

ZTZ32/032, ZTZ48/034

A6/M5 'Gekitsuio' aircraft



Recommended kits:

Tamiya 1/32 A6M5 Zero
Hasegawa 1/32 A6M5c Zero

- Dark Green 2 (JLN)
- Light Gray (JLN)

30-26

Lt. (jg) Sadaaki Akamatsu (A6M5)

The self proclaimed "King of Aces" earned him a reputation as a rebel and ladies lover. Records have him at 30 probable victories. Died of pneumonia in 1980.

- Red Brown
- Gloss Aluminum
- Red

3-137

Ensign Saburo Sakai (A6M5c)

Participated in the China war, achieving his first aerial victory in Oct 1938. His last action occurred on Aug 1945, fighting off a B-32 Dominator over Tokyo bay. He, by his own reckoning, states that 60 destroyed or damaged a/c were his final tally.

Warrant Officer Takeo Tanimizu

A6M5c Zero, June 1945, Kyushu, Japan. Official records have him achieving 32 aerial victories. He tried boosting morale by painting his kill (probable marks) on port fuselage side.

- Yellow orange
- Semi gloss black

Researched by
Eli Raphael

Lt. (jg) Tetsuzo Iwamoto (A6M5)

Considered the top JNAF "Gekitsuo", with more than 80 aerial victories. His total will never be known. Died in 1955 by septicemia, cause by several operations performed to alleviate war injuries to his back. He was only 38 years old.

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for Sakai

Note: David Aiken writes: On 18 April 1942, the US attack on Tokyo, Nagoya, etc caused great panic as the B-25s were mistaken for "Japanese" because of the red dot in the middle of the US star... and thus large white "bandages" or a box of white were painted behind the Japanese insignia for "home defense" aircraft... and the thin white was added behind the "meatball" on dark colored aircraft. As the war turned against Japan... and the war came home to Japan... on many occasions (but nowhere near all), the white surround around the Japanese insignia on some combat aircraft were over painted IN THE FIELD (not by the factory) with green... Thanks David for your corrections and guidance.