

\$1.00

**DE  
AUTHENTICALS  
ALS**

SHEET #1  
P-51B  
1/72 Scale

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE  
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER  
INTERNATIONAL PLASTIC MODELER'S SOCIETY

THE DIRECTORS

DON GARRETT  
Production  
2491 21ST AVE.  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

JACK PERELLA  
Sales & Marketing  
3699 HIGHLAND RD.  
LAFAYETTE, CALIF. 94549

TOM KNOTT  
So. Cal. Representative  
309A W. MATILLJA  
OJAI, CALIF.

March 25, 1967

To our Fellow Modelers:-

Your purchase of this decal sheet serves as a contribution to the Northern California Chapter of the International Plastic Modeler's Society. The net profits of AUTHENTICALS are used to finance Chapter projects.

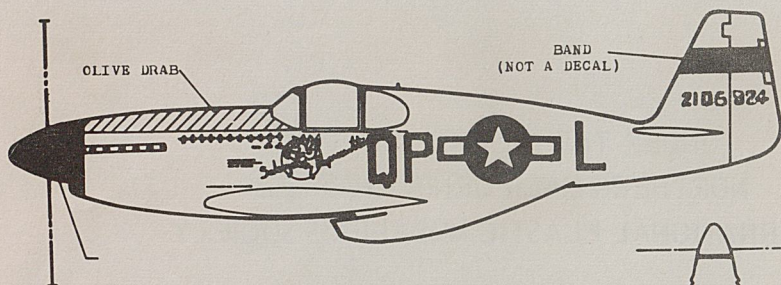
But far from being a charitable venture we believe that these decals are among the finest available. They have been printed with extra glue. When put on, they will stay on. They have been printed with enamel rather than laquer paints to avoid cracking or peeling with age. The finish is matt. The film itself is tough and flexible.

This sheet is but one of a series. Our continuing goal will be to produce the most accurate, technically perfect decals possible. Mistakes will no doubt be made, either because adequate information is not available or through human error. But it is our hope that with your help, and the help of IPMS members around the world, that such mistakes can be kept to a minimum.

We invite your comments and wish you the best of modeling fortune.

THE DIRECTORS





NORTH AMERICAN P-51B-15-NA (42-106924) "Salem Representative"

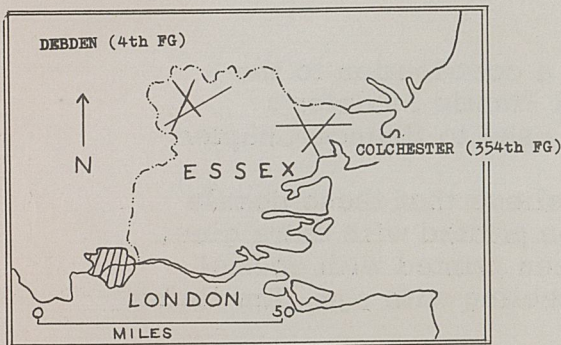
Unit: 334th Fighter Squadron, 4th Fighter Group, U.S. 8th Air Force.  
 Base: Debden, England.  
 Time: early May, 1944.  
 Pilot: Ralph K. "Kid" Hofer.

On April 5th Hofer loaned his plane to another pilot. It was shot down near Potsdam. The same thing happened on the 29th. Hofer's new plane, the one he would fly to fame, is the subject of the decal sheet. In this aircraft he ran his string of 11½ victories (early May) up to 30½ before he was shot down over Hungary while on a Russia-Italy shuttle raid July 2, 1944. The exact circumstances of Hofer's death remained a mystery for many years after the war but it now appears that he fell to the guns of Erich Hartmann, of I/JG52, Germany's greatest ace with 340 victories. Hofer was actually flying another machine, coded QP-X, when shot down.

**Color Scheme and Markings:**

Overall: Bare Metal.  
 Anti-glare Panel: Olive Drab 41.  
 Propeller: blades - black with 4" Identification Yellow tips, spinner (and nose) - Red (as shown).  
 Identification Bands: Black (not a decal), as per Gentile.  
 Interior: Zinc Chromate.

On June 5, 1944 the aircraft was painted with "invasion stripes." The black I.D. bands were retained. Hofer had his full 30½ victories at the time.



**REFERENCES**

- (1) -----; kit plans for Monogram 1/48 P-51B.  
 Gives information on Major Howard.
- (2) Atkins, Richard; *The North American P-51B & C Mustang*; Profile Publications; aircraft series No. 100.  
 Lead photo shows Gentile's ship as featured on decal sheet.
- (3) Brown, K.S., E.F. Heyn, R.A. Freeman, M.J.F. Bowyer, and P. Berry; *United States Army and Air Force Fighters - 1916-1961*, Harleyford Publications, Letchworth, Hertfordshire, England.  
 Cover shows Gentile's aircraft.
- (4) Dial, Jay Frank; *United States Camouflage WW II*; Scale Reproductions; Dallas, Tex.; 1964.  
 The color chips in this book served as the basis for the paint formulas given.
- (5) Gentile, Don S.; *One Man Air Force*; American Book - Stratford Press, Inc.; N.Y.; 1944.  
 Contains several excellent pictures of Gentile. Essentially his biography, thoughts about air fighting and flying.
- (6) Hall, Grover C.; *1000 Destroyed*; Morgan Aviation Books, Dallas; 1946.  
 "The life and times of the 4th Fighter Group."
- (7) Morgan, Len; *The P-51 Mustang*; Morgan Aviation Books; Dallas; 1963.  
 Center fold features drawing of Howard's plane. Book also has drawings of Gentile's and Hofer's planes.
- (8) Musciano, Walter; Don Gentile: *One Man Air Force*; *American Modeler*; May, 1962.
- (9) Rust, Kenn C.; *Last of the Red Hot Pilots*; *A.A.H.S. Journal*; Vol. 9, No.2 (Summer, 1964).  
 Excellent article on "Kid" Hofer which provided much of the information for the sheet.

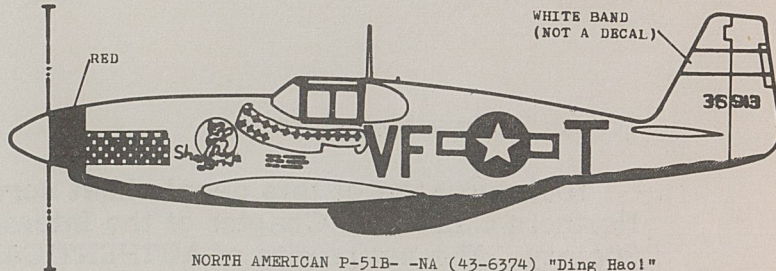
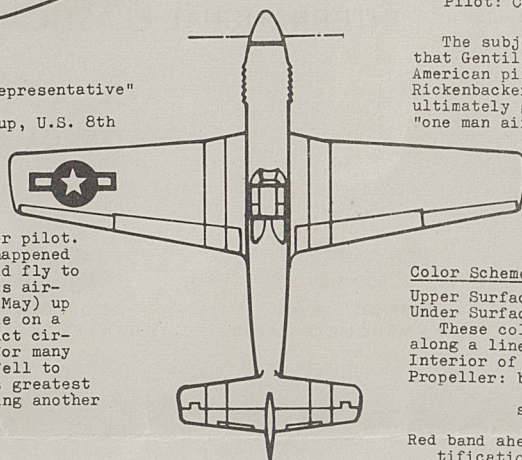
NORTH AMERICAN P-51B-5-NA (43-6913) "Shangri-La"

Unit: 336th Fighter Squadron, 4th Fighter Group, U.S. 8th Air Force.  
 Base: Debden, England (see map).  
 Time: March 1944  
 Pilot: Captain Don Salvadore "Gentile" Gentile

The subject of the decal sheet is the same aircraft that Gentile flew in early April when he became the first American pilot of World War 2 to surpass Capt. Eddie Rickenbacker's WWI record of 26 victories. Gentile ultimately gained 30 victories and was once called a "one man air force" by General Eisenhower. Gentile became a national hero but unfortunately this aircraft, which had carried him to such success, was "pranged" (crashed and destroyed) while Don was stunting for the newsreel cameras during mid-April.

**Color Scheme and Markings:**

Upper Surfaces: Olive Drab 41.  
 Under Surfaces: Neutral Grey 43.  
 These colors were blended into each other by overspraying along a line approximating that shown on the drawing.  
 Interior of cockpit and wheelwells: Zinc Chromate.  
 Propeller: blades - black with 4" (prototype) Identification Yellow 48 tips, spinner - rear 1/3 (as shown) Bright Red, forward 2/3 white.  
 Red band ahead of exhausts (as shown). This was the identification marking of the 4th FG.  
 White "12" (prototype) identification bands on wings and stabilizer, (as shown).



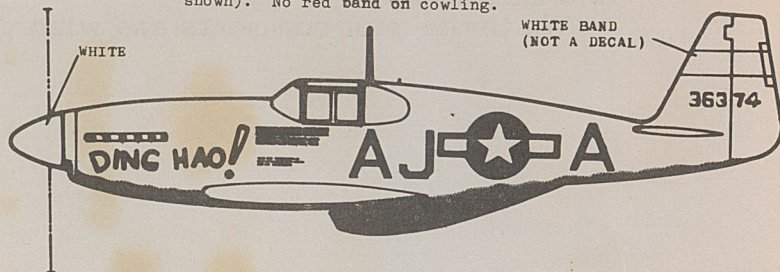
NORTH AMERICAN P-51B-NA (43-6374) "Ding Hao!"

Unit: 356th Fighter Squadron, 354th Fighter Group, U.S. 9th Air Force.  
 Base: Colchester, England (see map)  
 Time: January, 1944.  
 Pilot: Major James H. Howard

The 354th Fighter Group was the first unit in the E.T.O. to be equipped with the P-51B, beginning operations on the type in December, 1943. One of the pilots in this group was Major James Howard, who was already an ace from his service in the American Volunteer Group (the "Flying Tigers") over China. On January 11, 1944 Major Howard single-handedly routed a formation of 30 Bf-110's that were attacking a group of B-17's over Germany. Howard shot down three of the attackers, damaging three more, and for this action received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

**Color Scheme and Markings:**

Same as Gentile's "Shangri-La" except;  
 All of spinner, and leading part of cowling, white (as shown). No red band on cowling.



**COLOR CHART**

Color	Pactra	Parts	Flo-Quil
Olive Drab 41	Anti-Glare Green	1	5 RR45 Fullman Green
	Flat Roof Brown	1	2 RR31 Reefer Yellow
Neutral Gray 43	Flat White	2	12 RR11 Reefer White
	Hot Rod Primer	1	3 RR10 Engine Black
			2 RR20 Caboose Red
			2 RR50 Dark Blue
Red	Flat Insignia Red		RR20 Caboose Red
Black	Flat Black		RR10 Engine Black
Zinc Chromate	Flat Yellow	5	1 RR31 Reefer Yellow
	Anti-Glare Green	1	2 RR41 Light Green
Identification	Flat Yellow	5	RR31 Reefer Yellow
Yellow 48	Flat Red	1	

For the bare metal finish on Hofer's aircraft we recommend "Rub-n-Buff", a silvering paste available at many hobby shops and craft stores. For best results it should be applied over a base of Flat White (Pactra or Flo-Quil). It is difficult to mask on "Rub-n-Buff" so I.D. bands, anti-glare panels, etc., should be painted first and masked off.