MIKOYAN-GUREVICH MIG-21 F-13
THE AIRCRAFT THAT DEFECTED TO ISRAEL

MIG-21

Designed for Trumpeter Kit #02858

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**Operation Diamond - The defection of an Iraqi MiG-21 to Israel.**

The Iraqi MiG-21 ‘007’ arrived Israel during operation ‘Diamond’. It was an operation undertaken by the Mossad. Its goal was the acquisition of a Soviet-built Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG-21, the most advanced Soviet fighter plane at that time. The operation began in mid-1963 and ended on August 16, 1966, when an Iraqi Air Force MiG-21, flown by the Iraqi Assyrian defector Munir Redfa, landed at Hatzor air base in Israel. Israel and the United States were able to study the design of the plane. Soon after his defection, Redfa’s MiG was renumbered 007, reflecting the manner in which it had arrived.

Within a few weeks the aircraft took off again with Israeli test pilot Danny Shapira at the controls, on the first of many test flights. The jet’s strengths and weaknesses were analyzed and it was flown against IAF fighters, eventually training Israeli pilots to deal with the aircraft.

In May 1967 director of CIA Richard Helms said that Israel had proven that it had made good use of the aircraft, when on April 7, 1967, during aerial battles over the Golan Heights, the Israeli Air Force brought down 6 Syrian MiG-21s without losing any of its Dassault Mirage IIs.

In January 1968, Israel loaned the MiG to the United States, which evaluated the jet under the ‘Have Doughnut’ program.

1. **Iraqi AF, MiG-21 F-13 number 534, Hatzor AF Base, August 1966.**

The aircraft was in natural metal finish with minimal marking painted on it. The number in arabic was painted on the nose and on the centerline fuel tank in a very small size. Iraqi AF badge appeared in six position while the Iraqi flag was painted on both sides of the fin. The intake entry cone as well as the front section of the rear lower fin, were painted in Emerald Green (Humbrol #2).
**MiG-21 F-13, Hatzor AF Base, November 1966.**

Shortly after its arrival, the original Iraqi markings were deleted and the Israeli AF insignia was painted in six positions. The aircraft didn't carry a number yet.
MiG-21 F-13 #007, Hatzor AF Base, June 1967.

In 1967 the aircraft painted in its first colorful scheme. The air brakes, wing tips, nose and other fuselage parts were painted in bright red. The aircraft was standing on alert at Hatzor with the QRA Mirages of 101 Squadron. We provide pre cut masking to help you paint easily the horizontal stabilizers.
“James Bond”, Sean Connery is standing along with IAF commander Motti Hod near the 007 MiG-21 at Hatzor AFB maintenance hangar.
 Shortly before the aircraft was handed over to the USAF, the aircraft was painted in a much more colorful scheme. Use the pre cut masking to paint the aircraft fin and protect the natural metal areas.

Use the pre masking we provide in the set before painting the Red color. Use mask E for the chevron and B for the rudder. Mask around the area with Tamiya tape and paint in Red 174. After the paint dry, remove the masking. Apply decal #12 on the rudder.

Use the pre masking we provide in the set before painting the Red color. Use mask F for the chevron and A for the rudder. Mask around the area with Tamiya tape and paint in Red 174. After the paint dry, remove the masking. Apply decal #5 on the rudder.

Use the pre masking we provide in the set before painting the Red color. Use mask F for the chevron and A for the rudder. Mask around the area with Tamiya tape and paint in Red 174. After the paint dry, remove the masking. Apply decal #5 on the rudder.

Decals #14 and #24 are extra Red stripes to help you cover uncomplete covered area.
**MiG-21 F-13, 80965, USAF, 1969.**

During its test and evaluation at the USA, the aircraft was marked only with USAF insignias on the fuselage and serial number on the fin. No other markings were painted over. The fate of this aircraft is unknown since it was not returned to Israel.