

ATSF's Multicolor Bonnets



Santa Fe Railroad's "Warbonnet" paint scheme was the most highly recognized industrial graphic of the 20th Century. Unfortunately, the Santa Fe exited the passenger business in May 1971, leaving scores of classically attired "warbonnet" locomotives to be repurposed. Because ATSF typically disdained building motive power consists with locomotives wearing different paint schemes, scores of surplus F7s, F9s, FP45s, U28CGs and U30CGs were repainted into either a blue or yellow variant of the bonnet scheme. The first "bluebonnet" is thought to have appeared late in 1971, with the "yellowbonnet" debuting early the following year. There were several variations in the new bonnet schemes, which suggest that a corporate specification was slow to develop. This profile is an attempt to delineate the evolution that eventually occurred.

(ATSF F7A 37C with train #20 - The Chief" - was captured at Barstow, California in March 1967. Larry Sallee photo)

A Photo Review

EMD-Built F7A and FP45 Models



ATSF #271C at Kansas City, KS
T.H. Chenoweth photo



ATSF #304 (Yellow w/blue noseband) at San Bernadino, CA
Dan Dover photo



ATSF #328 (Yellow w/blue nose stripe) at Purcell, OK
Charles Stookey photo



ATSF #335 (Blue/silver) at Kansas City, KS
T.H. Chenoweth photo



ATSF #341 (Yellow w/blue nose band & strippe) at Kansas City, KS
T.H. Chenoweth photo



ATSF #346 (Yellow w/yellow nose band) at Chicago, IL
Tom Chenoweth photo



ATSF #101 at EMD 1989 Open House (Chicago)
R. Craig photo



ATSF #5944 at Los Angeles, CA
Craig Walker photo



ATSF #5942 at Fullerton, CA
Craig Walker photo



GE-Built Passenger U-boat Models



ATSF #359 at Chicago, IL
Ted Ellis photo



ATSF #7906 at Corwith Yd (CChicago)
R. Craig photo



ATSF #7901 at Oklahoma City, OK
Charles Stookey photo



ATSF #404 at Streator, IL
Karl Rethwisch photo



ATSF #8001 (yellow noseband) at Colton, CA
Craig Walker photo



ATSF #8004 (blue noseband) at Corwith - Chicago, IL
Bill Johnson photo

Notes

Format by: R.Craig

New: 1 December 2017

Reference sources:

- Warbonnets by Dan Pope and Mark Lynn
- The Santa Fe Diesel (volumes 1 & 2) by Dr. Cynthia Priest.

"Rail Pictures.net", "RRpicturesarchive.net" and "Flickr" websites were especially helpful here in identify potential photographers and related images. We extend our thanks to these valuable resources. Thanks also to Michael Richmond who was very helpful in identifying and gaining permission to use many of the above photos.

** T.H. Chenoweth and Dan Dover images were from the R. Craig slide collection.