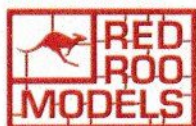
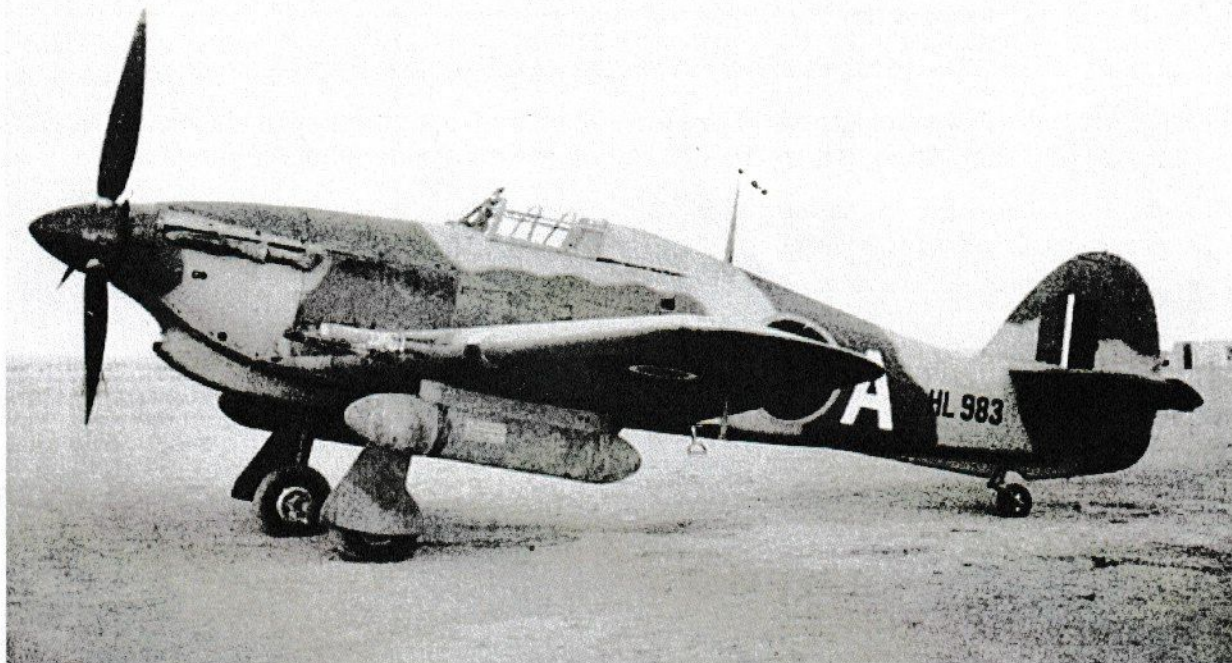


RRD7286



## 451 Squadron RAAF Hurricane Mk.IIc 1/72 Scale Decals for the Arma kit



451 Squadron was an Article XV army cooperation and fighter squadron. It was formed at Bankstown, NSW in February 1941 and began operations with Mk.I Hurricanes for tactical reconnaissance duties as part of the North African Campaign in Egypt and Libya. The squadron was withdrawn for refitting in early January 1942 and spent the remainder of the year performing garrison duties in Syria. In January 1943, it was officially designated as a fighter unit and equipped with Mk.IIc Hurricanes. However, it was employed in Egypt for local air defence and saw almost no combat. The only offensive action during the year was a large raid against Crete on 23 July in which six Hurricanes from 451 joined 50+ from other squadrons to escort a force of Beaufighters and Baltimores. All of the 451 Hurricanes returned safely but losses were heavy during the operation, which appeared to achieve nothing. In October 1943 Spitfires began replacing the Hurricanes.

### **Hurricanes of 451 Squadron**

451 operated the Hawker Hurricane Mk.IIc from January 1943 until October 1943. The references give several known code and serial linkages. The only ones covered by readily available photographs are HL983: A, KZ115: B and BP541: J. There are quoted linkages for BP172: W and BP518: X but no readily available photographs.

HL983 is notable for a replacement panel on the forward fuselage giving an unusual camouflage pattern and BP541 is the aircraft in which Flying Officer Martin Shiels was killed in a take-off accident on 12 Feb 1943.

Photographs are scanty but show 451 had aircraft in both A and B pattern camouflage. This was not unusual amongst desert Hurricanes. The patterns for A, B and J are drawn from such evidence as is available and X and W have randomly allocated patterns.

## Building the 1/72 Arma kit 70036

The Arma kit may be built almost from the box as a 451 example.

1. Drop tanks – Many pictures show 451 aircraft with drop tanks. Resin drop tanks are supplied. They fit over the two lugs on the wing.
2. Vents – Do not remove the tropical air vents.
3. Cannons (Step 32) – Pictures show the Hispano Mk.I cannon Part 42.
6. IFF (Step 32) – Does not appear in pictures, albeit they are probably of insufficient quality to show it. Most likely fitted. It is an 18 inch rod on the centreline aft of the radiator.
7. Aerial – Remove the triangular fitting as indicated in the drawing to the right.
8. Aerial on fin – Remove.
9. Tropical filter – included in the kit as Parts 40 and 41. Use for all 451 aircraft.

### References

ADF-Serials *Hawker Hurricane Mk.I,II, IIb, IIc 3, 450 & 451 Sqns, RAAF*

*We Together 451 and 453 Squadrons at War* Adam Lunney Tempest Books 2020

RAF Commands Hurricane Database  
Geoffrey Sinclair

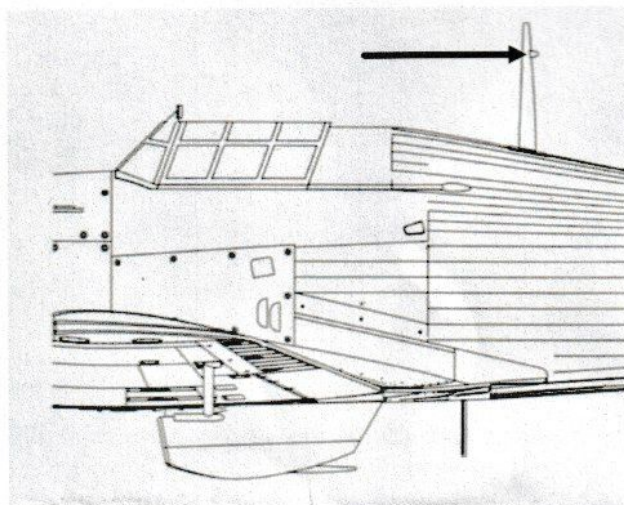
The AWM supplied useful photographs

Troy Smith is a well-known Hurricane expert and provided valuable advice for this decal sheet and conversion notes.

### Decal Application

Warning: When applying decals to the model be very gentle as the decal film is very thin and may tear if mistreated.

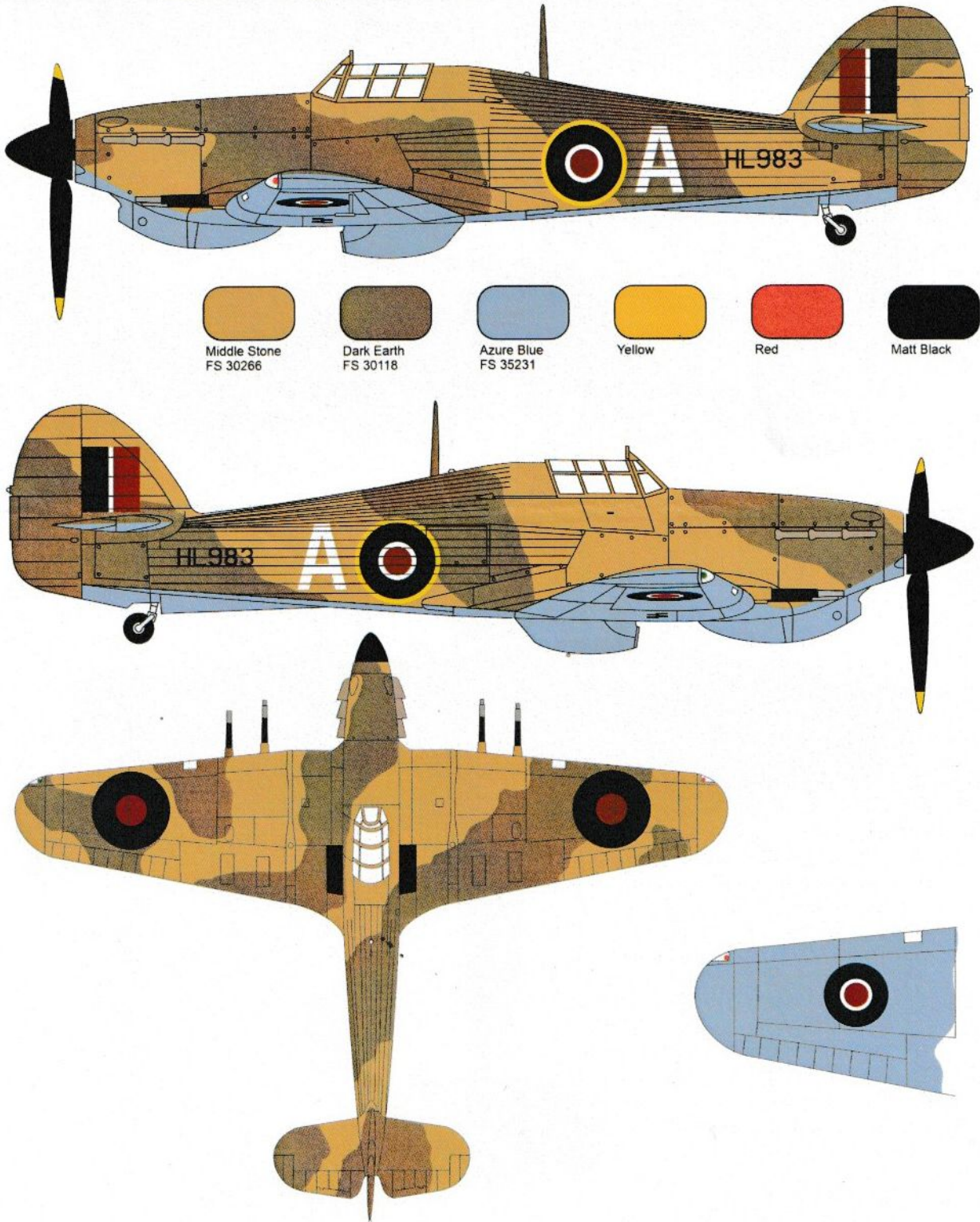
1. Apply a coat of gloss varnish to the model and allow to thoroughly dry before applying the decals.
2. This decal sheet is Alps printed. The end result is a continuous film decal printed on stock decal sheet which behaves the same way as silk screen produced decals. It is also vastly cheaper than silk screen production as it is without the need for large print runs per subject to cover the expensive screen printing costs which in turn result in high retail costs. The decal sheet will require trimming of individual subjects. When you are ready to start applying the decals, we recommend that you cut out the item you want to use to achieve the best result.
3. Soak the decal in warm water to which a drop or two of dishwashing liquid has been added. Allow the decal to rest on a smooth surface for a short period of time and then slide the decal off the backing paper onto model surface.
4. Once on the model and in the right position, lightly press down on the decal with a Q-tip to soak up excess water. You may then apply your favourite decal settling solution and allow to dry. Allow any creases or bubbles to dry thoroughly before piercing with a pin and applying



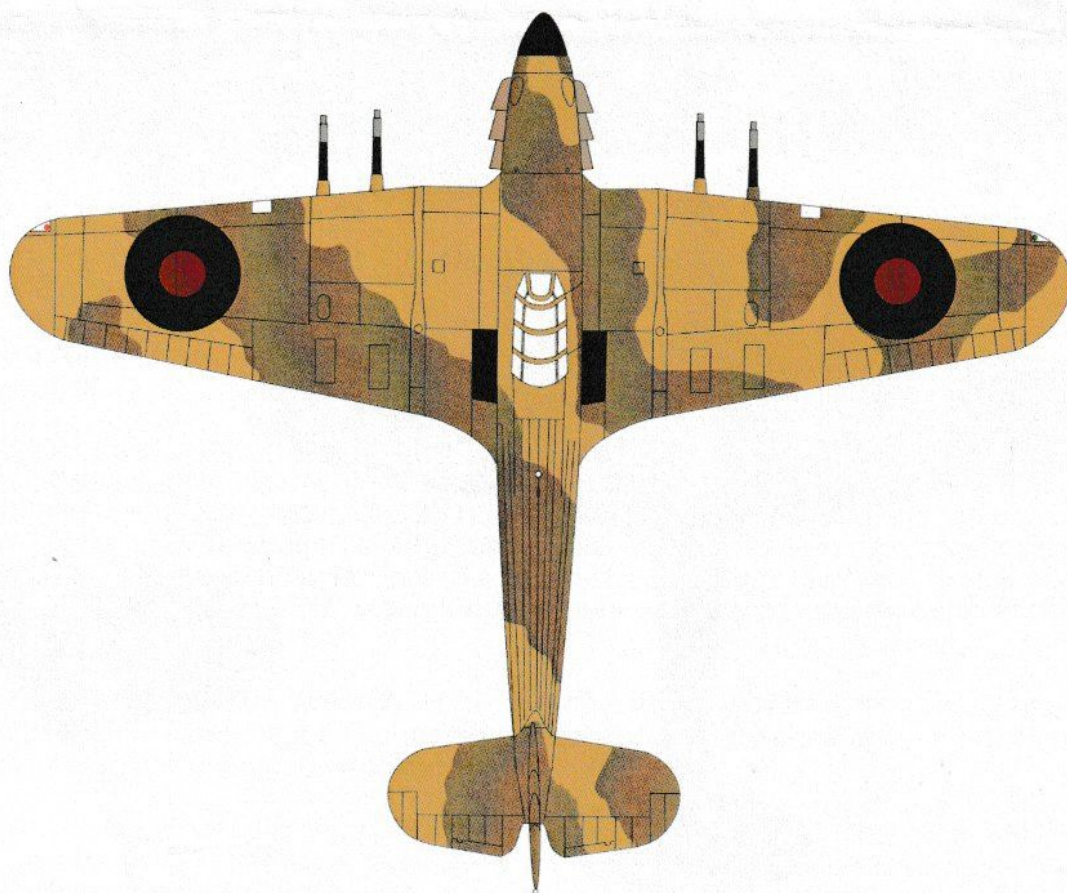
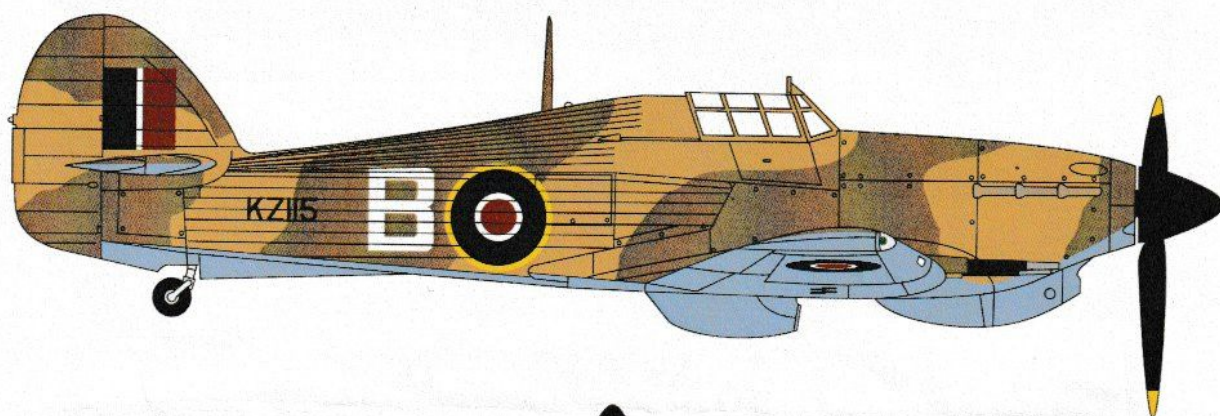
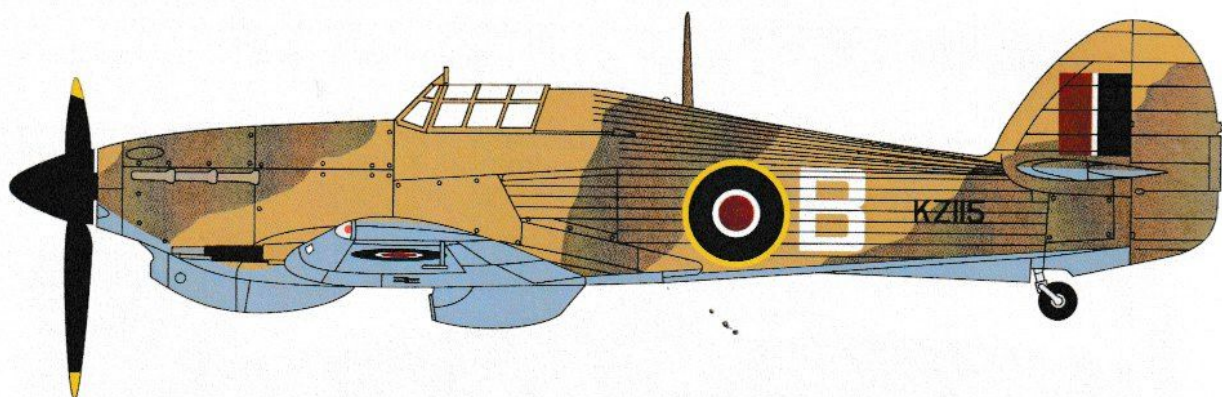
more settling solution to help the decal conform to the surface. Repeat the process as required.

5. Apply a coat of gloss varnish over the entire model once the decals are thoroughly dry. This ensures that the decals are sealed to the model's surface and carrier film is camouflaged.

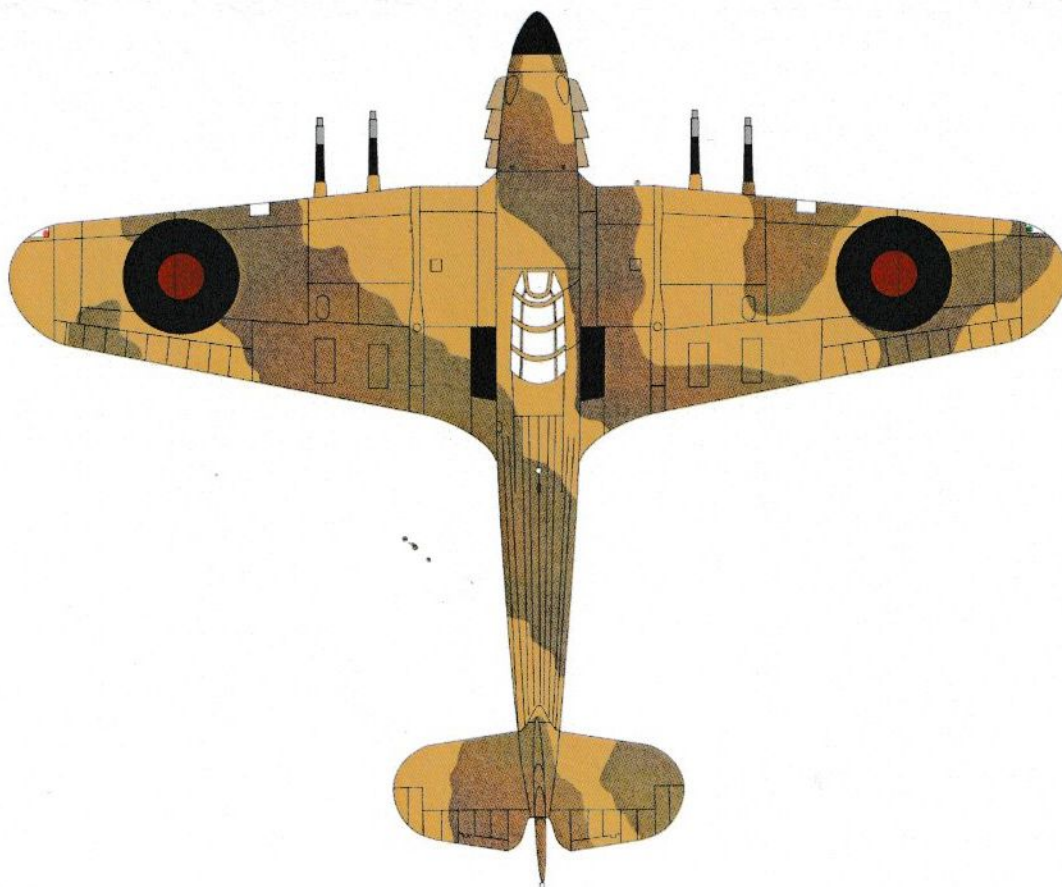
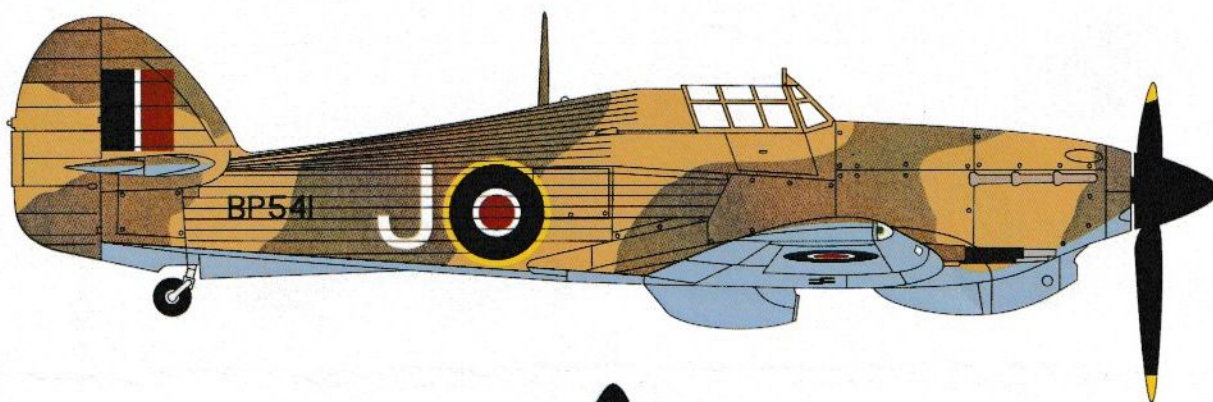
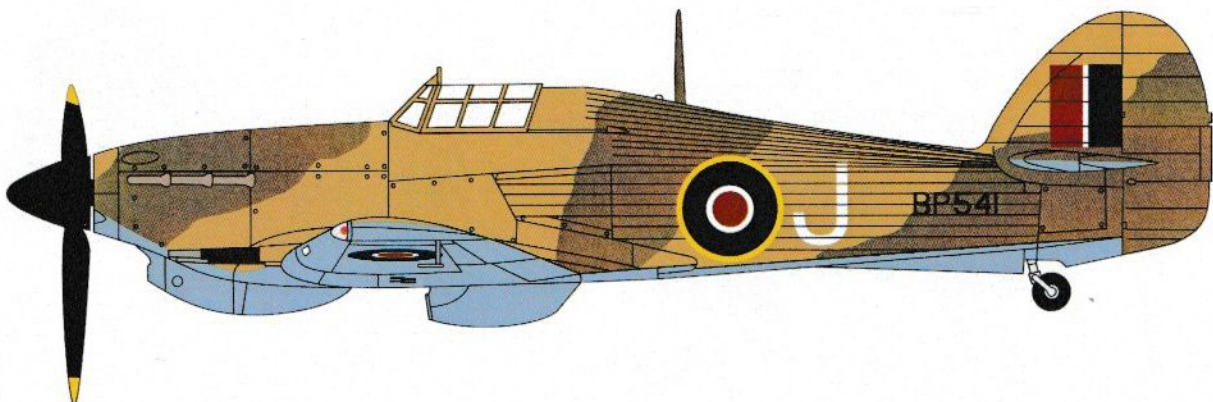
Profile of Hurricane Mk.Ic HL983, A, of 451 Squadron - note the replaced fuselage panel behind the exhausts and beneath the fuel tank.



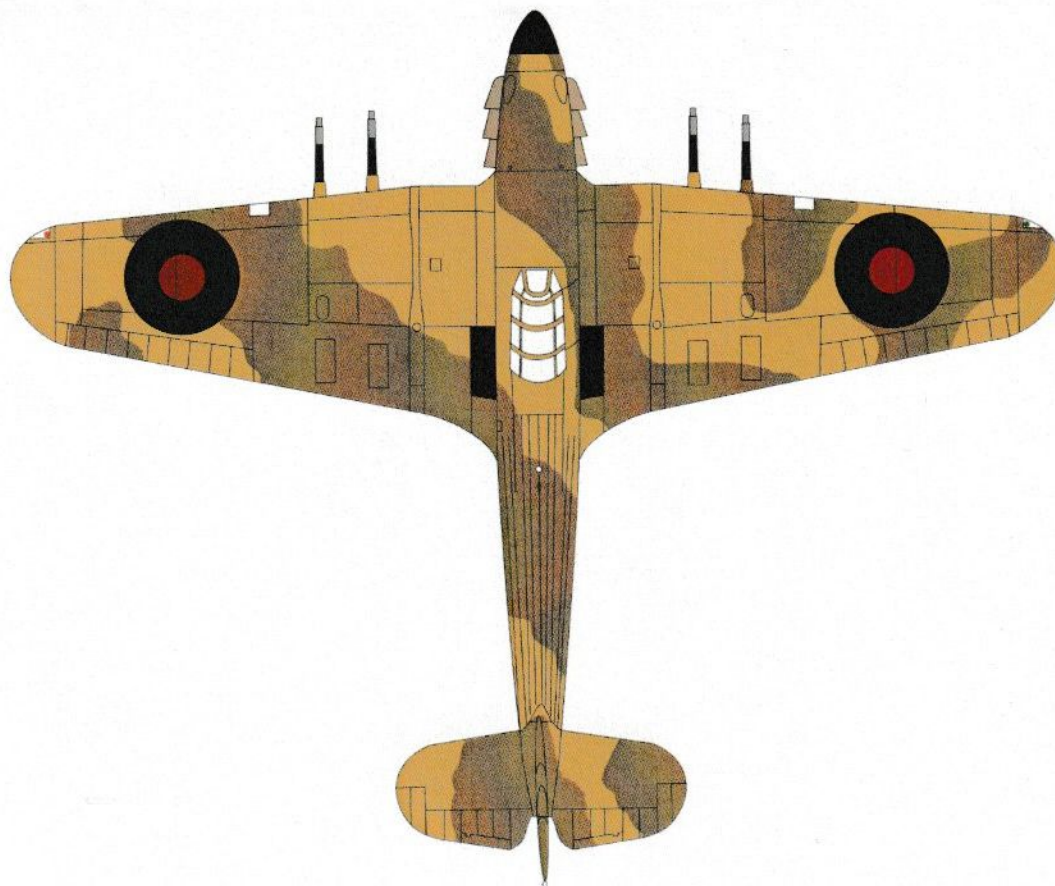
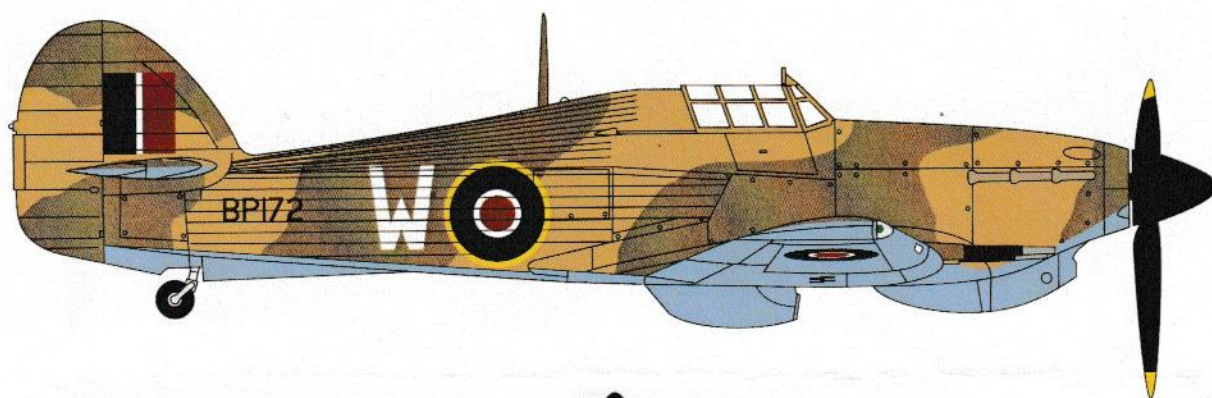
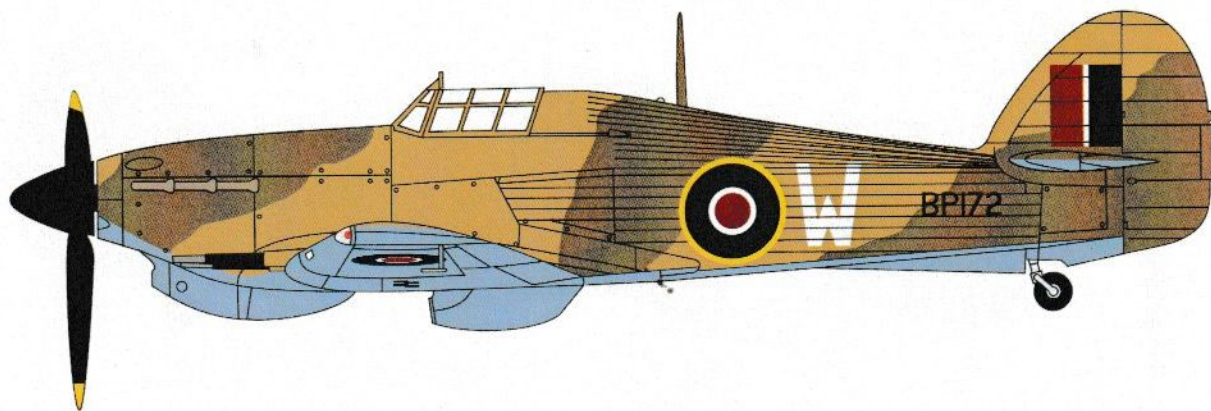
KZ115, B, Hurricane Mk.IIc, Egypt 1943. The fuel tanks are not shown in this drawing.



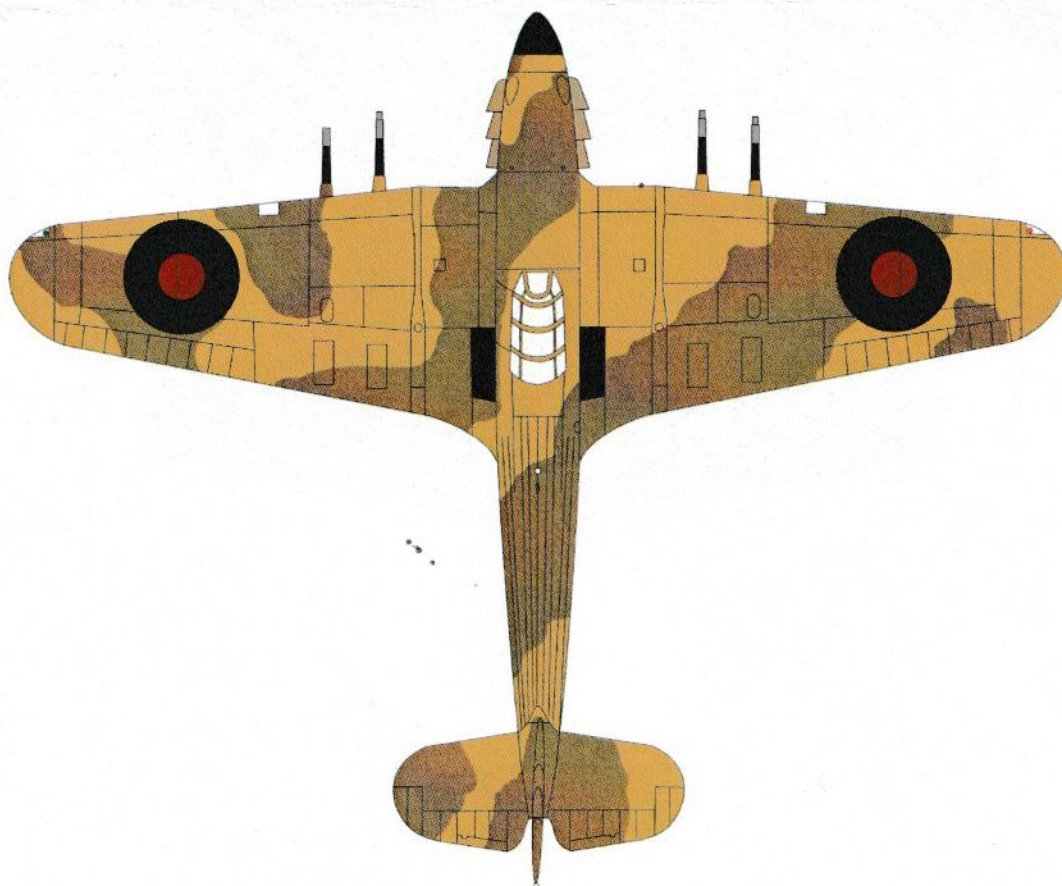
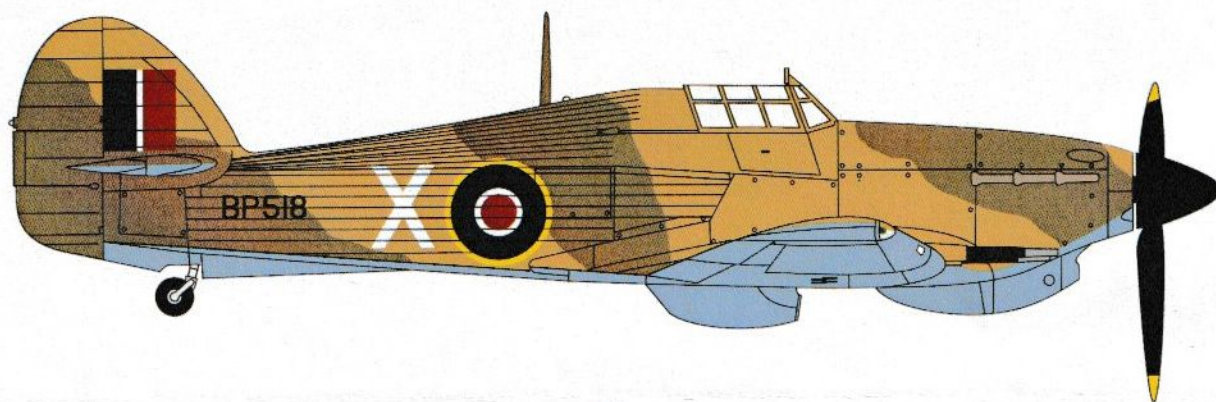
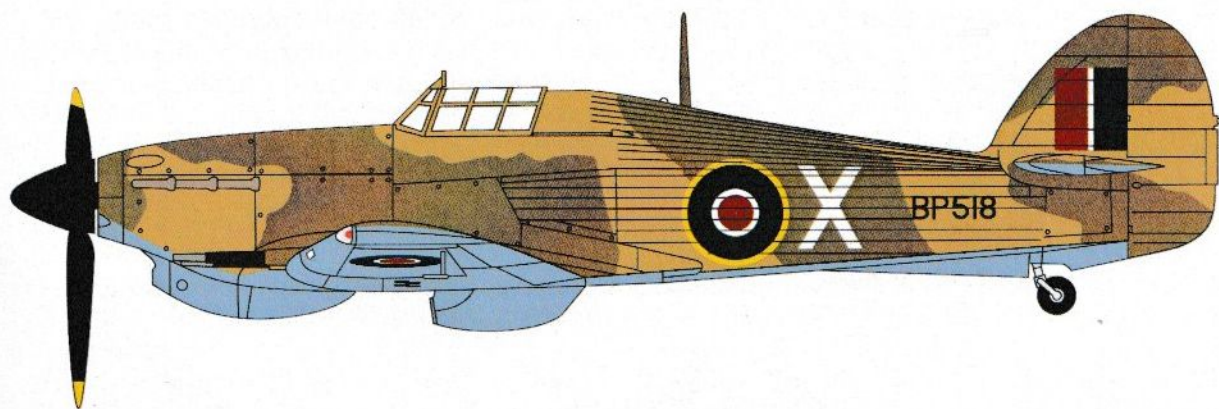
BP541, J is the aircraft in which Flying Officer Martin Shiels was killed in a takeoff accident on 12 Feb 1943.



BP172, W, Hurricane Mk.IIc of 451 Squadron. The serial and code are known from documentary records but no photographs are available. This profile is conjectural.



BP518, X, Hurricane Mk.Ic, of 451 Squadron. The serial and code are known from documentary records but not photographs are available. This profile is conjectural.



**Bonus – Hurricane Mk.IIb, 451 Squadron RAAF, BN162, M**

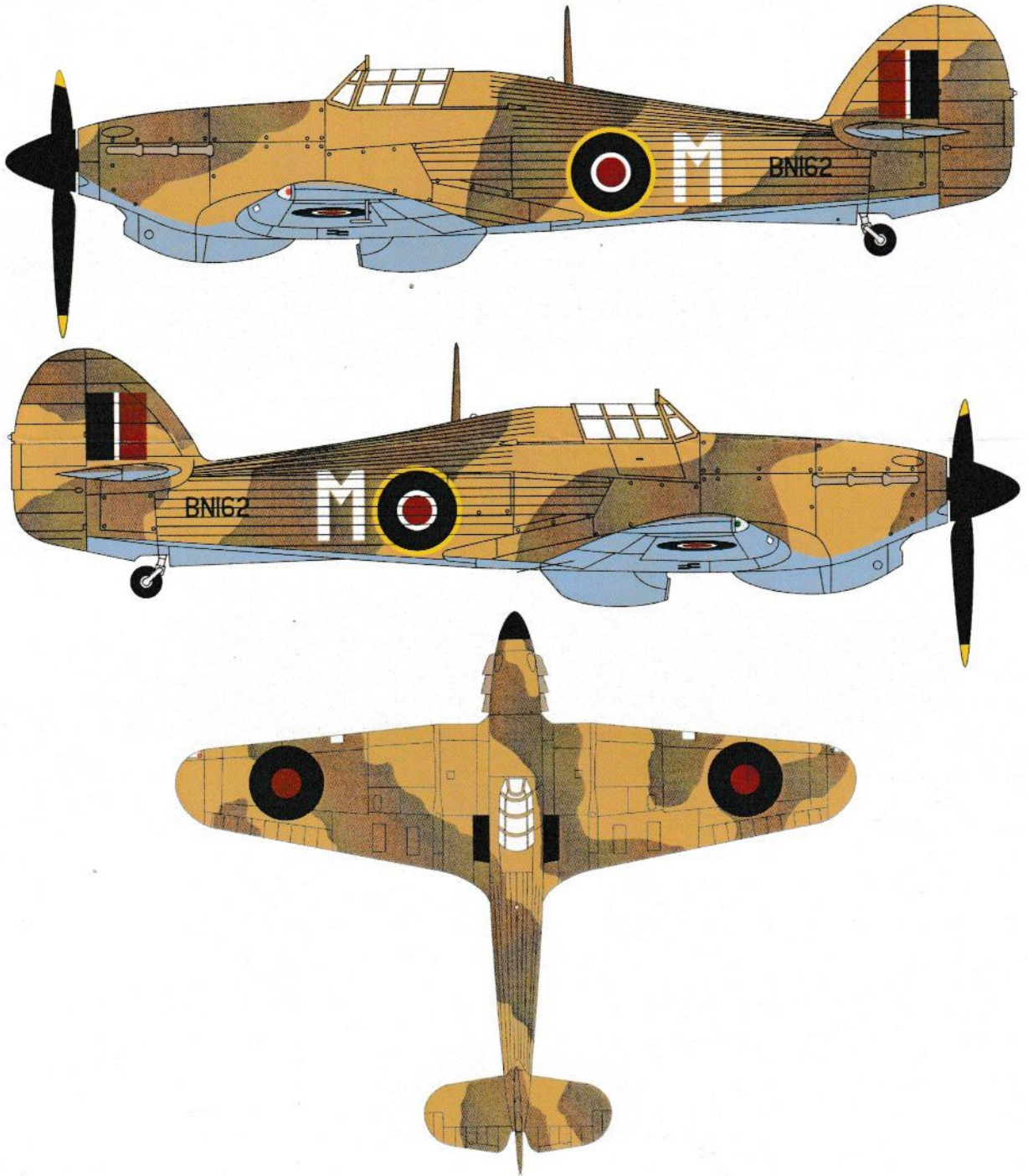
ADF Serials lists a serial and code match for BN162, M. No pictures exist but it is a reasonable supposition that it looked like the Hurricanes which have been photographed.

**Arma Hobby kits 70035 and 70036**

Don't use – there are other Hurricane Mk.IIb available from Revell and Airfix.

**Arma Hobby kit 70042**

Build either as a Mk.IIb or IIc.





© 2023 Red Roo Models

All rights reserved. Apart from any fair dealings for the purpose of study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the Copyright Act 1968, the Copyright Amendment Act 2006 and subsequent Amendments, no part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, printed, recording or other digital means, without prior permission from the publisher. All enquiries should be directed to Red Roo Models.

We state that we are using trademark names in an editorial context with no intention of infringement of those trademarks. Trademarked names, as always, remain the property of their respective owners.

Red Roo Models  
PO Box 113,  
Glen Waverley, Vic 3150  
AUSTRALIA

Web: [www.redroomodels.com](http://www.redroomodels.com)  
Email: [redroo@redroomodels.com](mailto:redroo@redroomodels.com)