

Bell XF-109 VTOL Tilt-jets fighter

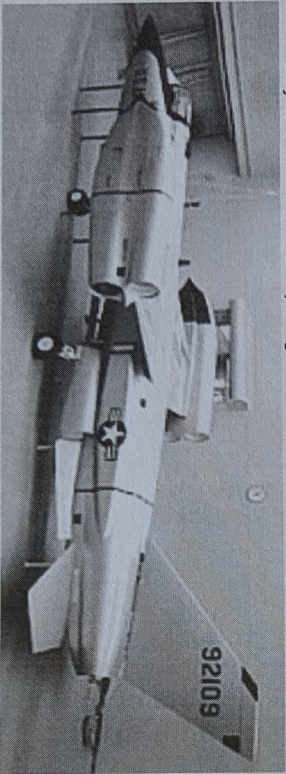
1/72 scale resin model kit

#AA-2016

In 1953, Bell Aircraft Corp developed a VTOL research aircraft, the Model 65 ATV that a pair of turbojets were mounted one each side of the fuselage and could rotate at the aircraft center. The ATV program ended in 1955 and gave Bell experiences of the VTOL jet flight, that also led to U.S. Air Force and Navy sponsorship of the project D-188A tilting jets fighter, designated USAF's XF-109 and USN's XF3L-1. It was requested to design as the same class of the F-104 and could fly at speed around Mach 2. The XF-109 was powered by 8 jet engines, 2 were sat vertically behind the cockpit, 2 mounted horizontally in the tail, 2 pairs located at the wing tips that could rotate, to give lift when pointing upward in a vertical position and were rotated into a horizontal position for level flight. In 1960, Navy halted the funding as the jet engines schedule was kept delay. A year later, Air Force had no longer interested in this concept. The program was cancelled at its mockup stage in 1961.

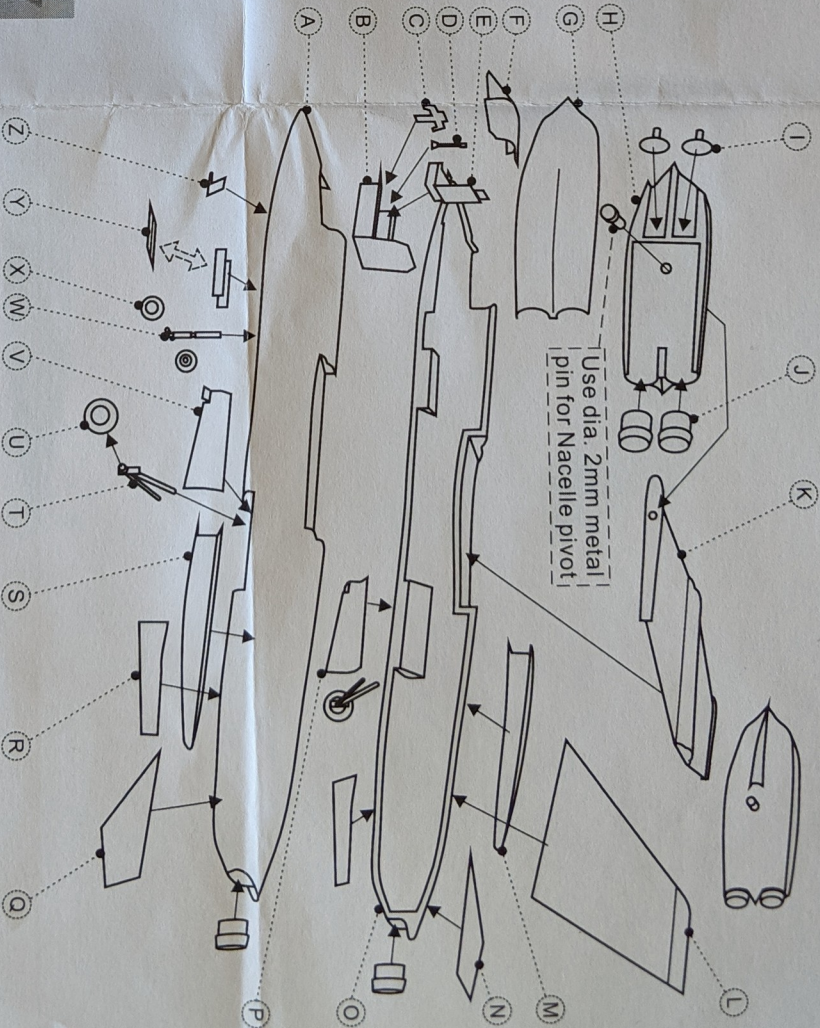
Specifications:
 Wingspan - 23 ft 9in
 Length - 62 ft
 Height - 12 ft 9 in
 Powerplants - General Electric J85-GE-5 x 6 / J85-GE-19 x 2
 Crew - 1
 Max speed - Mach 2.3

Two XF-109s were requested by the USAF and US Navy but only one reached mockup stage without engines available.



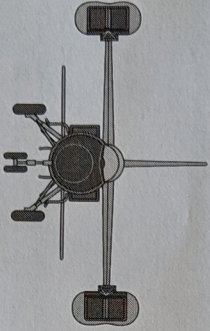
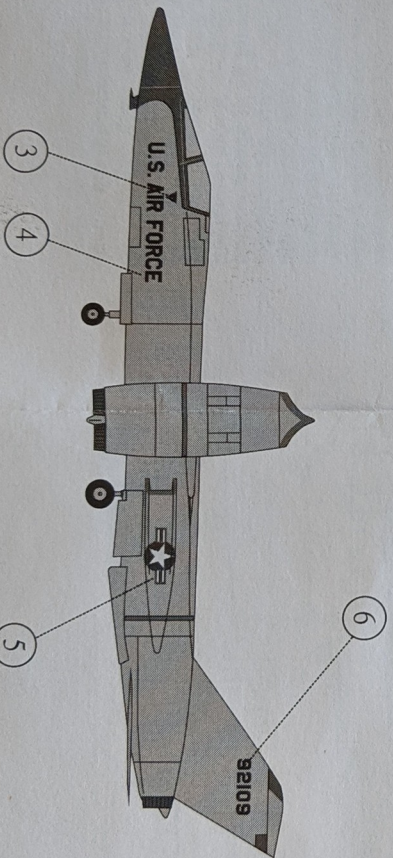
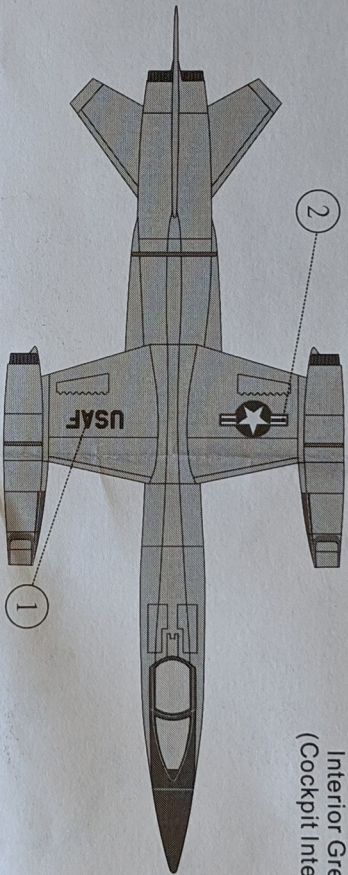
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- A Starboard fuselage x 1
- B Cockpit x 1
- C Instrument panel x 1
- D Control lever x 1
- E Pilot seat x 1
- F Canopy (clear) x 1
- G Nacelle outer halves x 2
- H Nacelle inner halves x 2
- I Compressor faces x 4
- J Engine nozzles x 6
- K Main wing x 1
- L Fin x 1
- M Starboard air intake x 1
- N Starboard tail plane x 1
- O Starboard fuselage x 1
- P Starboard main gear door x 1
- Q Port tail plane x 1
- R Ventral fins x 2
- S Port air intake x 1
- T Main landing gears x 2
- U Main wheels x 2
- V Port main gear door x 1
- W Nose landing gear x 1
- X Nose wheels x 2
- Y Nose gear door x 1
- Z Probe x 1

Painting & Decals



-  Aluminum Silver (Overall)
-  Burn Iron (Engine Nozzle)
-  Interior Green (Cockpit Interior)
-  Black (Nose) (Tires)
-  Red (Warning strips) (Intake surrounding)