

Short Skyvan SC.7 Mexico Air Force

For 1/72 scale but others scales like 1/144 possible

HISTORY

The Short SC.7 Skyvan is a British 19-seat twin-turboprop aircraft first flown in 1963. It was manufactured by Short Brothers in Belfast, Northern Ireland. It had a box like fuselage with rear ramp to load cargo. It has a basic rugged design and STOL capabilities. The Skyvan was used by small local airlines, and also by many smaller air forces across the Globe. Some 149 Skyvans were manufactured. The 3M is a military version with higher take-off weights.

Antenna configurations may vary and some have an extended bubbled nose with weather radar. Some Skyvans had a rear passenger door and extra cabin windows retaining the same basic fuselage.

FUERZA AEREA MEXICANA

The Mexico Air Force (FAM) operated throughout their history a wide variety of aircraft. This included some 9 SC7 Skyvans for light transport duties.

MODEL KITS

In 1/72 scale Airfix released a Skyvan 3M injection moulded kit in 1974 as kit 04018 and until 2002 with a few re-releases. The kit has the appropriate window layout and doors. But it needs a scratch made radar nose; make from card and putty.

In 1/144 scale Eastern Express has a few kits as well as Welsh.

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.

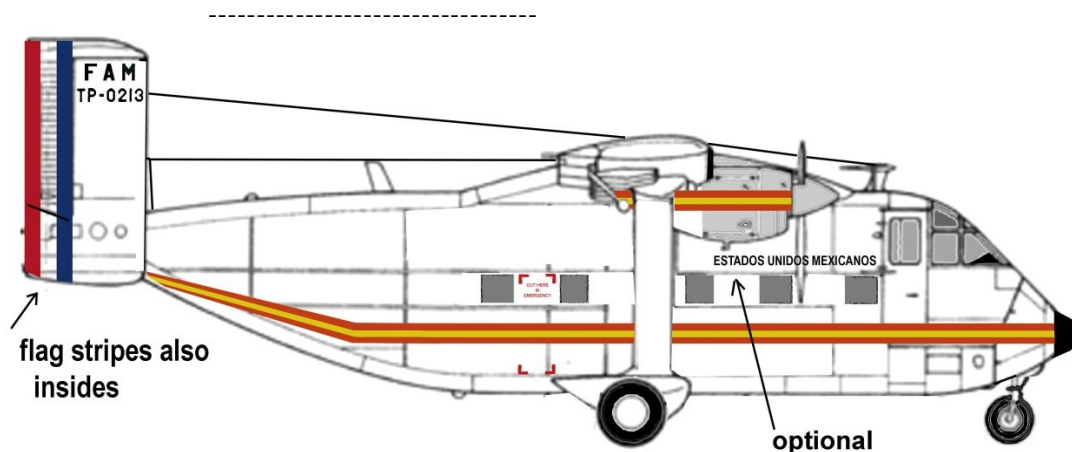
Note that a decal that contains a white section is often split in two sections. To apply the full decal marking, first set the white decal section at correct position and on top of that the coloured section. On the decals sheet you will often see an "arrow" to indicate this way of application (on white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

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!

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.

REFERENCES

Searching on internet gives many photo results.
Search: Skyvan + Fuerza Aerea Mexicana



[A] Skyvan SC7-3-100 with serial SH1920 with code TP-0213 is overall gloss white with cheatlines and trim. The lower wing is extremely glossy white.

The scheme is symmetrical. Leading edges of wing and tail planes seem black.

Mexico flag colours on both the outsides and insides of the vertical tails. Forward sections of nacelles are metal with cheatlines on outsides and probably also on insides.

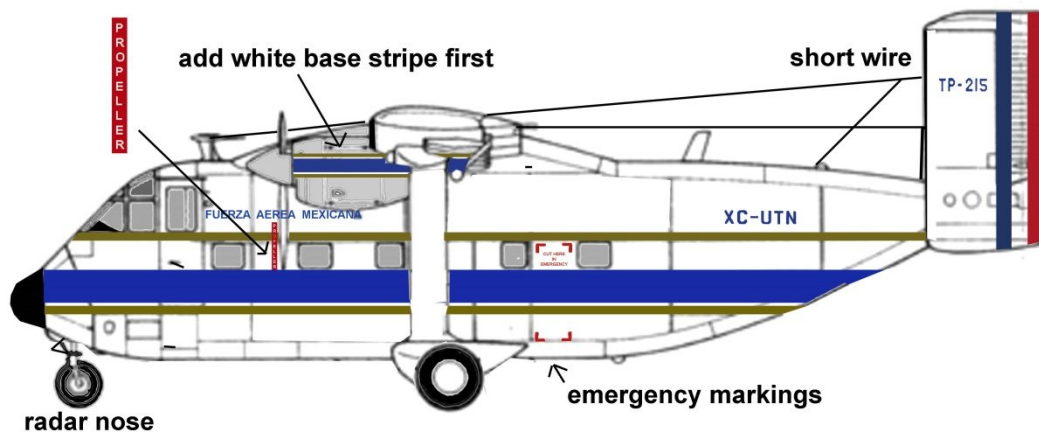
Cheatlines need some trimming at rear fuselage and nose radar nose. Propeller spinner and propeller blades metal with probably white-black-white tips.

Red emergency markings were seen at the aft fuselage at port and starboard. (are separate decals). The walk ways running from cockpit to mid fuselage-wing on the upper fuselage are probably black panels (decals are provided).

A single long antenna wire runs from starboard tail leading edge tot mast above cockpit. Between the tails on the rear fuselage are 2 antenna masts with 2 wires running to another 2 masts on the forward fuselage area.

Small code FAM TP-0215 below port wing amidst the inside aileron edge; unknown if on the upper starboard wing (extra decals are provided).

The title ESTADOS UNIDOS MEXICANOS is optional as it was also often not carried.



[B] Skyvan SC7-3-100 with serial SH1950 has code TP-215 and registration XC-UTN. It is overall gloss white with now blue cheatlines and gold/brown striping.

The scheme is symmetrical. Leading edges of wing and tail planes seem black.

Mexico flag colours on both the outsides and insides of the vertical tails. Nacelles are metal with cheatlines on outsides and probably also on insides. (add the white base decals below the nacelle cheatlines).

Cheatlines need some trimming at rear fuselage and nose radar nose. FUERZA AEREA MEXICANA and codes in blue.

Propeller spinner and propeller blades metal with probably white-black-white tips. PROPELLER warning stripe next to propeller on fuselage.

Red emergency markings were seen at the aft fuselage at port and starboard. (are separate decals).

The walk ways running from cockpit to mid fuselage-wing on the upper fuselage are probably black panels (decals are provided).

A single long antenna wire runs from starboard tail leading edge tot mast above cockpit. Short extra wire from tail to rear fuselage. Between the tails on the rear fuselage are 2 antenna masts with 2 wires running to another 2 masts on the forward fuselage area.

It is unclear if small codes are situated on the wing. (extra decals are provided).



Aircraft in Plastic decals

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