







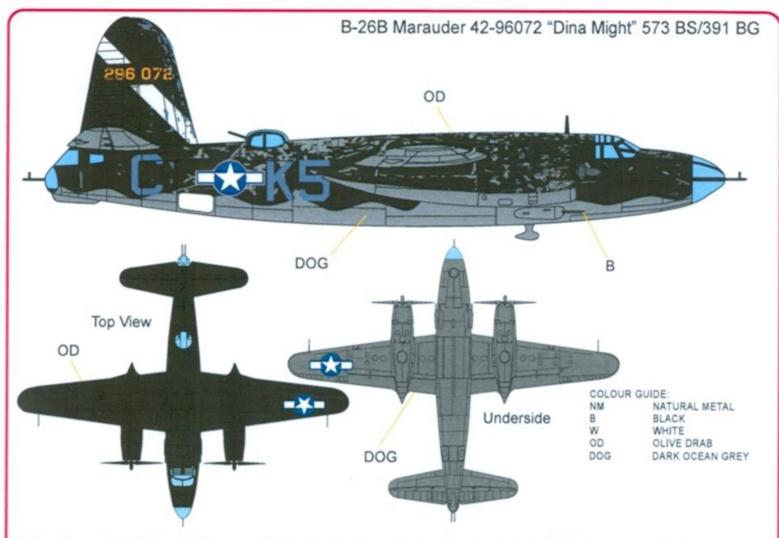
Pilots: Lt George B. Beckes Lt Pitsy McCummis Crew Chief: John C. Kruska

B-26B Marauder Plt Harry D. Porter 42-95828 "Pink's Lady II" T6-L 584 BS/584 BG



The B-26 received the nickname "Widowmaker". Other nicknames included "Martin Murderer", "Flying Coffin", "B-Dash-Crash", "Flying Prostitute" (so-named because it had "no visible means of support," referring to its small wings) and "Baltimore Whore" (a reference to the city where Martin was based).

KW148081



Designed to meet a US Army Air Corps specification for a twin - engined medium bomber, the B-26 Marauder was first flown on November 25, 1940. Early in its service career, the B-26 was nicknamed "Widow maker" because of its high accident statistics, especially during take offs and landings, when pilots were required to maintain a much higher than average speed to avoid stalling. Later model B-26Bs underwent a series of aerodynamics modifications, making the aircraft safer to fly. Used in the Pacific, Western European and Mediterranean Theatres, the B-26 eventually became the primary bomber on the Western Front, ending the war with fewer losses than any other USAAF bomber.

