

Third Group Decals™

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1:48 scale

48-008

JG 77, I(J)/LG 2 1940-41

Messerschmitt Bf 109E-1/3/4

Red <<: Bf 109E-3, WNr.5057, of Hauptmann Herbert Ihlefled, Kommandeur of II(J)/LG 2, based in France, after his 32nd victory on March 13, 1941. JG 52 badge carried as I(J)/LG 2 was under JG 52's operational control while in France. Nonstandard upper wing crosses. Upper surfaces repainted with RLM 74/75. RLM 65 sides and lower surfaces retained. Heavy RLM 74/75 fuselage mottling. Upper wing surfaces have RLM 75 mottling. Yellow spinner, engine cowl and rudder.

Very nonstandard red Gruppe Kommandeur chevrons and bands on vertical and upper horizontal tails. Thirty-two kills on left rudder. Optional kills provided for right rudder. Note the Peil Gerät IV antenna fairing under the fuselage; the oddly positioned first aid cross; the #6 frame number on the panel line; and the overspray around the faired-over tail wheel well. This same aircraft, in different markings, had previously been flown by "Pips" Priller during the Battle of Britain. Reference A (all aircraft): page 476.

Red <<: Ihlefled's aircraft in Kescckemet, Hungary, at the outset of the Balkans Campaign, April 1941, just a few weeks later than depicted above. Camouflage as before, but with yellow ID markings added to the wings, fuselage and horizontal stabilizers. Red band on vertical fin painted over, though only partially on the rudder, which now reflects an additional 3 kills (Spitfires) for a total of 35. Optional kills provided for right rudder. Pages 511 & 512.

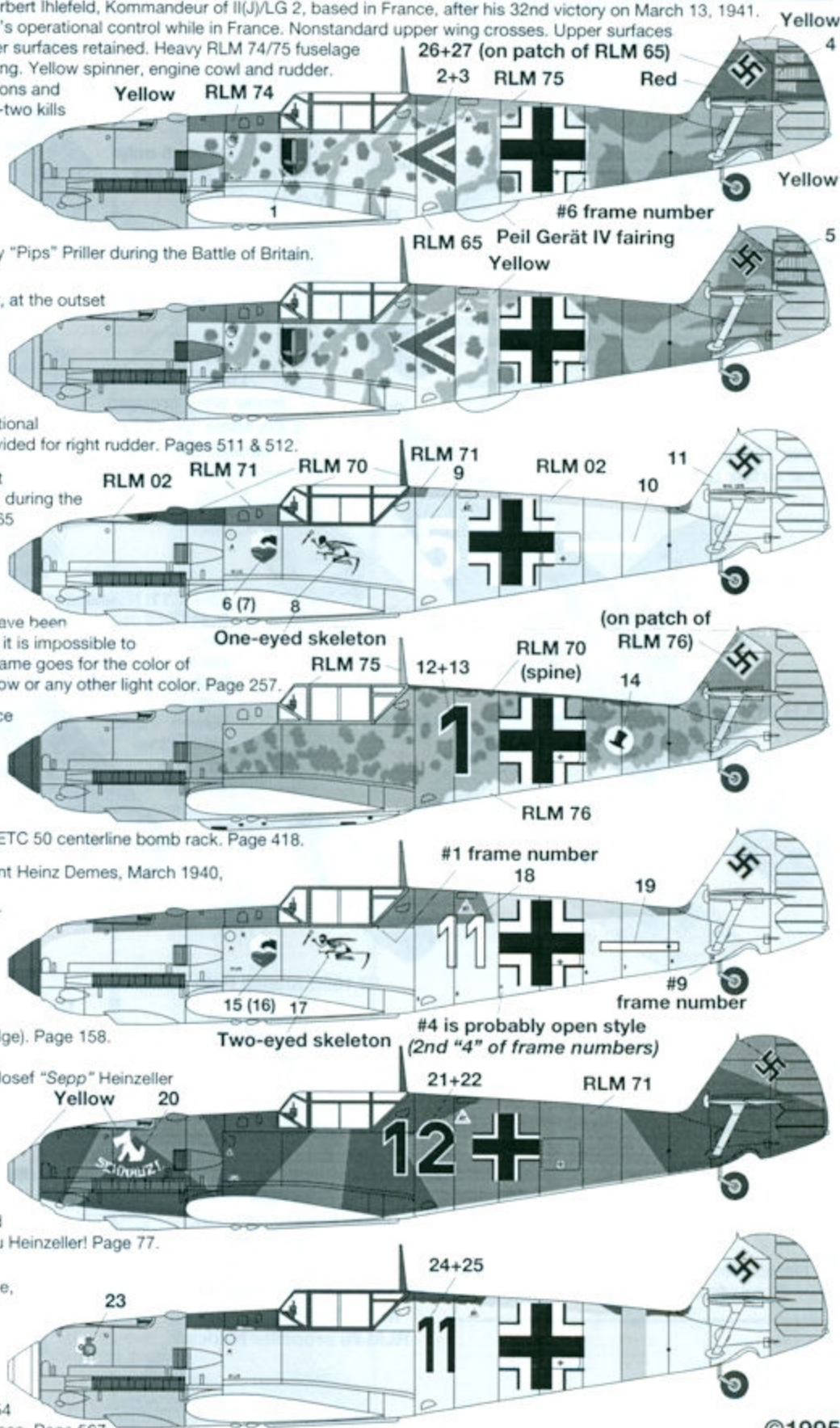
White 5: Bf 109E-1, WNr.1276, flown by Leutnant Jakob Arnoldy, 4./JG 77 based at Mandat, France, during the Battle of Britain, September 1940. RLM 70/71/02/65 with yellow spinner, RLM 70 spinner backplate, canopy framing, antenna mast, and light-colored upper wingtips. Note the forward position of White 5, the fuselage cross, and the white 2nd Gruppe bar. The 2nd Gruppe bar may have been in the standard position (see White 11, below), but it is impossible to determine such from the washed-out photo. The same goes for the color of the upper wingtips: it could be RLM 65, white, yellow or any other light color. Page 257.

Black 1: Bf 109E-4/B of 2.(J)/LG 2 based in France during November of 1940 for Jabo operations. RLM 74/75/76 with the fuselage sides heavily mottled with RLM 74/75. RLM 70 spinner and fuselage dorsal spine. Yellow engine cowl, scalloped forward cowl and rudder. Staffel badge (on both sides) aft of the fuselage cross. Note the ETC 50 centerline bomb rack. Page 418.

White 11: Bf 109E-4 of 4./JG 77 flown by Leutnant Heinz Demes, March 1940, while based at Westerland/Sylt, Germany. Early 1940 camouflage scheme of RLM 71/02 over high-sided RLM 65 with a full complement of frame numbers. Standard 1940-style crosses. Note the letter "K" forward of the left Gruppe badge (decal 15) and the location of the manufacturer's data plate (data plate top edge roughly parallel with the bottom of the Gruppe badge). Page 158.

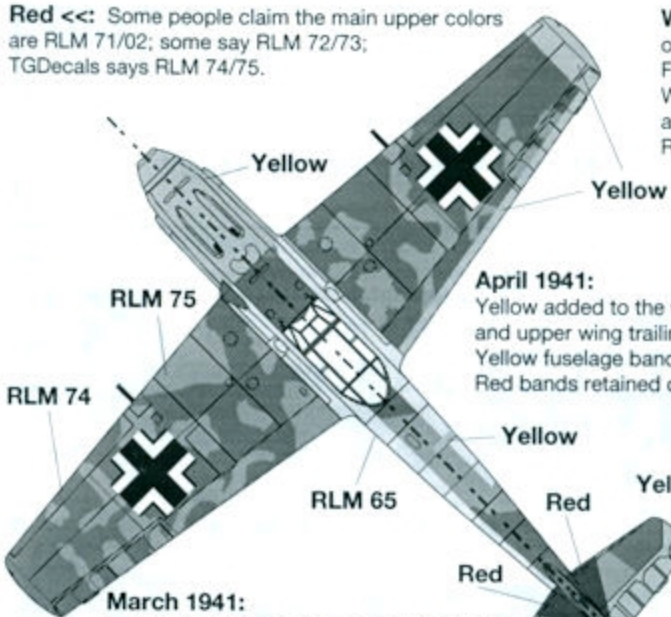
Black 12: Bf 109E-1 of 2.(J)/LG 2 flown by Uffz. Josef "Sepp" Heinzeller during the Polish Campaign of September 1939. Standard early-war Luftwaffe splinter camouflage of RLM 70/71/65. Yellow spinner and cowl gun troughs. Narrow crosses carried throughout. Swastika on rudder hinge line. Note the forward position of Black 12 and the fuselage cross. "Schnauzi" was the name of Heinzeller's childhood Scottish Terrier and was also his pet name for Frau Heinzeller! Page 77.

Black 11: Bf 109E-4 of III/JG 77 at Molaoi, Greece, just before the assault on Crete, May 1941. RLM 70/02 over RLM 65 side and undersurfaces. White spinner. Yellow engine cowl, wing and elevator trailing edges, fuselage band and rudder. Note the soft-edge demarcation of the forward cowl and fuselage spine. Badge of 8./JG 54 (decal 25), its former unit, is on both sides of the nose. Page 567.

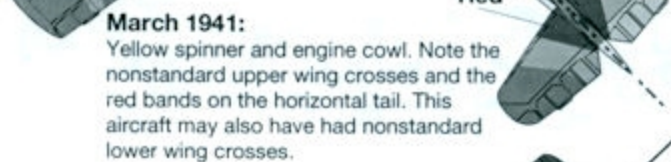


Red <<: Some people claim the main upper colors are RLM 71/02; some say RLM 72/73; TGD decals says RLM 74/75.

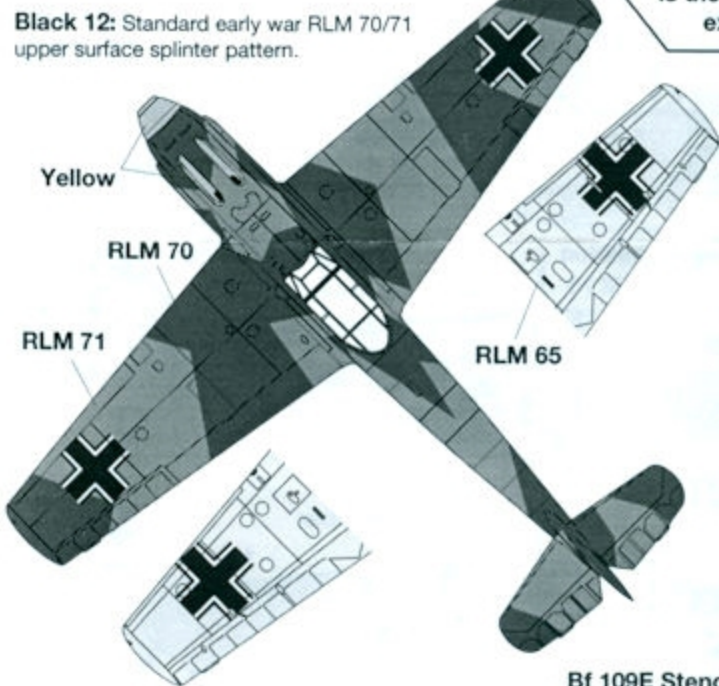
White 5, Black 1 and White 11: Late camouflage splinter pattern of RLM 71/02/65 (White 5 & 11) and RLM 74/75/76 (Black 1). Fuselage spine and engine cowl patterns of White 5 & 11 are not the same. White 5 also has a different colored spinner. Refer to profiles on page 1.



April 1941:
Yellow added to the wingtips and upper wing trailing edges.
Yellow fuselage band and elevators.
Red bands retained on horizontal tail.

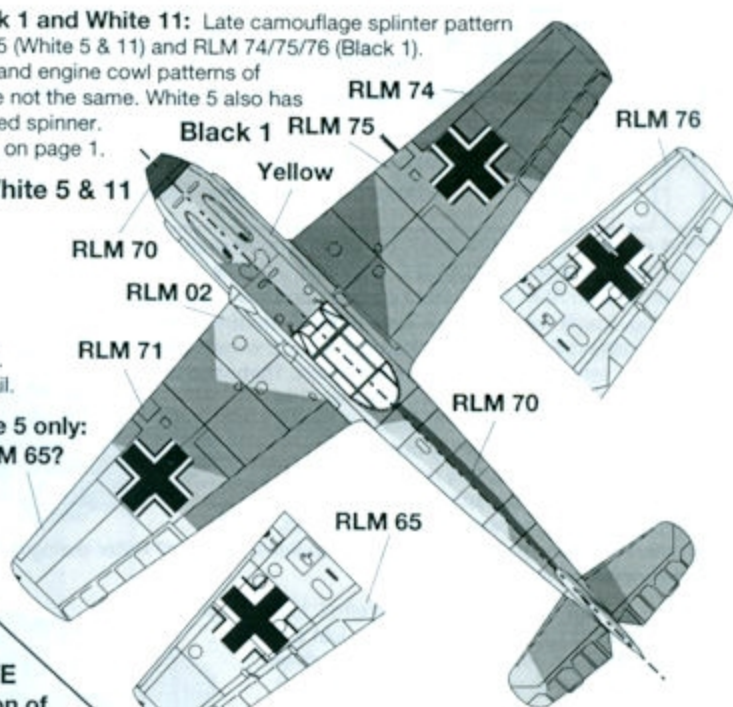


March 1941:
Yellow spinner and engine cowl. Note the nonstandard upper wing crosses and the red bands on the horizontal tail. This aircraft may also have had nonstandard lower wing crosses.



Black 12: Standard early war RLM 70/71 upper surface splinter pattern.

NOTE
Location of lower wing crosses is the same for all Emilis, except Black 12.



White 5 & 11

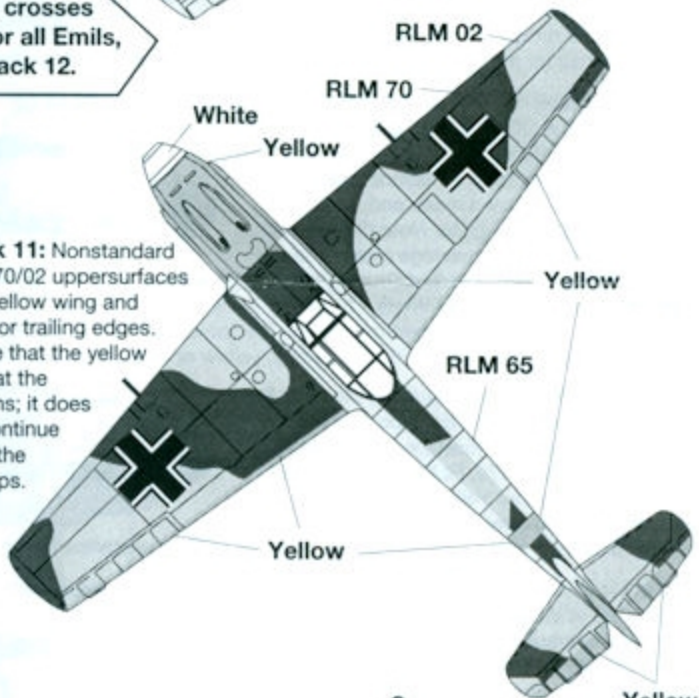
RLM 70

RLM 02

RLM 71

White 5 only:
RLM 65?

RLM 65

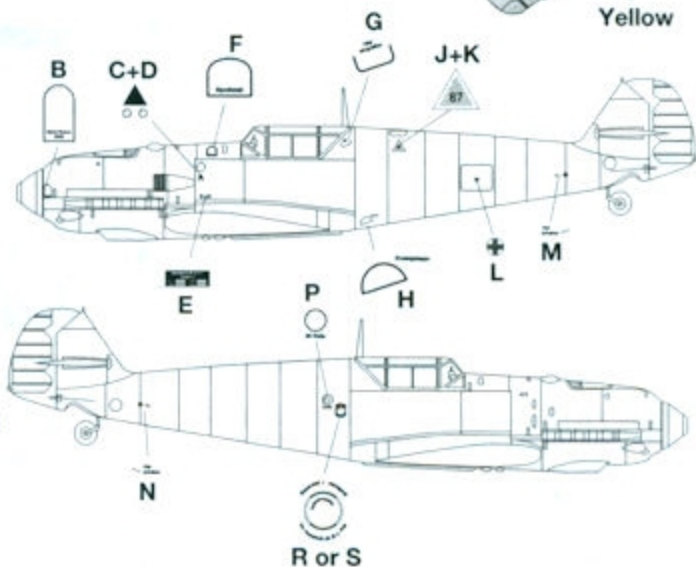


Black 11: Nonstandard RLM 70/02 uppersurfaces with yellow wing and elevator trailing edges. Notice that the yellow ends at the ailerons; it does not continue on to the wingtips.

Bf 109E Stencil Data



Triangles point toward spinner. (We were unable to determine if any of the Bf 109Es on this decal sheet had VDM logos on their RLM 70 propeller blades.)



SUGGESTED KITS

- HOBBYCRAFT Bf 109E-1
- HASEGAWA Bf 109E-3
- HASEGAWA Bf 109E-4

REFERENCE

Geschichte Des Jagdgeschwaders 77
Teil 1: 1934-1941: J. Prien, 1992