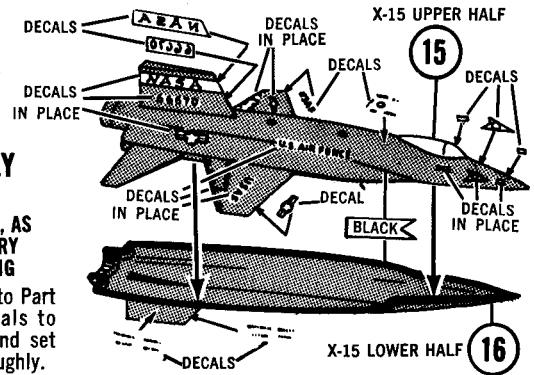
JET POD ASSEMBLY

PAIN ALL DETAILS, AS SHOWN, AND LET DRY BEFORE ASSEMBLING. Cement Parts 12 and 13 together. Now, cement Part 14 to the front of Parts 12 and 13, matching contour. **MAKE 4 SETS.**

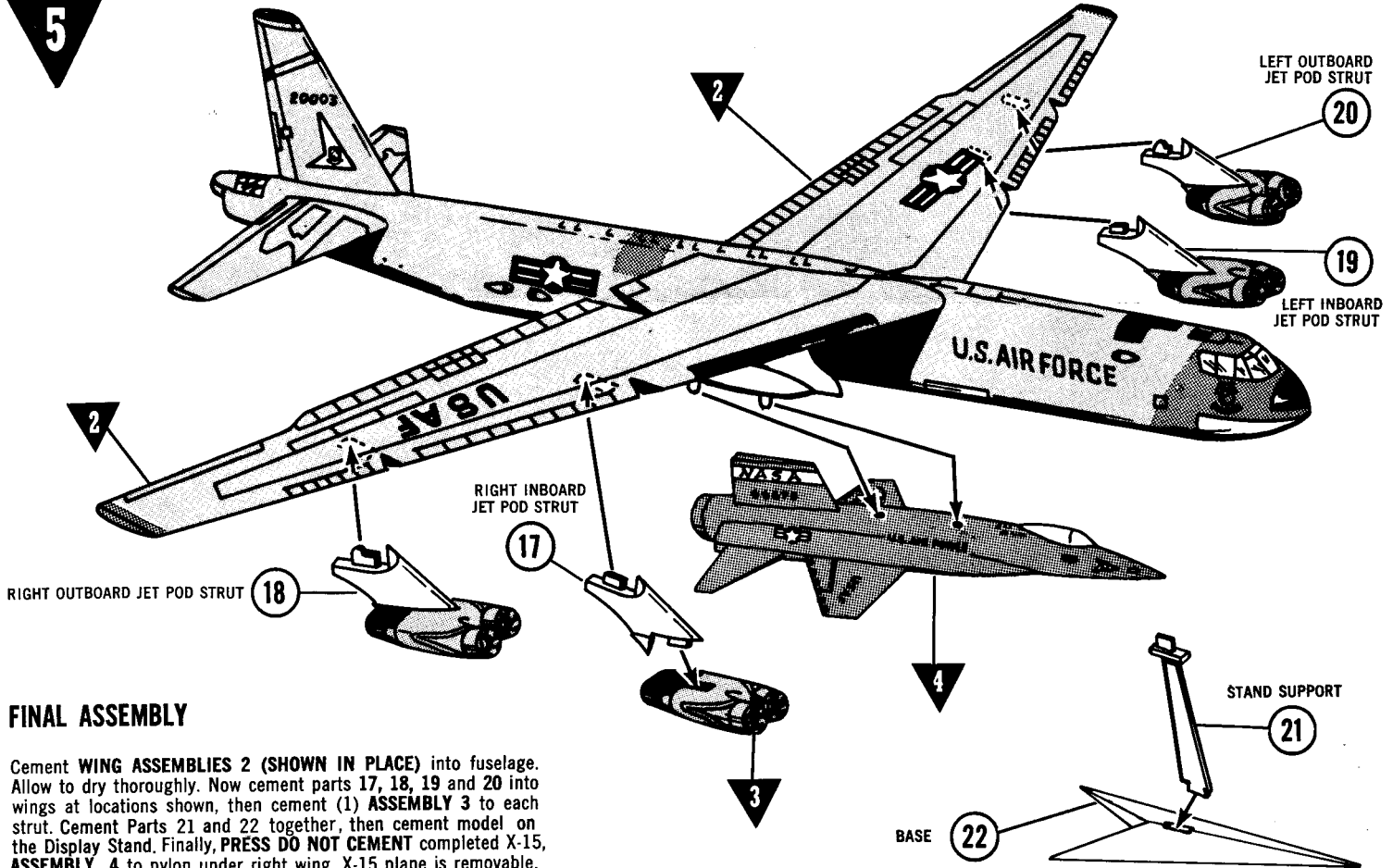
4

X-15 ASSEMBLY

PAIN ALL DETAILS, AS SHOWN AND LET DRY BEFORE ASSEMBLING. Cement Part 15 onto Part 16. Apply all Decals to your X-15 model and set aside to dry thoroughly.



5



FINAL ASSEMBLY

Cement **WING ASSEMBLIES 2 (SHOWN IN PLACE)** into fuselage. Allow to dry thoroughly. Now cement parts 17, 18, 19 and 20 into wings at locations shown, then cement (1) **ASSEMBLY 3** to each strut. Cement Parts 21 and 22 together, then cement model on the Display Stand. Finally, **PRESS DO NOT CEMENT** completed X-15, **ASSEMBLY 4** to pylon under right wing. X-15 plane is removable.