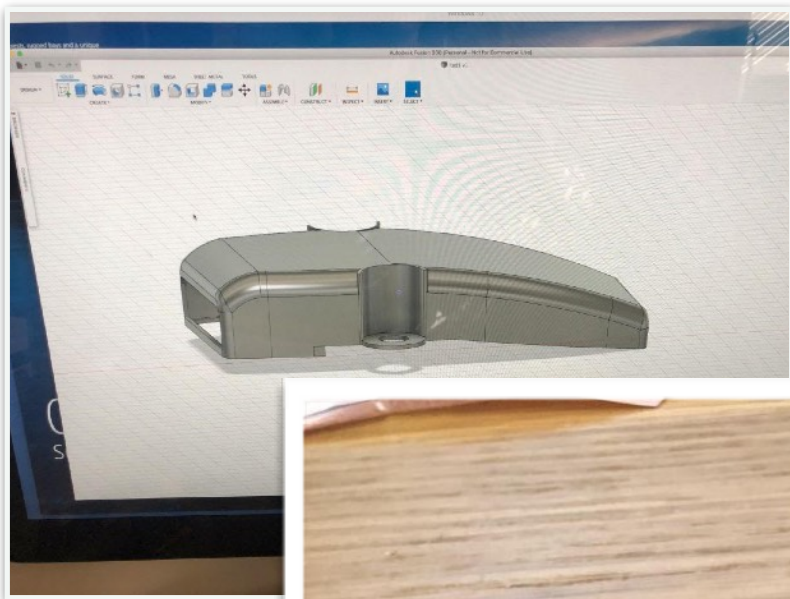# Ron Gray, Lavochkin LA-7 Resurrection, 10

Some progress!

The fuse got covered in laminating film, the most difficult bits being the concave curves on the wing fillets. I tackled these by using a separate strip of film, just wide enough to span the fillets then I tacked them in place on the fuse sides.

To get the laminating film stuck into the concave curve I used a couple of different diameter tubes, one copper one alloy, heating them up in the hot air gun then rubbing them onto the film.

I decided that the under belly radiator / air intake as shown on the plans and the moulded mouth piece provided were a little on the large side so over to the 3D printer. The advantage of doing it this way was that I could incorporate the wing fixing bolts which otherwise would have got in the way.

Then covered with aluminium tape (will be primed and painted).

Following on from the aluminium tape applied to the wings to simulate the access panels, I did the same thing for the fuse, before starting the priming work.

'scuse the crocs in some of these photos!

A close look at the fuse service panel.

I then spent many, many minutes masking the canopy and then priming it.

Other jobs completed, no photos, the wing has been primed and rubbed down. The fuse has had the aluminium tape treatment to the forward section (the full size had metal panels forward of the cockpit) and new gun blisters were 3D printed as I felt that the ones supplied were a little on the large side.

The problem I now have is that the finish is too good! Now that I have rubbed down the primer the surface is silky smooth so I've got to think of a way to 'distress' it a bit, to make it look 'tired' and like it has been in many battles.

The primer has also helped me locate areas where the laminating film was not fully shrunk / ironed down. Whilst I really do like using the laminating film, being clear and very glossy it is sometimes difficult to see wrinkles, but the primer makes them stick out! Fortunately there were very few and were easily got rid of with the sealing iron.