

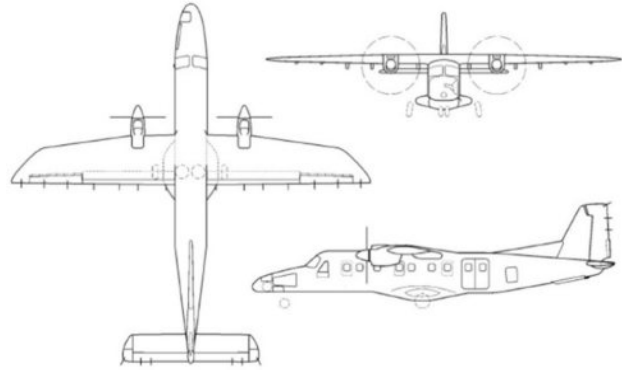
Dornier Do-228-200 of the World armed/ support forces: PART 2

designed for 1/72 scale: Revell kit #04600 / 4287

Malawi, Niger, Nigeria, Seychelles

HISTORY

The German company Dornier designed a series of light transport and utility propeller aircraft after the Second World War with STOL capabilities like the Do-27, Do-28, Do-28 Skyservant and the longer Dornier Do-228. The Do-228 is twin turboprop utility aircraft that first flew in 1981. There are a few versions with different fuselage lengths with the Do-228-200 series being the longest. It is used in variety of roles and sold to over 50 operators and countries. It was also license manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics (HAL) in India. The latest version flown in 2010 is the Do-228NG with improved systems, TPE331-10 engines with five bladed propeller and glass cockpit.



CAMOUFLAGE AND SCHEMES

There is a large variety in Dornier schemes as used by various World air- and government support- forces. Often configurations varied as delivered with different antennas and systems. So it is strongly recommended to study photos in books and internet to pick a particular Dornier and on websites finding a photo is not that difficult. Particular suggestions of each scheme on this decals sheet are also provided.

The precise scheme colours used by a particular Dornier are often unknown. On the decals sheet there may be some small spare decals. The rear emergency break panel has often red corner markings, these are on the sheet as are propeller markings.

On the decals sheet some "white markings" may be provided separately that need to be combined with other decals on the sheet to form a complete marking, particularly for national insignia. Apply first the coloured marking and on top the white outlined marking, align symmetrical.

DECAL APPLICATION

The decal sheet has ONE continuous print film, so each decal needs to be cut out with fine scissors. No other prior decal preparation is needed.

Each cut out decal can be applied as usual after soaking it a short while in water. Decals are EXTREMELY THIN, so slide off from the wet backing sheet on a horizontally held GLOSSY model surface. Do not use tweezers! They will fold doubled!

Note that a decal that contains a white section is often split in two parts. To apply the full decal marking, first set the white decal section at correct position and on top of that the coloured section. On the decals sheet you will often see an "arrow" to indicate this way of application (on white surfaces, the white section is optional).

After all decals have been applied, finish the model with your preferred final gloss, matt or semi-matt varnish coats. This will also protect all the decals.

MODEL KITS

In 1/72 scale Revell Germany released 2 Dornier Do-228 kits.

This decals sheet has markings for the **longer Do-228-200** series with Revell kits #04600/ 4287. (Note that the short fuselage Do-228-100 series was also released by Revell a year earlier in 1987 as kit #4239).

The most prominent system on Dorniers used for maritime patrol may be a large search radar fairing below the forward fuselage. This is not provided in the 1/72 kit unfortunately so has to be made from scratch. Making the fairing can be best done with a piece of balsa wood or several layers of plastic card with putty sanded in shape.

It is not easy as it needs to be a symmetrical fairing. On the other hand, it is situated below the lower front fuselage so a few imperfections are not that visible on a model.

The big search radar fairing is about 54 mm long at the fuselage joint and 14 mm wide in 1/72.

Other external systems may be a camera turret and long SLAR pods. These are need to be made from scratch when applicable. Sometimes a few bulbous cabin windows are seen on patrol aircraft, these need than to made from scrap or try your spares' box. Same with the landing lights in the fronts of the main gear fairings. Often the nose wheel has a mud cover.

Also check out the smaller antennas and any long wire antenna on the particular Dornier. Often a single long wire antenna is seen running from tail to mid fuselage or a pair of shorter wire antennas.

My website AircraftinPlastic.com can help building your model.

Malawi

Malawi "Nyasaland" is a land locked country in South Eastern Africa and has a small defence force air wing that is part of the Army. Some 4 Do-228-201 and -202 were flown from the 1990s until recently.

Do-228-212 with registration MAAW-R1 c/n 8104 was the first one operated from probably 1995. It has a camouflage scheme with lower light grey surfaces (about FS36373), medium grey (FS36270) and green (about FS34079). Both port and starboard patterns are shown. Photos showed faded rear roundels and no number codes. Unknown if red mid emergency door outline and roundels were on the wing (extra decals are provided).



Do-228-2 c/n 8170 registered MAAW-T04 / 76 + 04 has a similar scheme but seen well maintained and painted. Maybe it had black leading edges on wing, stabilizers and tail and some photos suggest even another extra grey but this may be weathering. The optional badge was not always seen on the mid fuselage above the main gear bays.

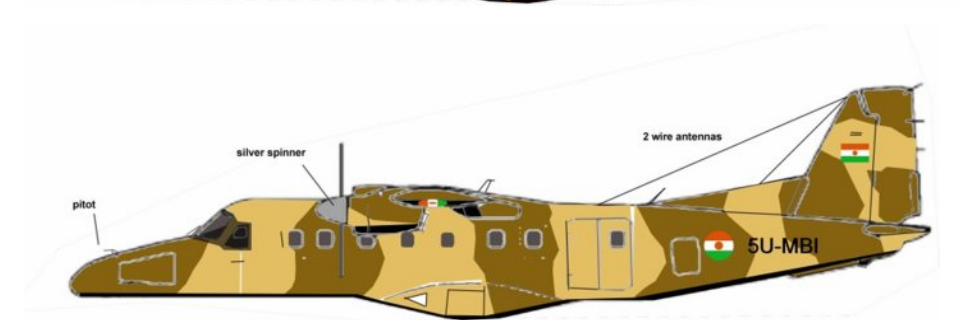
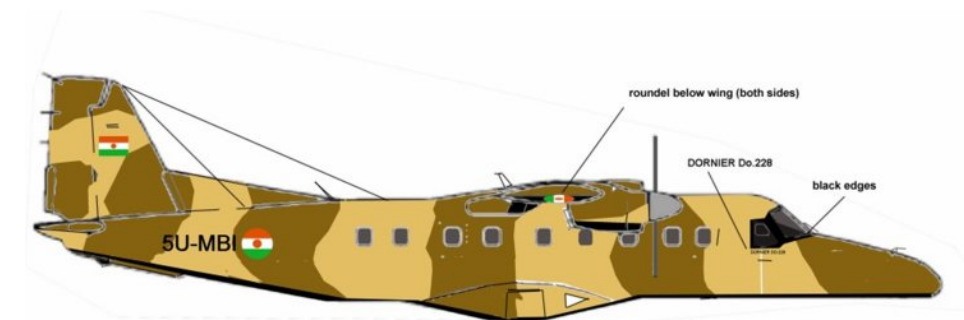
Black outlined cockpit windows. The spinners are silver and propeller blades light grey with white-red-white tips. A pair of shorter wire antennas run from tail to above the rear fuselage doors and some smaller antennas were also seen. The small sliding cooling window on the cockpit window has a white outline (is white outlined decal for both port and starboard sides).

Niger

In the sub-Sahara Niger is a land locked country and the Armee de l'Air has the few aircraft usually based near the capital Niamey at Base no.101.

It seems a single Do-228-201 c/n 8074 coded 5U-MBI was used from 1986 until recently. It has a desert camouflage scheme with a sand brown (approx FS30400) and dark brown (approx FS30219) camouflage pattern. It is unclear what colour the lower surfaces are, maybe sand brown as well or is it black?

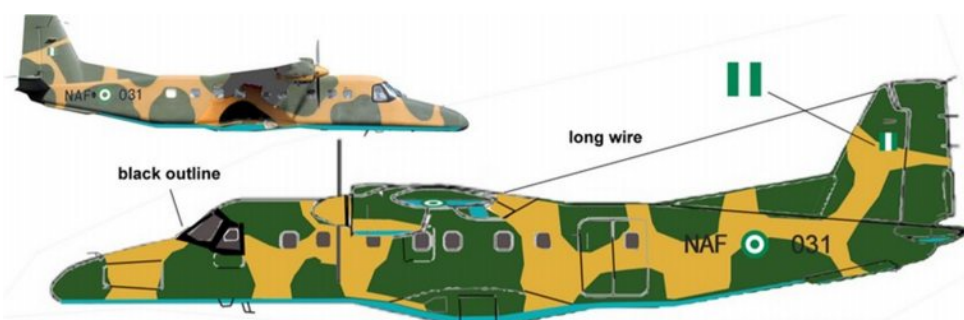
The lower wing has roundels on both sides inboard of the ailerons and probably also on top. The propeller spinners are silver. A pair of shorter wire antennas run from tail to above the rear fuselage doors. Black cockpit window outlines. (no red outlined doors were seen).



Nigeria

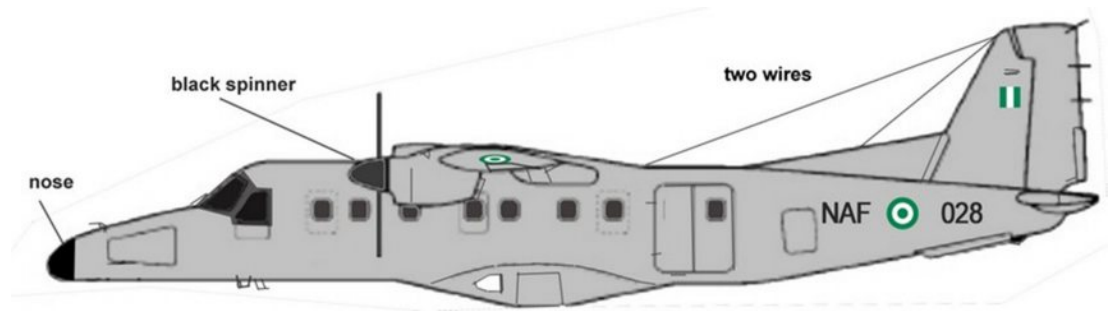
The large Western African country Nigeria is one of the most populated African nations and has a large defence force. Quite some Dorniers were flown including 7 shorter Do-228-101 and 13 Do-228-201 and -212 from the early 1990s. Some by the Presidential unit and others by the Air Border units. It appears several were also refurbished in 2018 to be used by the immigration service NIS.

[1] Dornier Do-228-212 c/n 8221 coded NAF 031 of the Presidential fleet was operated from probably 1996. It has camouflage scheme with bright blue lower surfaces (about FS15200) and brown (about FS30257) and green (about FS34102). (The port and starboard patterns are quite similar). Black outlined cockpit windows. It has probably a black leading edge on both hori-



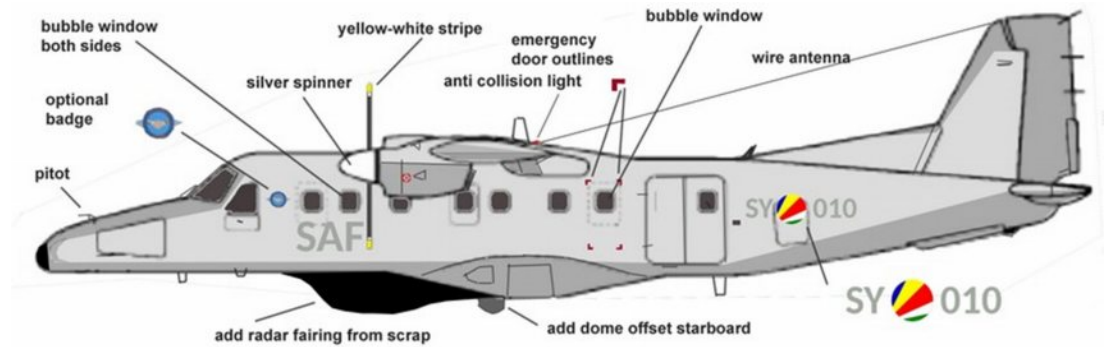
zontal stabilizers. Spinners are brown with light grey propeller blades. National roundels on lower wing, unknown if on upper wing. A long wire antenna runs from tail to mid fuselage and some smaller antennas were also seen.

[2] Do-228-201 c/n 8031 coded NAF 028 was active from 1985 for the Presidential unit until probably end 2012. It has an overall grey scheme (about FS36307) with black radar nose and propeller spinners. Two shorter wire antennas.



Seychelles

The Seychelles are an island group in the Indian Ocean. An air force was established in 1978 but later civil registered. Beginning 2011 an armed Do-228-201 c/n 4069 coded CG774 was supplied by India for patrol duties. In 2013 a new Do-228-201 was obtained with code SY 010 c/n HAL4106 (and from 2018 a Do-228-202K c/n HAL4131). SY 010 has medium grey lower surfaces (about FS36492) and on the sides and lighter grey (about FS36622) on the sides as well. It has search radar fairing at the fuselage belly, a camera turret at starboard and several cabin bubble windows. A long wire antenna runs from tail to mid fuselage and some smaller antennas were also seen. No roundels on wing.



Please visit website: www.aircraftinplastic.com



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