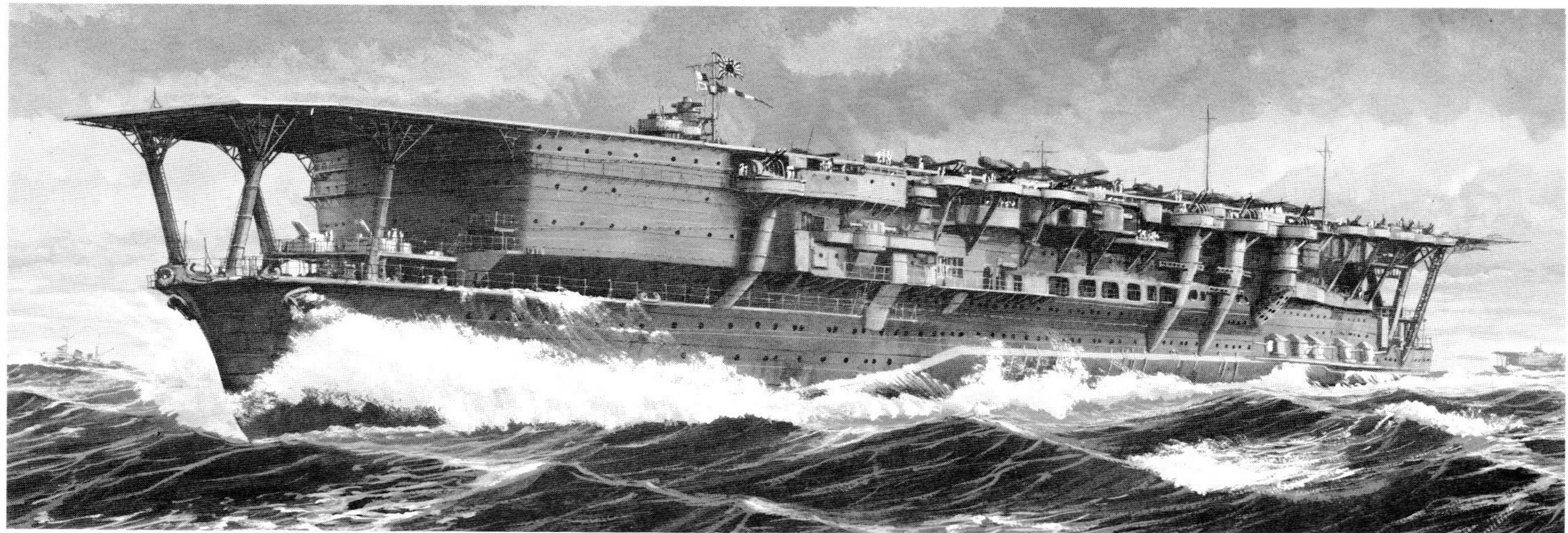


KAGA加賀

JAPAN AIRCRAFT CARRIER (After Modernization)

NO.81
WATER LINE SERIES



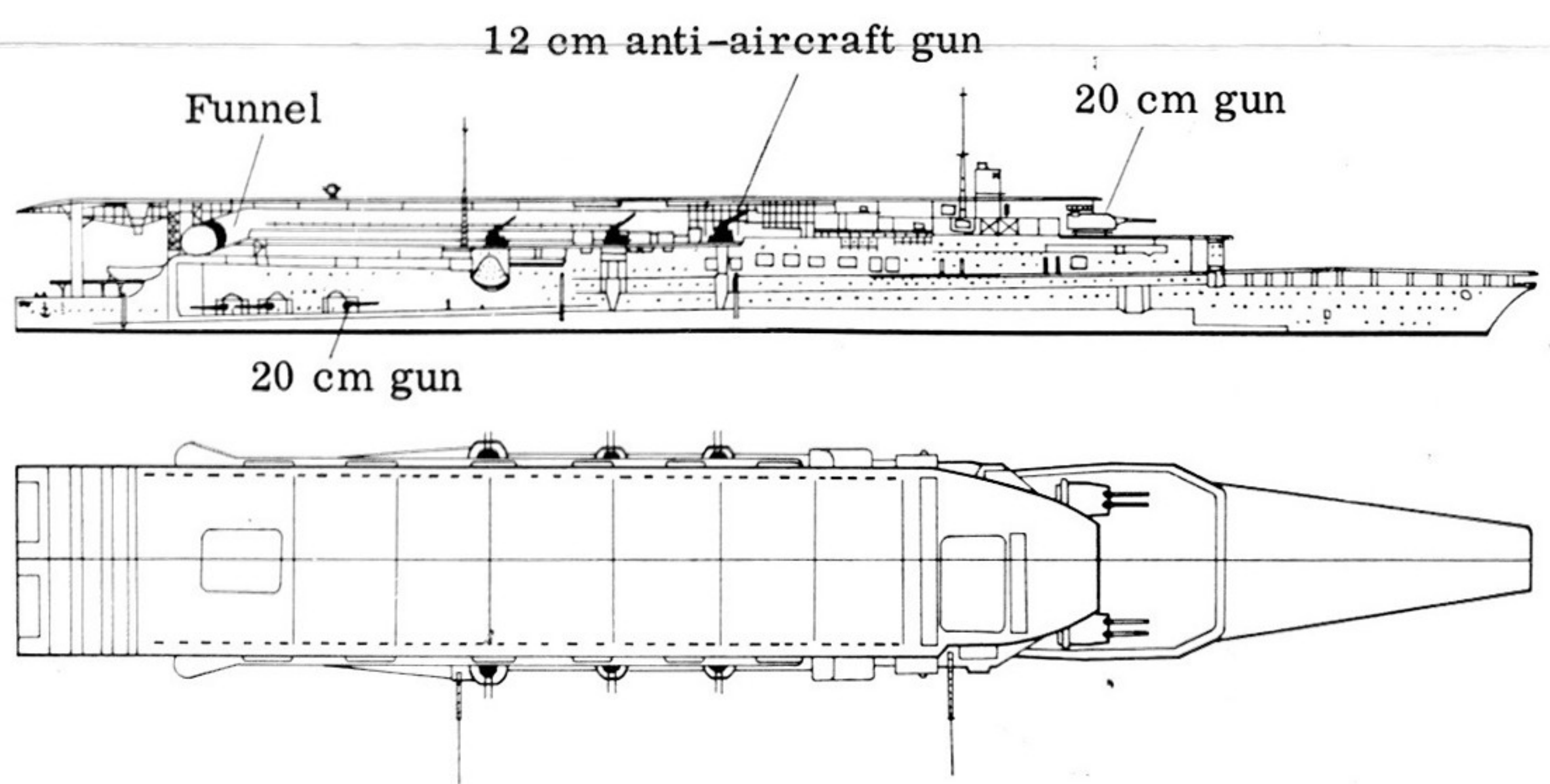
HISTORY

The keel of Kaga was laid on November 9, 1923 at the Yokohama Naval Shipyards and was completed in 1928. She was Japan's first large-class carrier after the Washington Naval Treaty had been concluded. Kaga featured three layer decks; the upper for landing and the lower two decks for taking off. The divided flues on the port and starboard sides directed the exhaust aft. A powerful armament was also mounted. Kaga and Akagi, were converted from half-done battlecruisers. They were identical in their basic structure though quite different in their outer appearance and interior design. The funnel installation made the distinction. Kaga outfitted the flues on both port and starboard sides leading the exhaust along the flight deck to the stern, while Akagi was provided with a large, single funnel which directed the exhaust downwards. This was for the comparative study of the two funnel types. Kaga's system ended in failure. The displacement of both ships was originally 26,900 tons, but Akagi was 20 meters longer in overall length and her speed of 32.5 knots exceeded Kaga's 27.5 knots. Due to such disadvantages, and to cope with rapid development of aircraft, Kaga had to go into drydock for remodeling after several years of service. The large scale reconstruction started in early 1934 and was finished in June of 1935. The major modifications of this program was to increase the speed and to improve facilities for handling the new aircraft which were entering service. The hull was extended an additional 8 meters aft to reduce the water resistance, and three layer decks were altered; the upper deck was expanded fore and aft (now 248.58 meters long, previously 171.20 meters) and the lower two decks were converted into a hanger. To strengthen the anti-aircraft fire power, the conventional 12 cm machine guns were replaced with 12.7 cm machine guns and increased from 6 to 8. The mounting position became higher to get a wider firing range and 25 mm machine guns were added. With the hanger enlarged the carrier planes increased from 60 to 90. More than half of the turbines were replaced with new and larger power output turbines. Through this

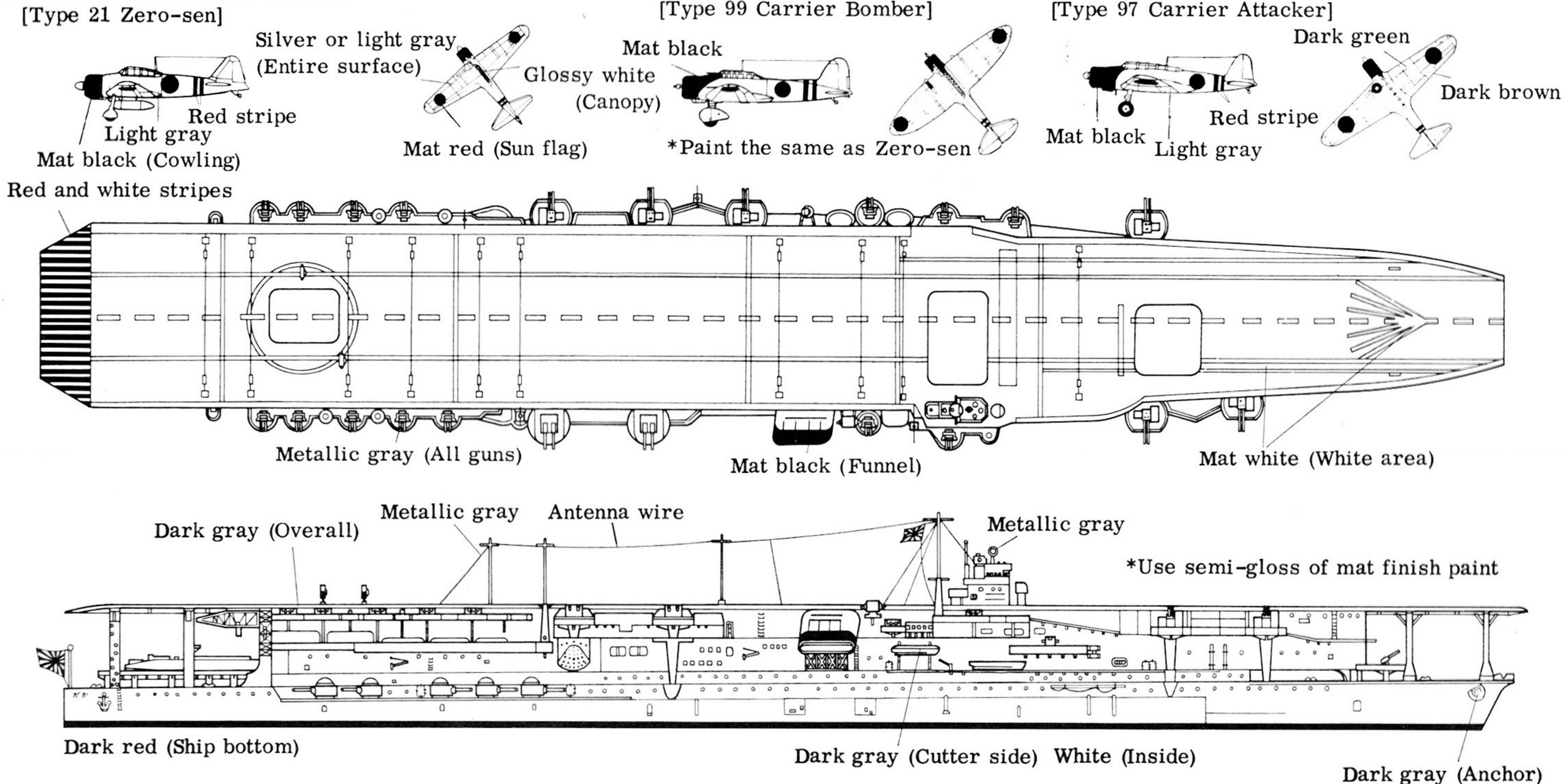
modernization it was possible to improve the former speed of 27.5 knots to 28.34 knots, in spite of the increased displacement of 42,500 tons. Kaga really became the world's finest aircraft carrier. Kaga's first battle service was in 1932 when she participated the Shanghai Incident in October of 1932 with the carrier Hosho. Then she underwent a modernization program at the Sasebo Naval Dock Yard. In October of 1938, she saw her second action in the Canton Invasion in December; she again underwent a second reconstruction. After this updating she joined in the attack on Pearl Harbor, with the flagship Akagi, as a consort of Carrier Division 1. In this attack, she was the main strength for air raiders and contributed a great deal to the brilliant record of the Japanese Naval Force on Pearl Harbor. Unfortunately, 15 of 29 Japan's missing planes, during this battle, were from Kaga. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, she served in the conquest of Rabaul, the raid on Port Darwin, and the conquest of the Dutch Indies. On February 9, 1942, when entering the port in Palau, she hit a reef and damaged her bow. Unable to serve in the Indian Ocean Campaign, she returned to Japan for repairs and after repairs Kaga made a sortie to the fateful Sea Battle of Midway. Leaving Kure on May 27, Kaga headed for Midway Island led by Admiral Nagumo on Akagi, the flagship of Carrier Division 1, with the carriers Soryu and Hiryu in Carrier Division 2. Nagumo's plan was to attack Midway and destroy the American Air Base on the island. On June 4, the Japanese task force launched planes toward the island. However, earlier than this, the American spotters had discovered the Japanese force and all the American planes on Midway had taken off to meet and attack the Japanese fleet. The carriers of the Japanese force were unprepared for this surprise assault. Four direct hits by the dive bombers from the U.S. carrier Enterprise caused a great fire and a magazine explosion. The hull split in the middle and she disappeared in the deep waters on June 5, 1942.

SPECIFICATIONS

	Before Modernization	After Modernization
Displacement	26,900 tons	38,200 tons
Overall length	230.00 m	240.30 m
Beam	29.60 m	32.50 m
Draft	7.93 m	9.48 m
Power output	92,000 HP	127,400 HP
Speed	27.5 knots	28.3 knots
Armaments	Two 20 cm II and six 20 cm I machine guns, six 12 cm II anti-aircraft guns, sixty aircraft	Ten 20 cm I machine guns, eight 12.7 cm II anti-aircraft guns, ninety aircraft
Flight deck	171.2 m (Length) 30.5 m (Width)	248.58 m (Length)



PAINTING DIRECTIONS

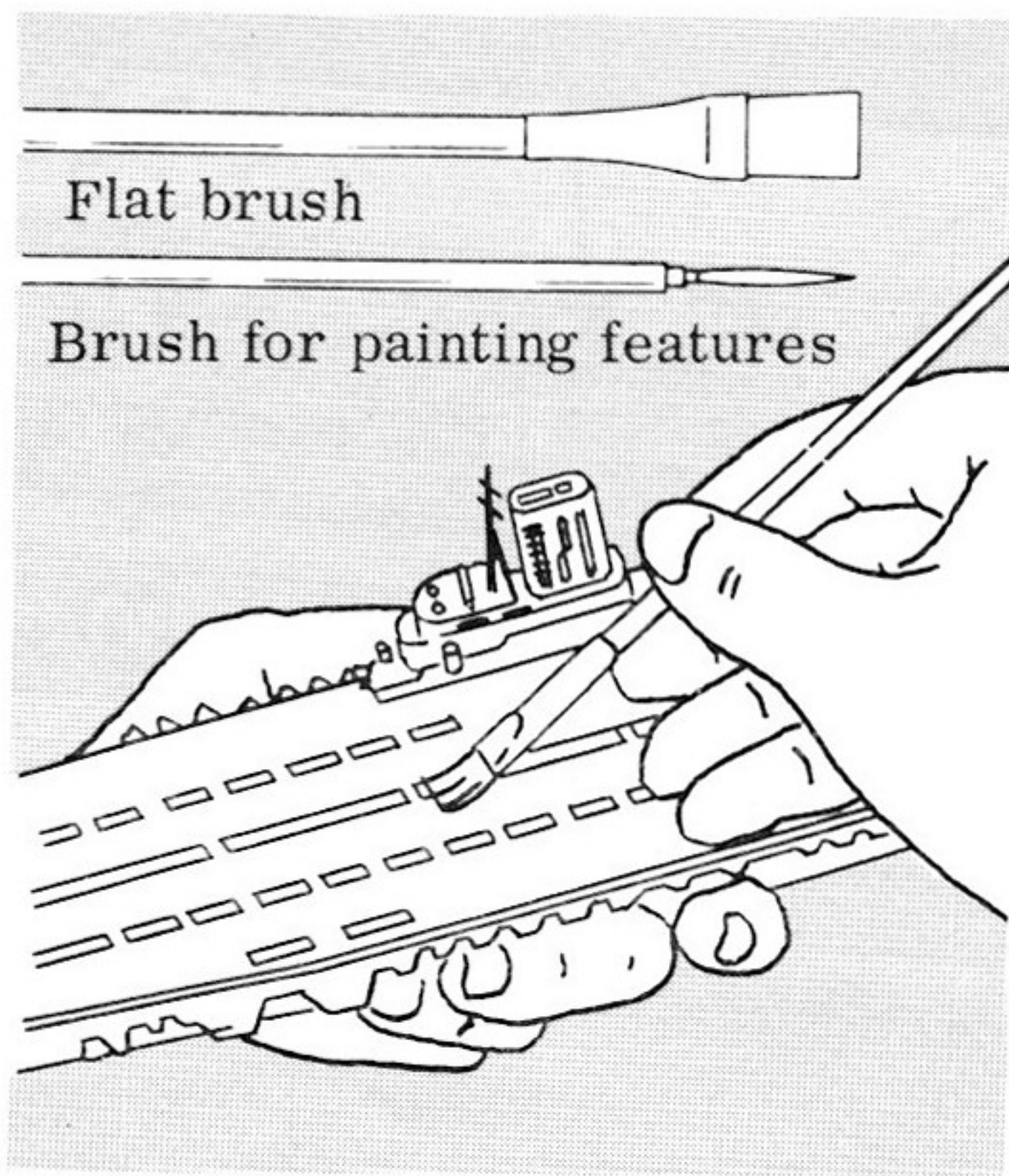


HOW TO PAINT

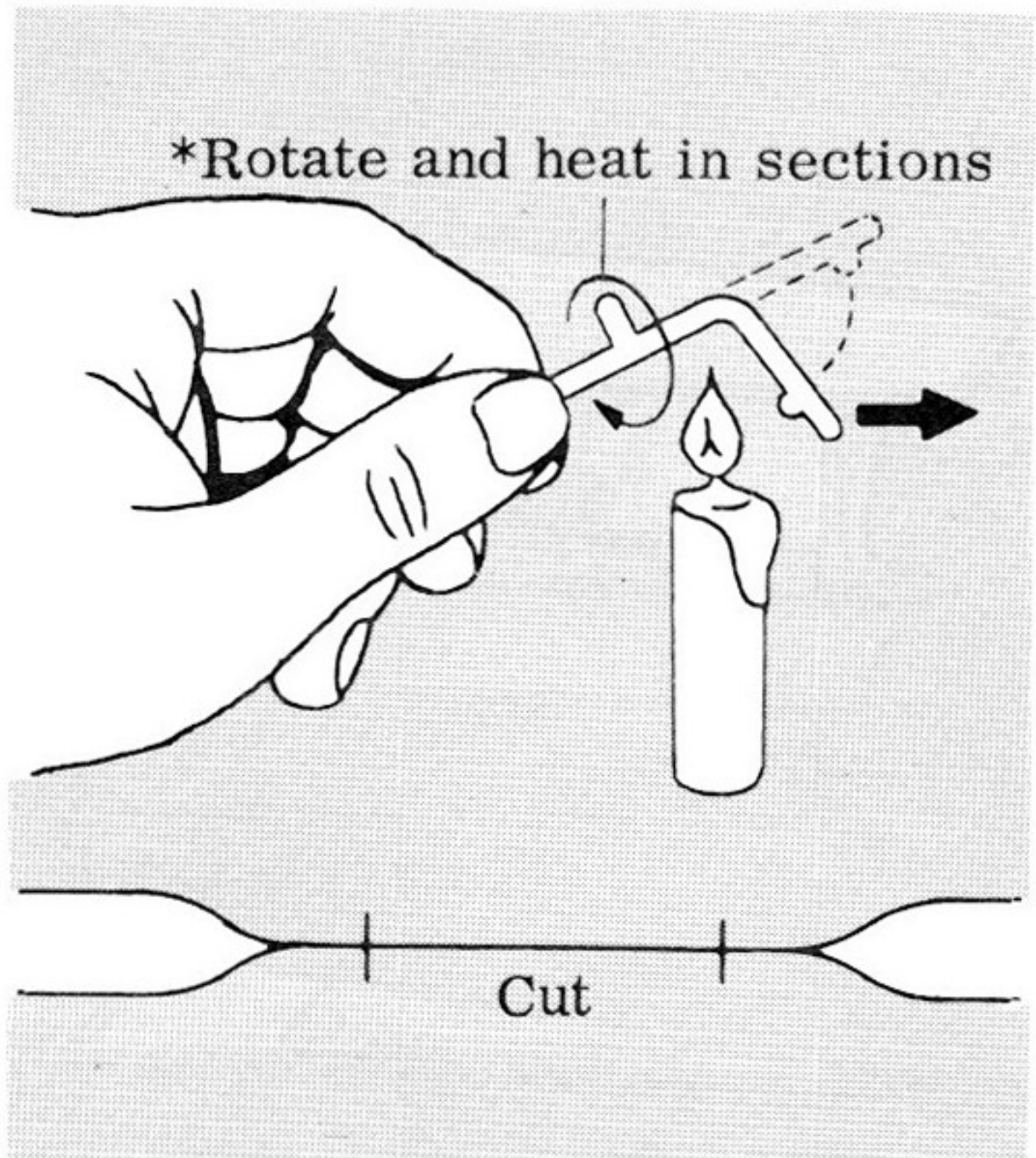
Be sure to correct the joints and remove the surplus adhesive before painting. Use semi-gloss or mat finish paint for plastic. To paint evenly, spray may be used; first repeat light coating two or three times and after it is well dried, spray a finish coating.

ANTENNA WIRE

Putting the antenna wire over the ship might be very effective



to enhance your kit. Be careful to always do this after the kit is painted. First, cut the stem (on which the parts were connected) to an adequate length. Heat it with the flame of a candle until it becomes soft, as shown. After it is well heated, remove it from the flame and quickly stretch it so that it becomes threadlike. Cut the thread somewhat longer than required and cement it to the antenna end. After the adhesive has dried, cut the excess thread.



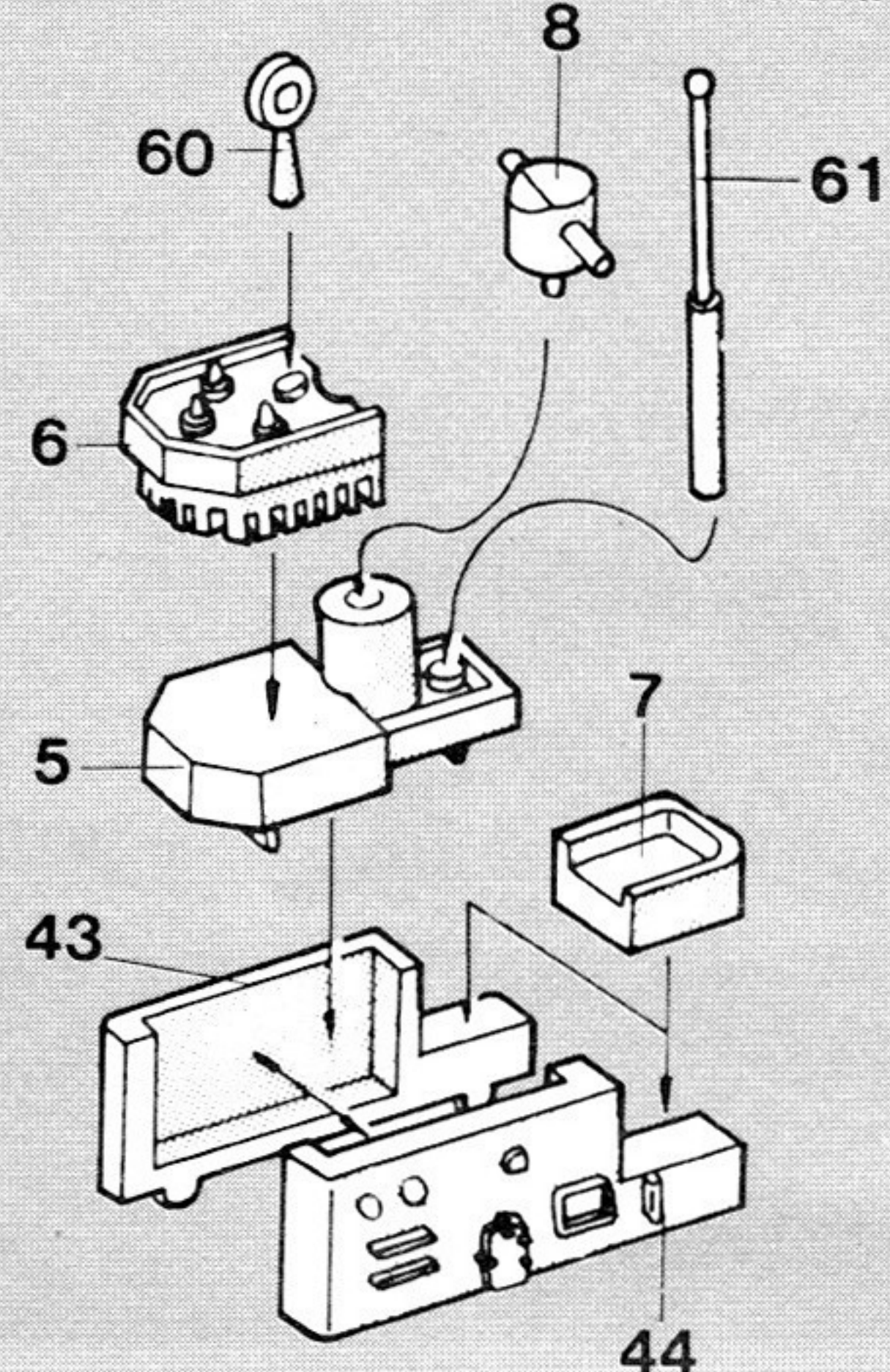
KAGA加賀

BEFORE ASSEMBLING YOUR KIT

- Do not tear parts off the stem, but cut them off carefully with a knife or clipper.
- Do not use too much cement since surplus adhesive will spoil the finish.
- Be sure to cut the bag into pieces after the parts are taken out, to prevent infants from covering their heads.

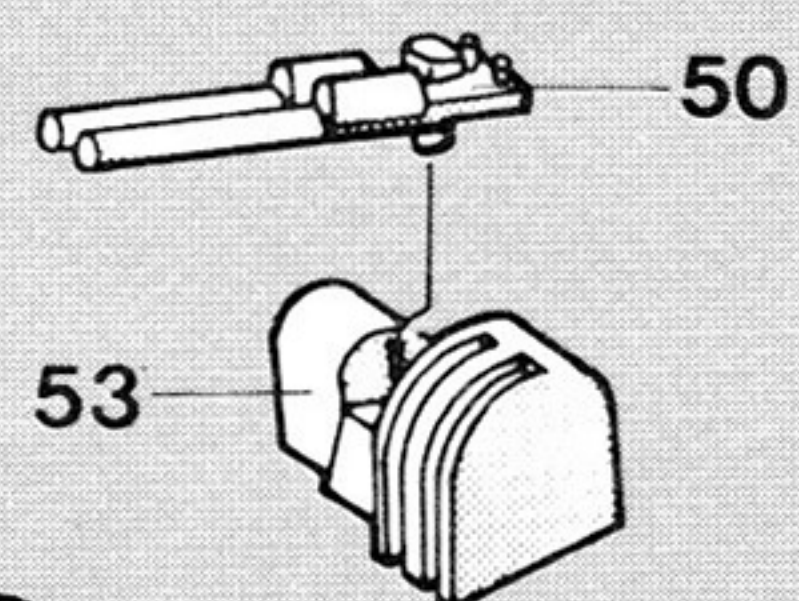
1 Bridge Assembly

*Set aside

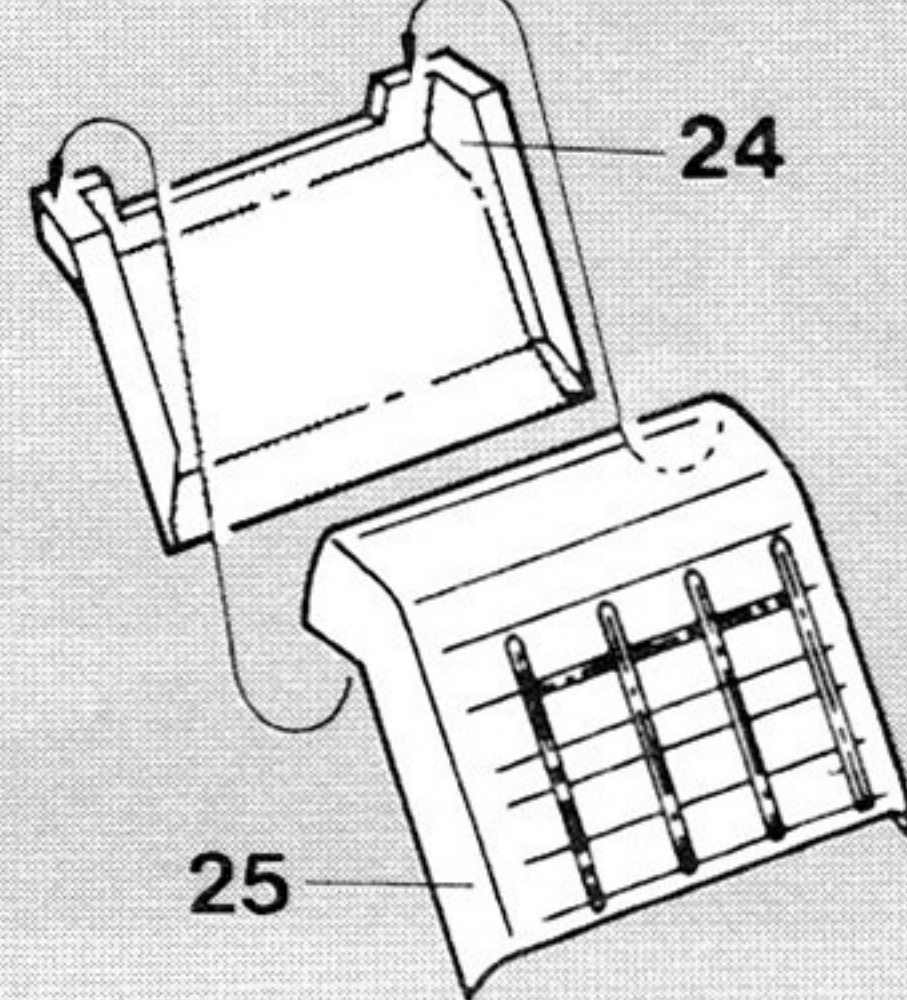


2 Anti-aircraft Gun Assembly (Make 6 units)

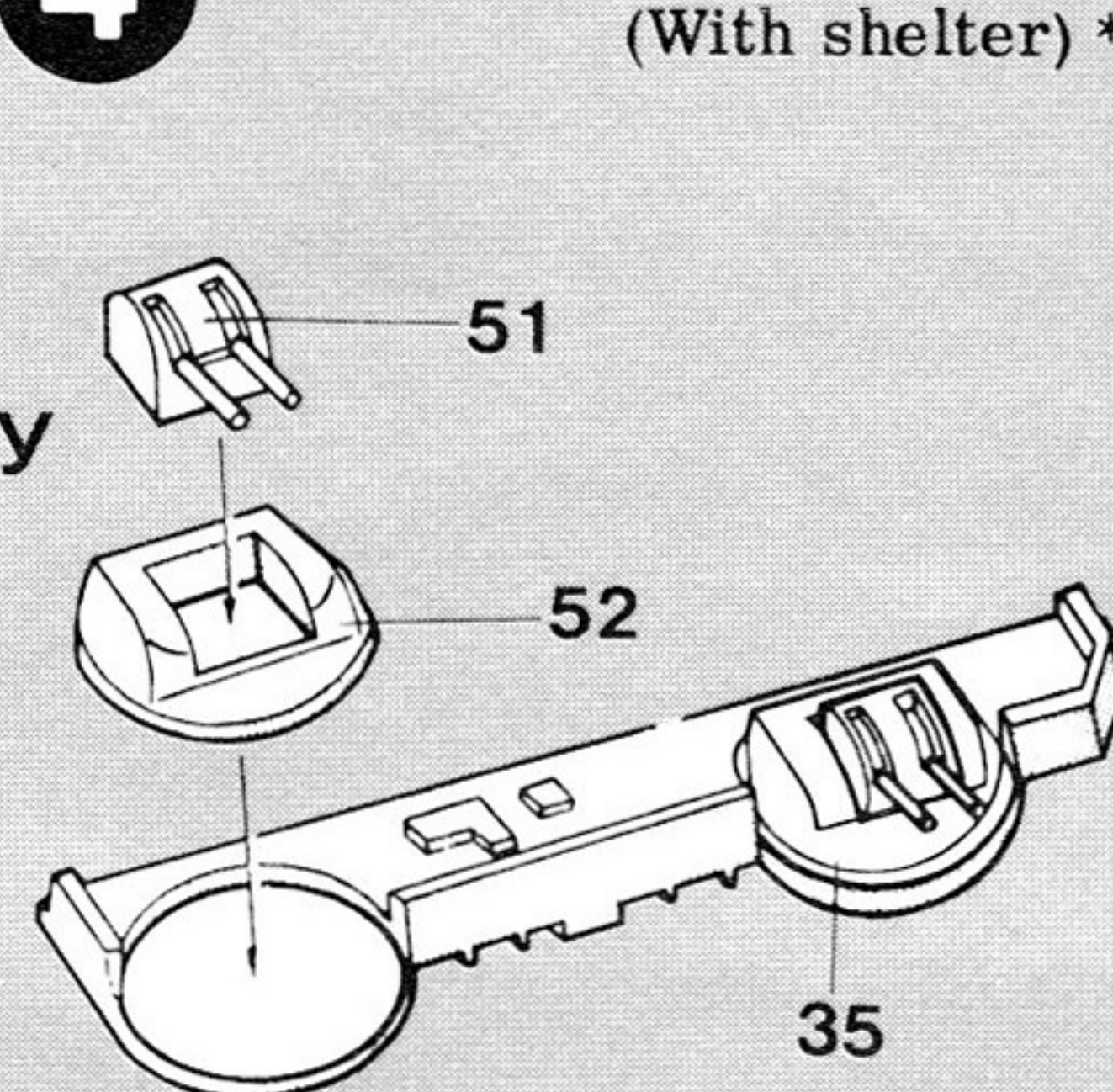
*Set aside



3 Funnel Assembly

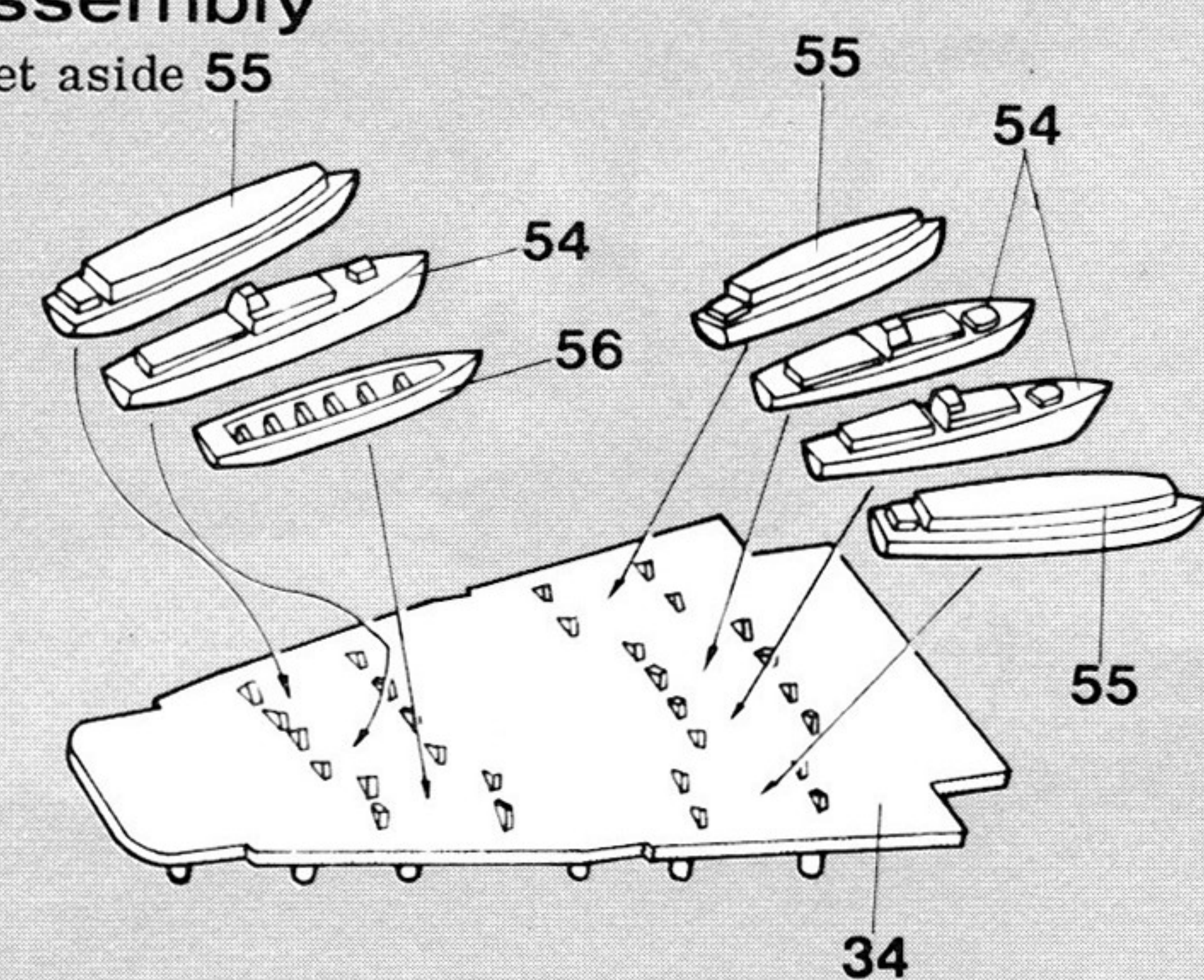


4 Anti-aircraft Gun Assembly (With shelter) *Set aside

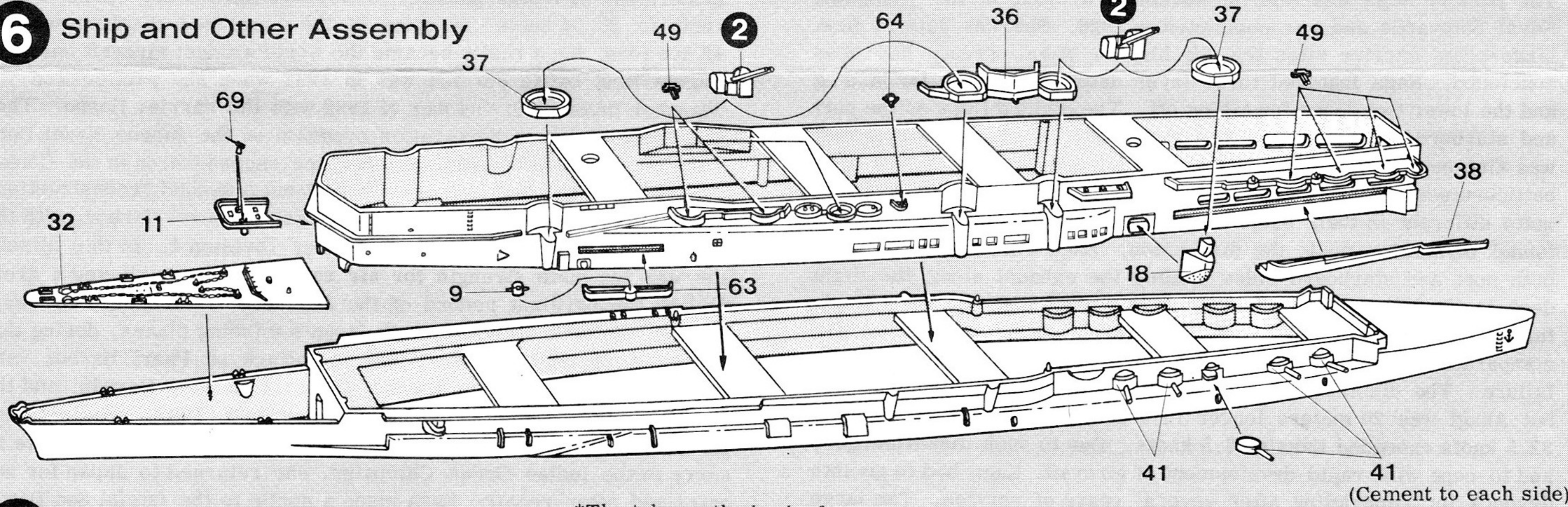


5 Boat Assembly

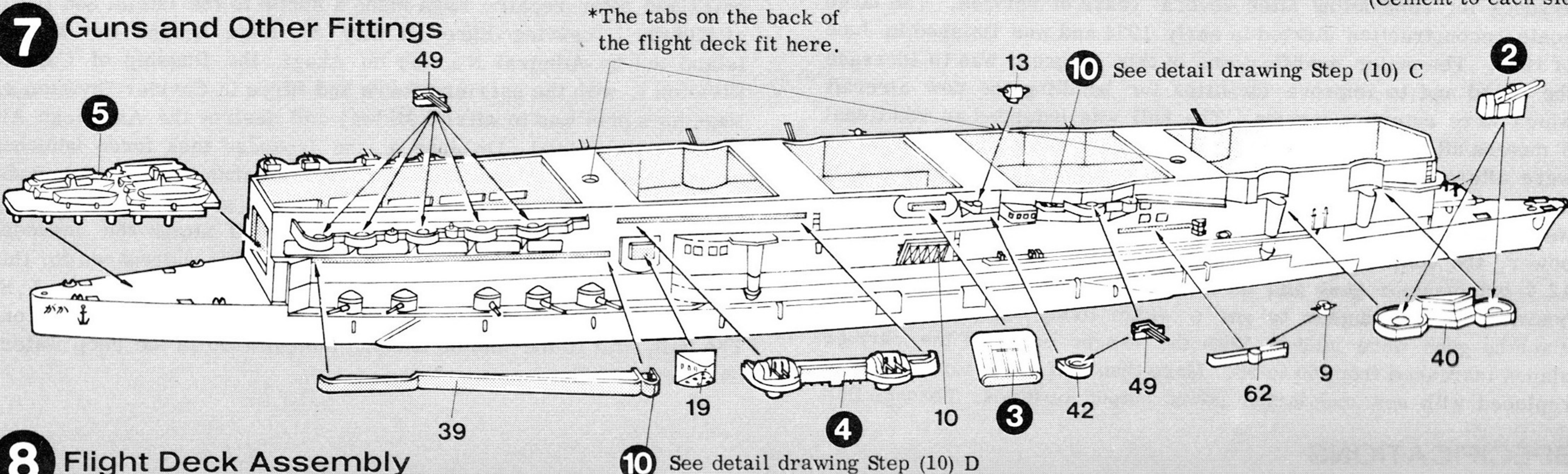
*Set aside



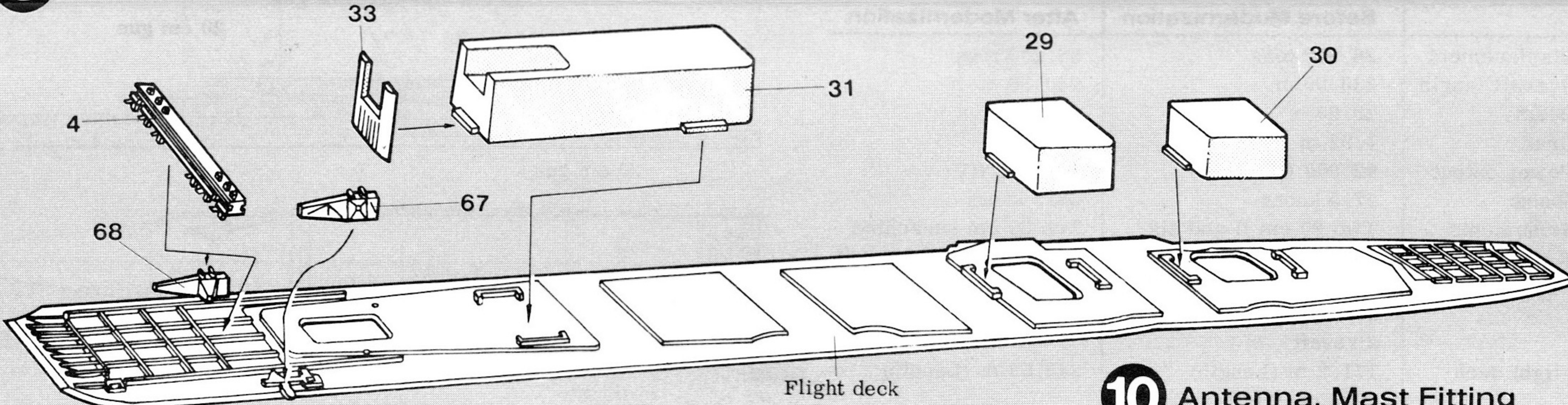
6 Ship and Other Assembly



7 Guns and Other Fittings

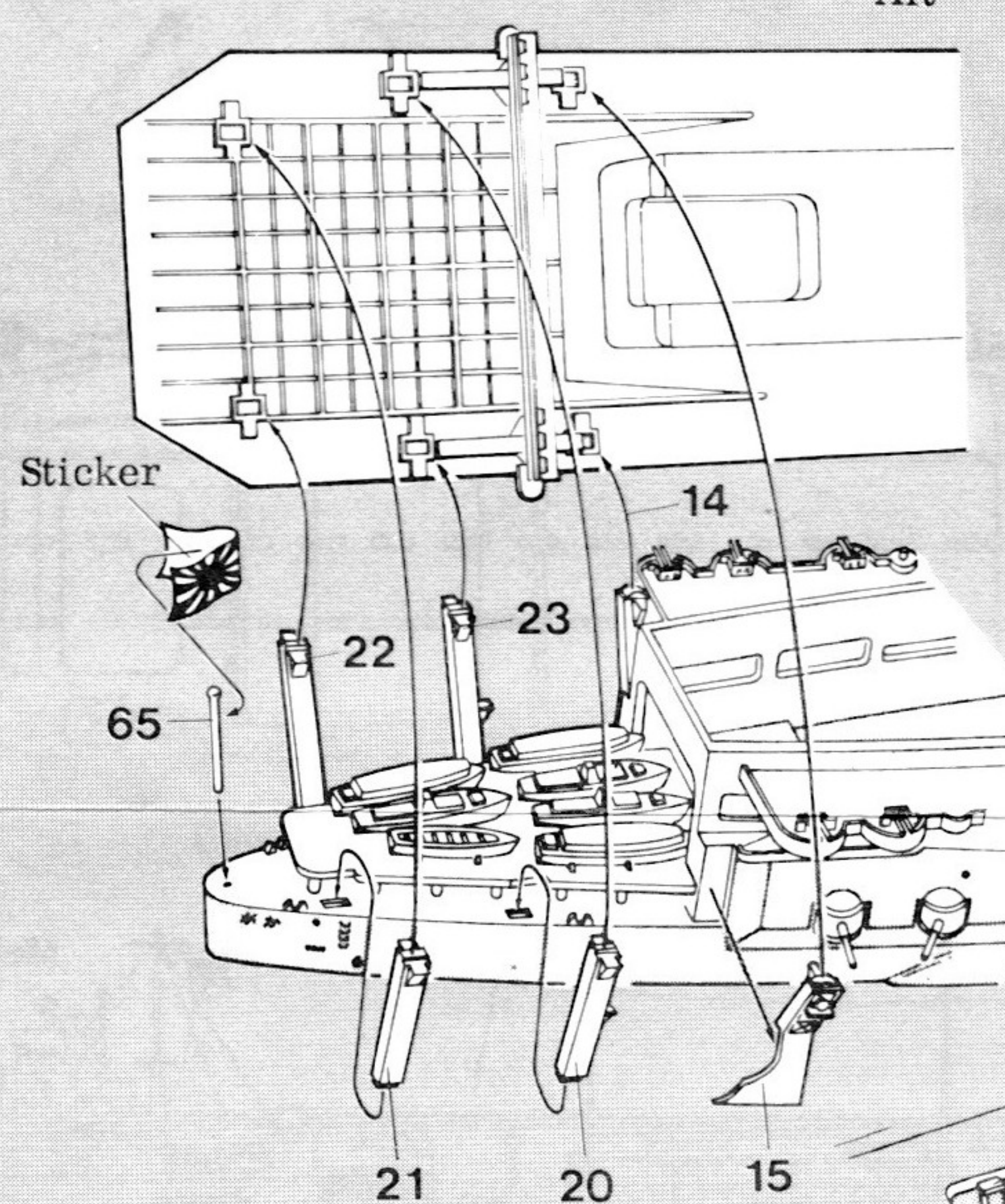
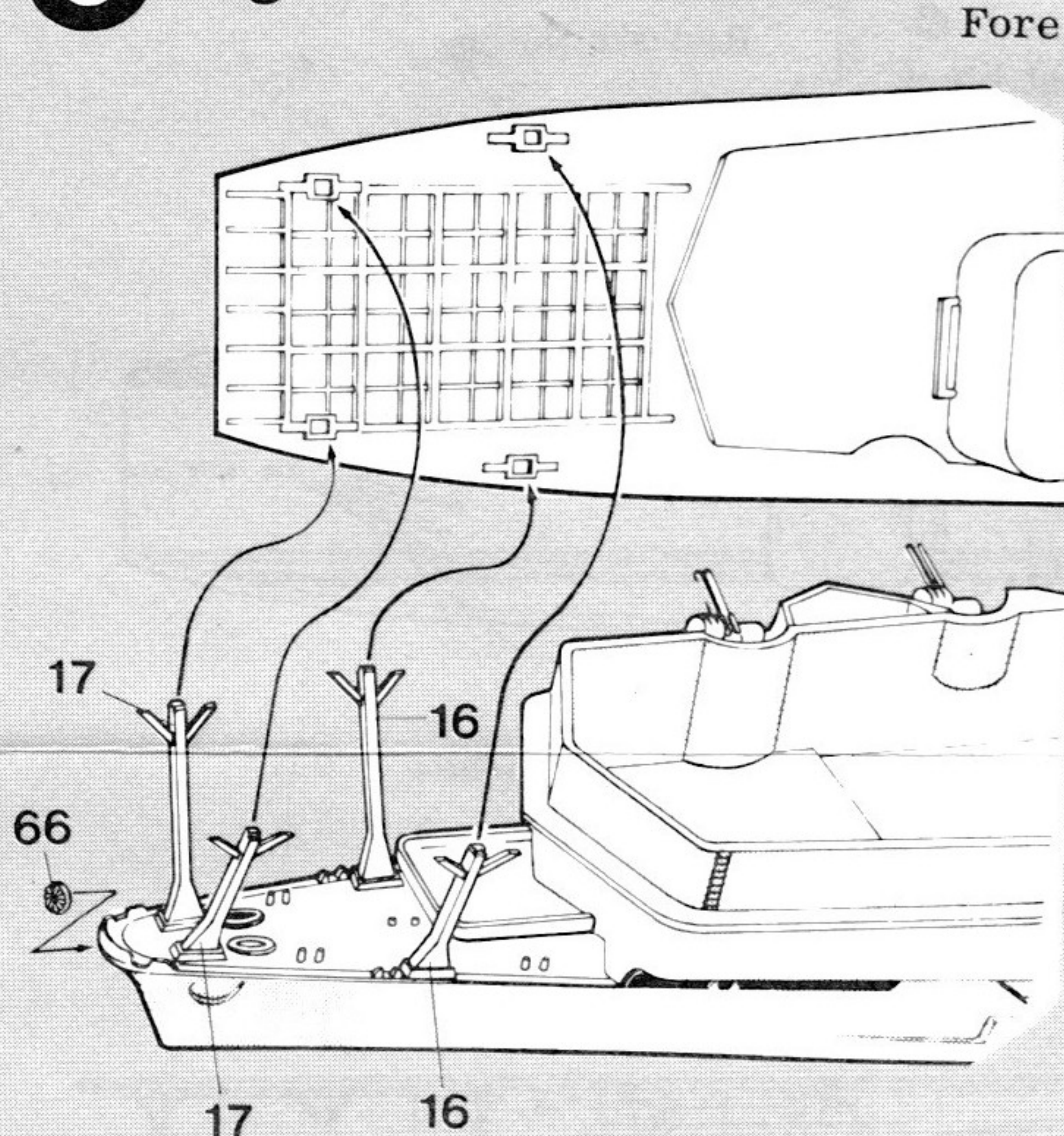


8 Flight Deck Assembly



9 Flight Deck Strut Fitting

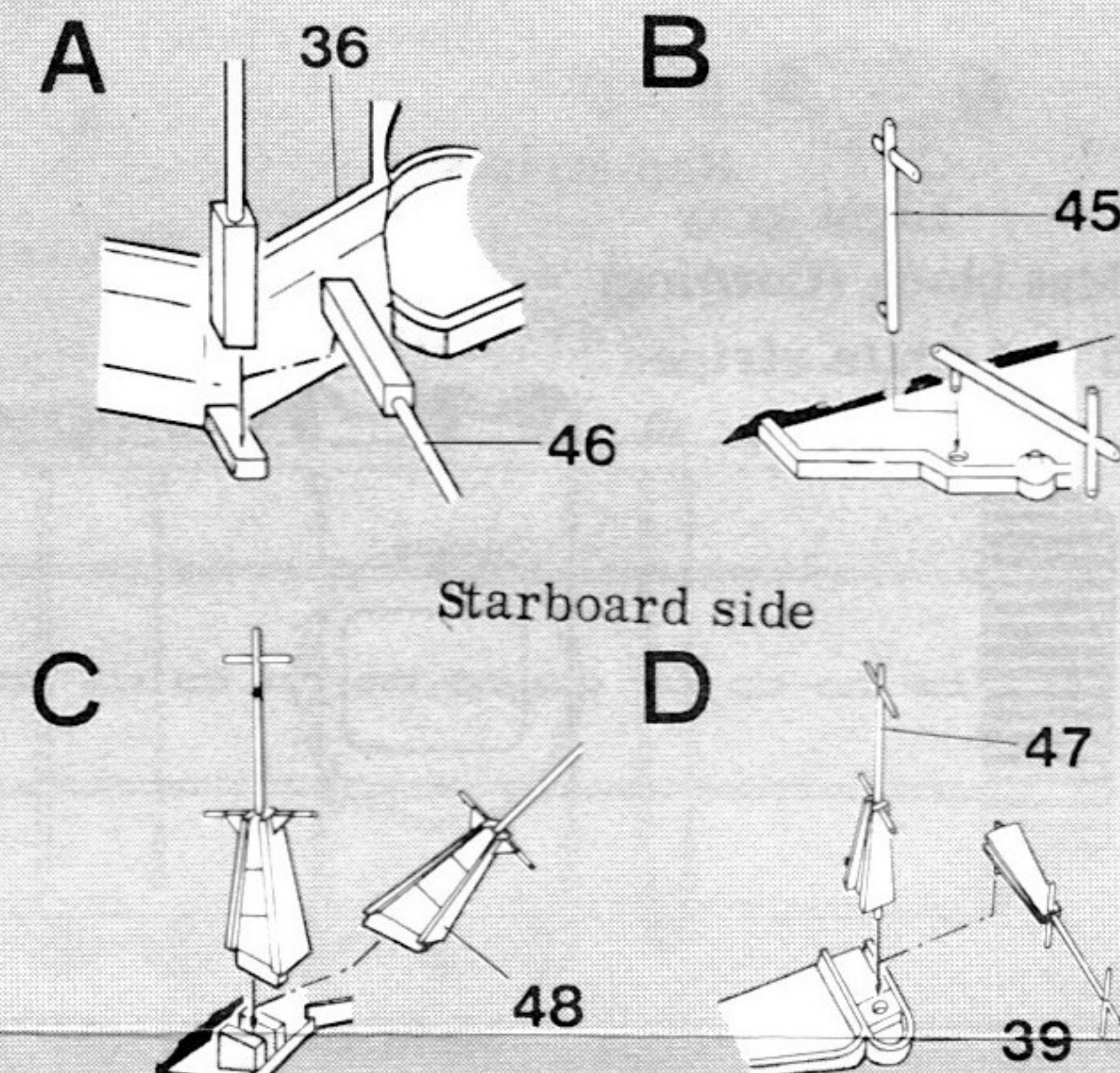
Fore



10 Antenna, Mast Fitting

(Choose either condition)

Port side (When up : cruising
When down : in battle)



The mast slants downward even in the state of battle.

*Remove the tabs to show the elevator in intermediate position. (Reference drawing for elevator fitting)

11 Hull Assembly and Fittings

