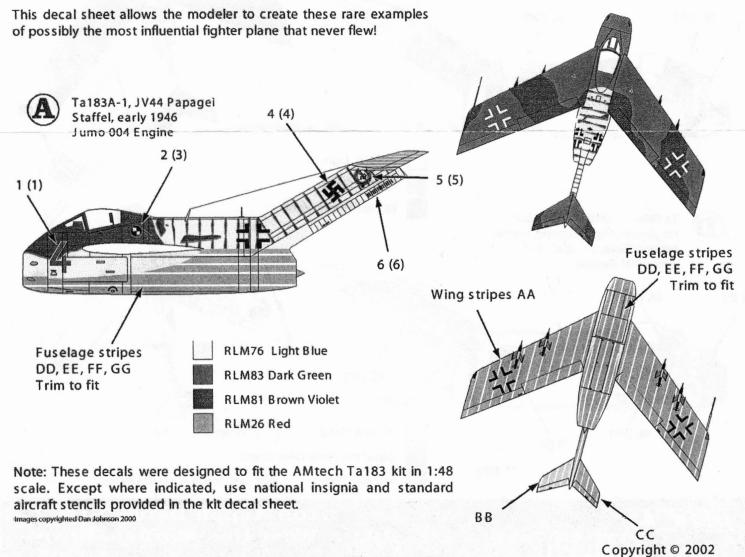
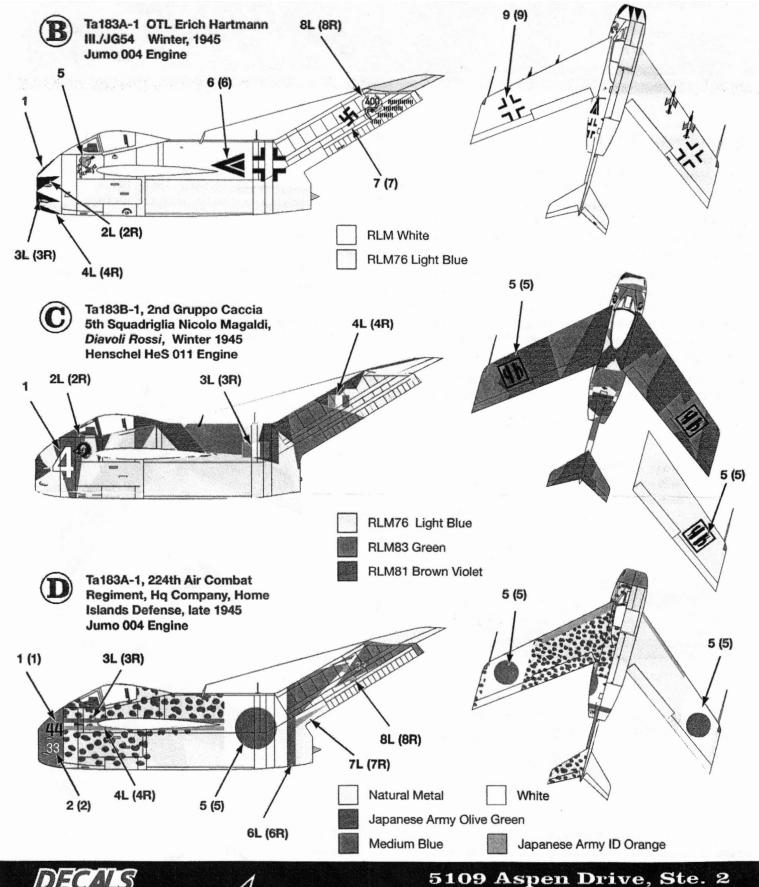


## Ta183 Huckebein TGR-48101 1/48th Scale

The Ta183 began life as a jet fighter design study in early 1944. Dipl.-Eng Multhopp headed the Focke-Wulf design team which conceived Entwurf 5, a swept-wing fighter powered by both a turbojet and a small bi-fuel rocket motor. Later, the rocket was deleted and Focke-Wulf proposed three versions of the jet, now called Entwurf 2, to the RLM: an interceptor, a fighter-bomber, and a fighter-reconnaissance model. In early 1945, the Luftwaffe ordered the type into production as the Ta183 and the first of sixteen prototypes was to be delivered for flight tests in March of 1945. The collapse of Germany prevented any of the prototype Huckebeins from being built, and the Focke-Wulf plant, many of its personnel, and the plans for the Ta183 were captured by the Soviets. The project was continued in the USSR, leading directly to the development of the MiG-15.

Had the war continued, the Ta183 would certainly have been in widespread Luftwaffe service in late 1945 and early 1946. It would have seen use by such units as JV44's Papagei Staffel (Parrot Squadron) for airfield defense of the elite fighter unit led by Generalmajor Adolf Galland. Top aces such as Oberstleutnant Erich Hartmann would have added to their impressive victory tally flying the Huckebein. And it would not be unusual to find the Ta183 being flown by the crack fighter units of Germany's allies against the great strategic bomber fleets appearing daily in the skies over Japan and northern Italy.





Miech

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