

General Dynamics / Lockheed F-16 Royal Netherlands Air Force (KLu)

KONINKLIJKE LUCHTMACHT: 322 squadron and 311 squadron "J-367"

In desired custom sized scale....

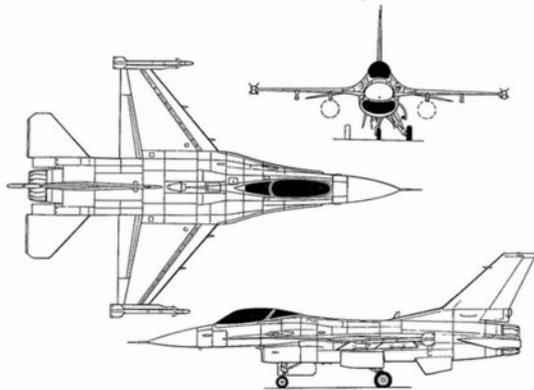


F-16 Fighting Falcon



HISTORY

The American Light Fighter competition in the 1970s led to the General Dynamics F-16 program and the first YF-16 flew 30 years ago in January 1974. Since then the F-16 has appeared in many sub-variants and the Block number is the main indicator of the variant of the aircraft are covered by the same model suffix letter -A/B/C/D/E. Many different variants followed even well into the current Century.



ROYAL NETHERLANDS AIR FORCE (KLu) F-16A (AM)

May 1975 the Dutch Government ordered the first 84 F-16A and F-16B for the Royal Netherlands Air Force "Koninklijke Luchtmacht" (KLu). This was done in a large European NATO program and also involved license production. The first deliveries were in mid 1979 and were of early BLOCK 1, quickly followed by modifications to newer BLOCKs. Eventually extra jets were ordered growing to 177 F-16A multi-role and 36 F-16B trainers. In the mid 1990s the first Mid Life Update program to upgrade system and weapon capabilities was started and various MLU upgrades followed until 2012. Type was designated F-16AM (and F-16BM).

MODEL KITS F-16 A (AM)

All RNLAf F-16 jets had the P&W F100 with standard intake.

In 1/32 scale recommended F-16 A (AM) single seat kits: F-16A by Revell and Hasegawa (old kits). F-16AM by AFV club based on Academy kit.

In 1/48 scale Kinetic #48100, Hasegawa, Revell/ Italeri.

In 1/72 scale Revell later had a good F-16AM MLU kit (releases after 2000 like 03980 with KLu decals/ 04612/ 04691/ 03905). Other 1/72 F-16AM kits are from Hasegawa.

In 1/144 scale Academy and DML/ Dragon/ Italeri.

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. tweezers! They will fold double! Decals are EXTREMELY THIN, so slide off from the wet backing sheet on a horizontally held GLOSSY model surface.

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.

NOTES:

Only the specific RNLAf "special scheme" of the particular F-16AM and squadron decals are provided on the decals sheet.

There were some variations in the RESCUE markings on the cockpit sides and on the decals sheet the typical RNLAf ones are provided.

Walkway lines may also vary in colour but most were light ghost grey. Some stripes are provided.

The smaller stencils and service markings are to be obtained from the kit or spares box.

REFERENCES

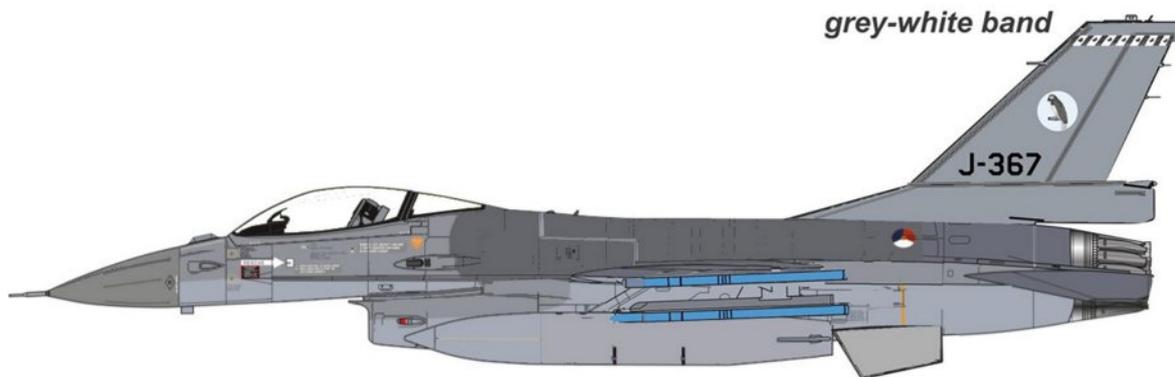
Many books about RNLAf F-16 have been published (often in Dutch language).

On internet it is very easy to find photos by searching. A great source about RNLAf (KLu) F-16 on internet are the Dutch IPMS Nederland Nedmil webpages:

<https://ipms.nl/artikelen/nedmil-luchtvaart/vliegtuigen-g/vliegtuigen-g-qendyn-f16>

Also on my website information and models can be found: <https://aircraftinplastic.com/models/models.htm>

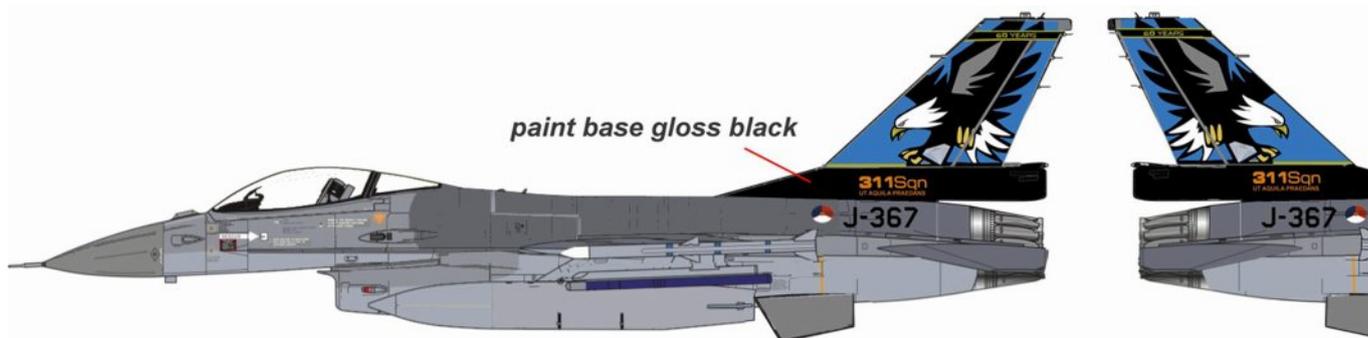




[A] F-16 AM coded J-367 of KLu no. 322 squadron. Serial 84-1367 / 6D-124 and entered KLu service in June 1987 and from mid 1995 got first MLU upgrade.

The standard squadron badge with the white-black outlined Frisian striping is seen at the tail. J-367 code on standard position on tail.

This squadron is based at Leeuwarden airbase in the Dutch Friesland province.



[B] the same F-16 AM coded J-367 but now as flown by KLu no. 311 squadron.

Paint the tail base gloss black.

Due to Defence cuts, no. 311 squadron based at Volkel airbase was disbanded mid 2011 and it was decided to set because of the final 60th year of existence an Eagle on the tail with special foil.

Paint the upper vertical tail section first white before setting the large Eagle decals, trim to fit. Paint edges if needed.

The J-367 code is relocated to the rear fuselage.

KLu F-16's have the rather standard camouflage pattern with grey colours: on upper surfaces FS36270 grey and FS36118 dark grey at rear. Lower surfaces are FS36375.

KLu style RESCUE markings on the cockpit sides are provided on the decals sheet.

