# **Guadalcanal Cobras**

## JS WWWII FIGHTER **:48 SCALE PLASTIC KIT**



### intro

### **DUAL COMBO!**

The P-39 Airacobra was developed by the Bell Aircraft Corporation in Buffalo, New York in the late 30's. The first XP-39 prototype had its maiden flight on April the 6th, 1939 in Dayton, where it reached a maximum speed of 628km/h at 6100 in, climbing to that height in only 5 minutes. The XP-39 had a very good flight performance, and specifically, good manoeuvrability thanks its original concept of airframe, with its Alison V-1710-17 1150 HP supercharged engine located in its centre of gravity. This engine location also gave the aircraft a long, slim nose well suited for installation of a powerful weapon. The USAAF ordered a test series of 12 YP-39s on April the 27th, but before the a supercharger, and just 1090 HP. The YP-39 had an engine-axis Oldsmobile T-9 cal. 37mm cannon, two .50 calibre (12.7 mm) machine guns and two .30 ealibre (7.62mm) machine guns mounted in the nose. The pilot seat got some armour, but the weight was increased to 3160 kg against 2820kg of the prototype. Because of these changes the maximum speed was decreased to 590 km/h and climb to 6100m now took 7.5 minutes. Although the excellent prototype flight performances were decreased, the Air force didn't loose interest and ordered 80 production P-39Cs. The first 20 of these were supplied as standard P-39Cs and the remaining 60 were finished as P-39Ds, with the two .30 calibre (7.62mm) machine guns moved to the wings and two more .30 calibre (7.62mm) machine guns were added to the same location. The USAAF received its first P-39Ds in February 1941, and the next order for 344 P-39D's was placed at this time.

The British RAF ordered 675 P-39's in April 1940. British Airacobra Mk.I's were produced in P-39D standard, but with the engine-axis canon replaced with a British Hispano M1 20mm cannon and the wing machine guns were replaced with 7.7mm Browning's. The first Airacobra Mk.I's were received in July 1941, but the RAF was disappointed, when

MT20mm cannon and the wing machine guns were replaced with 7.7mm Browning's. The first Afracobra MK.1's were received in July 1941, but the KAF was disappointed, when it was found that they were not suitable for service in the European war theatre. In October 1941 four Mk.1's were tested by 601 Squadron in the ground attack role over occupied France, Airacobras were withdrawn from service and 212 RAF Airacobra Mk.1's were send to Soviet Union.

When the USA came into the war, the USAAF confiscated 179 Airacobras from the British order on the production line. They were re-designated P-400, and served in the Pacific. All P-400's have 12 exhaust pipes on each side of the engine, and this was the major difference from the P-39D series. The next block of aireraft, also with 12 exhaust pipes, were 229 aircraft of the P-39F series, and after them came the P-39K series (210 aircraft), P-39L (250 aircraft), P-39M (240 aircraft) and P-39N (2095 aircraft). All these four series were very similar, using various engines, propellers and other equipment. The final version was the P-39Q with an Allison V-1710-85 engine (1420 HP), and the main 15ffacture of the P-39D series are the intelleging of the P-39D series are the production and the production are the prod difference was the installation of two .50 calibre (12.7 mm) machine gains in under-wing pods instead of the four .30 calibre (7.62mm) wing mounted machine gains in the older series. Most of the 4905 Q series aircraft were sent to Soviet Union. Production was ceased in August 1944, after the final Airacobra, number 9558, was finished.

The USAAF employed Airacobras extensively until August 1944, when they were withdrawn from front line service. The USAAF used the largest number of Airacobras,

2105 of all types, in February 1944. They served in the Pacific theatre, as well as in North Africa and Italy.
In total 4758 Airacobras were sent to Russia (actually 4924, but 166 aircraft were lost during transport) where they were very popular for their solid metal airframe and heavy weapons. The French Air Force had 165 Airacobras, and P-39's also served with the Australian RAAF, the Italian AF and the Portuguese AF. After the war a number of Airacobras were employed in civilian service and used for air races.

### úvodem

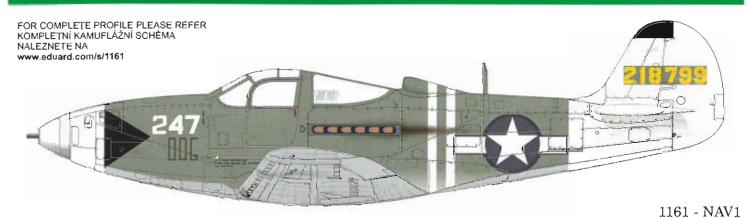
P-39 Airacobra byl vyvinut společnosti Bell Aircraft Corp. z Buffala ve druhé polovině třicátých let. Prototyp XP-39 absolvoval svůj první let 6.4.1939 v Daytonu, kde dosáhl maximální rychlosti 628 km/h ve výšce 6100m. Na tuto výšku vystoupal za pouhých 5 minut. XP-39 ničl velmi dobré letové vlastnosti, inimo jině i díky své originální konstrukci, kdy turbokompresorem vybavený motor Alison V-1710-17 o výkonu 1150 k byl umístěn v těžišti letounu, v trupu za kabinou. Toto umístění motoru také uvolnilo přiď pro instalaci silně výzbroje. 27.dubna USAF objednalo zkušební sérii 12 YP-39, ale před jejím dokončením byl projekt významně upraven. Pro potiže s turbokompresorem byl původní motor nahrazem motorem Alison V-1710-37 bez turbokompresoru, dávajícím jen 1090 k. Mezi bloky válců byl nauuontován kanon Oldsmobile T-9 ráže 37 mm, střílející dutým hřídelem vrtule, do přidě byly instalovány dva kulomety ráže 12,7 mm a dva ráže 7,7 mm. Pilotovo sedadlo dostalo pancéřování, ale hmotnost vzrostla na 3160kg oproti 2820kg prototypu. Rychlost poklesla na 590 km/h a výstup na 6100m nyní trval 7,5 minuty. Přestože výkony stroje poklesly, USAAF neztratilo zájem a objednalo 80 produkčních P-39C. Z nich bylo 20 dodáno skutečně jako P-39C, zbylých 60 pak bylo upraveno na standard verze D, se dvěma kulomety ráže 12,7 mm v přidí a čtyřmí kulomety ráže 7,62 instalovanými v křídle. USAAF dostalo své první P-39D v únoru 1941 a objednalo daších 344 kusů. Britové objednali v dubnu 1940 675 Airacober. Byly dodány v červnu 1941. Odpovídaly verzi D upravené podle britských požadavků. Kanon Oldsmobilc byl nahrazen kanonem Hispano M1 ráže 20 mm, a křidelní kulomety byly britské Browning ráže 7,7 mm. RAF testovalo čtyři Airacobry Mk. I v bojových podmínkách u 601 squadrony v říjnu 1941 (kde sí je vyzkoušeli i někteří čs pilotí), ale byli zklamání jejich výkony. Zbylých 212 Airacober Mk. I pak bylo posláno do Ruska a předáno sovětskému letectvu.

Po vstupu USA do války, 179 britských Airacober bylo konfiskováno na výrohní lince. Stroje byly označeny P-400 a bojovaly včtšinouv Pacifiku. Všeehny P-400 měly 12 výfukových nátrubků na každé straně motoru, eož je jejich hlavní rozlišovaci znak od P-39D. V dodávkách následoval blok 229 letadel verze P-39F, také s 12 výfukovými nátruhky, po něm pak verze P-39K (210 letadel), P-39L (250 letadel), P-39M (240 letadel) a velký blok 2095 letadel verze P-39N. Všechny tyto čtyři série si byly velmi podobné, používaly různé motory, vrtule a další vybavení. Poslední a nejrozšiřenější verzí byla verze P-39Q, vybavená motorcm Alison V-1710-85 o výkonu 1420 k. Její nej větším vnějším rozdílem oproti předchozím verzím bylo nahrazcní čtyř křídelních kulometů dvěma kulomety ráže 12,7 mm, instalovaných v gondolkách pod křídly. Většina z 4905 P-39Q byla dodána do Sovětského svazu. Produkce byla ukončena v srpnu 1944 po dokončení poslední, 9558. Airacobry

USAAF používalo Airacobry v první linii do srpna 1944. kdy byly staženy z frontové služby. Nejvíce Áiracober, celkem 2105 letadel všech verzí, mělo USAAF ve službě v únoru 1944. Sloužily v Pacifiku, v severuí Africe, Itáliì i na domácích základnách.

Celkem 4758 (4924, ale 166 bylo ztraceno během přepravy) A iraeober bylo dodáno Sovětskému svazu. V sovětském letectvu byly A iraeobry velmi populární pro jejieh robustní konstrukci a silnou výzbroj. Francouzské letecvo mělo 165 A iracober různých verzí, a P-39 byly v menších počtech používány i letectvy Austrálie, Itálie a Portugalska. Jeden kus se po válee vyskytoval i v polském letectvu. Po válce byla řada A iracober používána v civilních službách, mimo jiné jako závodní stroje. Jednu z nich vlastnil např. Miro Slovak.

### P-39N, s/n 42-18799, 12th FS / 18th FG, Salomon Islands, 1943 / 1944





Carefully read instruction sheet before assembling. When you use glue or paint, do not use near open flame and use in well ventilated room. Keep out of reach of small children Children must not be allowed to suck any part, or pull vinyl bag over the head.



Před započetím stavby si pečlivě prostudujte stavební návod. Při používání barev a lepidel pracujte v dobře větrané místnosti. Lepidla ani barvy nepoužívejte v blízkosti otevřeného ohně. Model není určen malým dětem, mohlo by dojít k požití drobných dílů.



OPTIONAL VOLBA



BEND OHNOUT



OPEN HOLE VYVRTAT OTVOR



SYMETRICAL ASSEMBLY SYMETRICKÁ MONTÁŽ



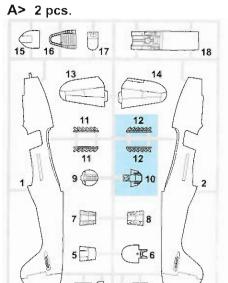
REMOVE ODŘÍZNOUT



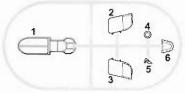
REVERSE SIDE OTOČIT



APPLY EDUARD MASK AND PAINT POUŽÍT EDUARD MASK NABARVIT



### CLEAR PART> 2 pcs.



RP - RESIN PARTS



R2 2 pcs.

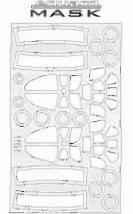


R3 4 pcs.

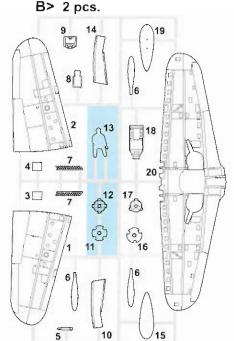


R5 2 pcs.

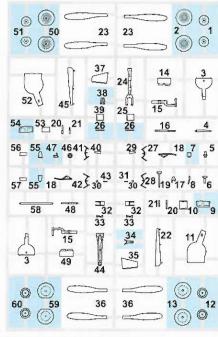
R4 2 pcs.



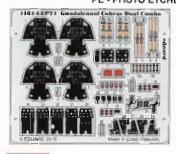
### PLASTIC PARTS



C> 2 pcs.

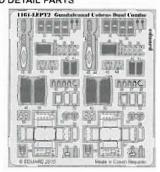


PE - PHOTO ETCHED DETAIL PARTS



BRASSIN PE - PHOTO ETCHED DETAIL PARTS







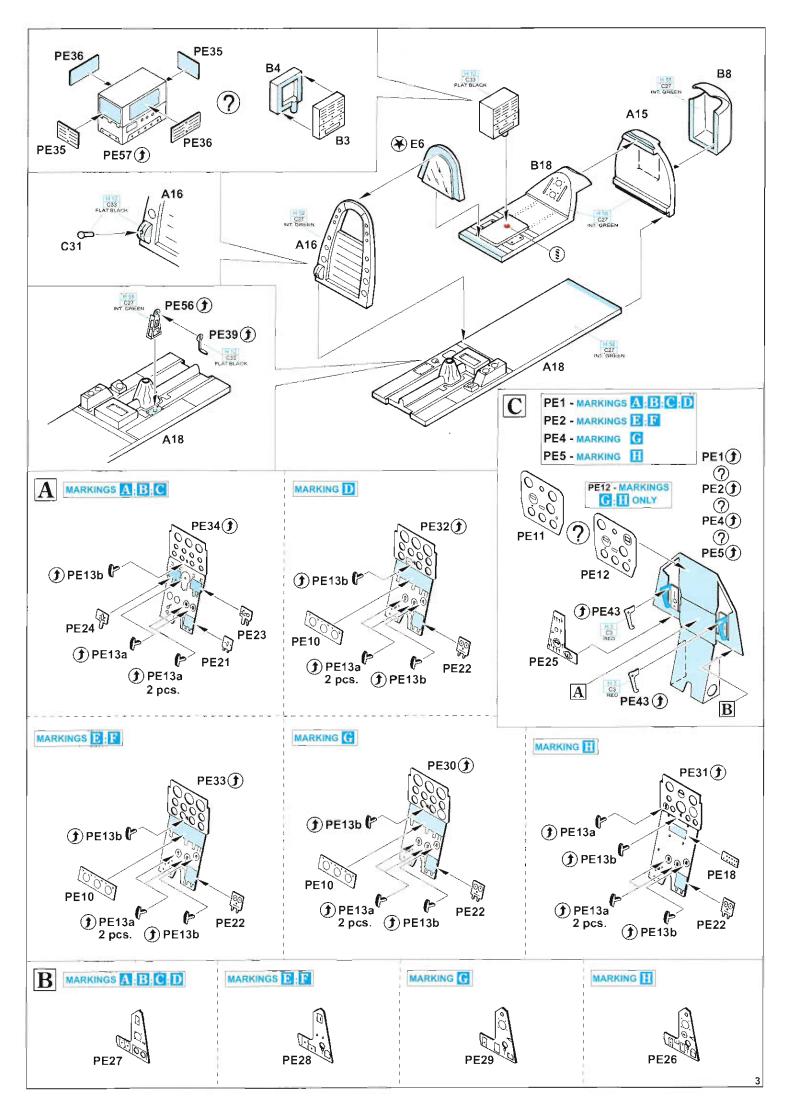
Parts not for use. Telle werden nicht verwendet. Pièces à ne pas utiliser. Tyto dily nepoul/fysite phistaytié. ##1. x v.#iii

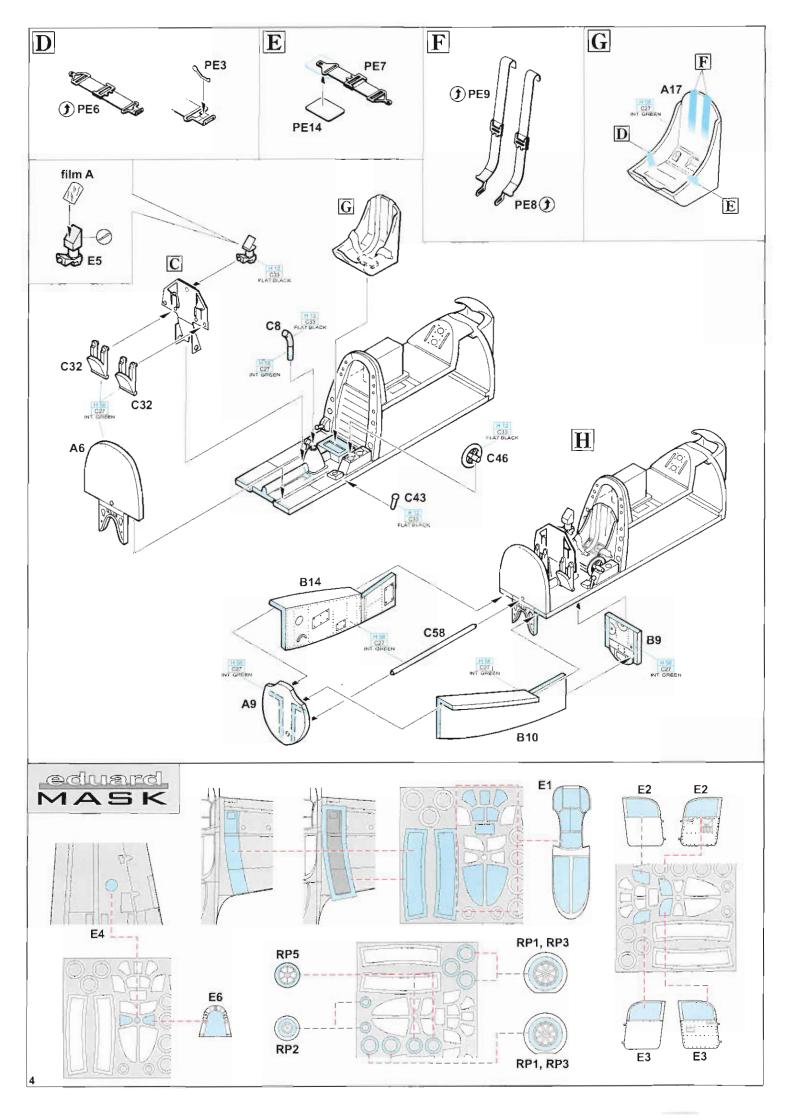
2

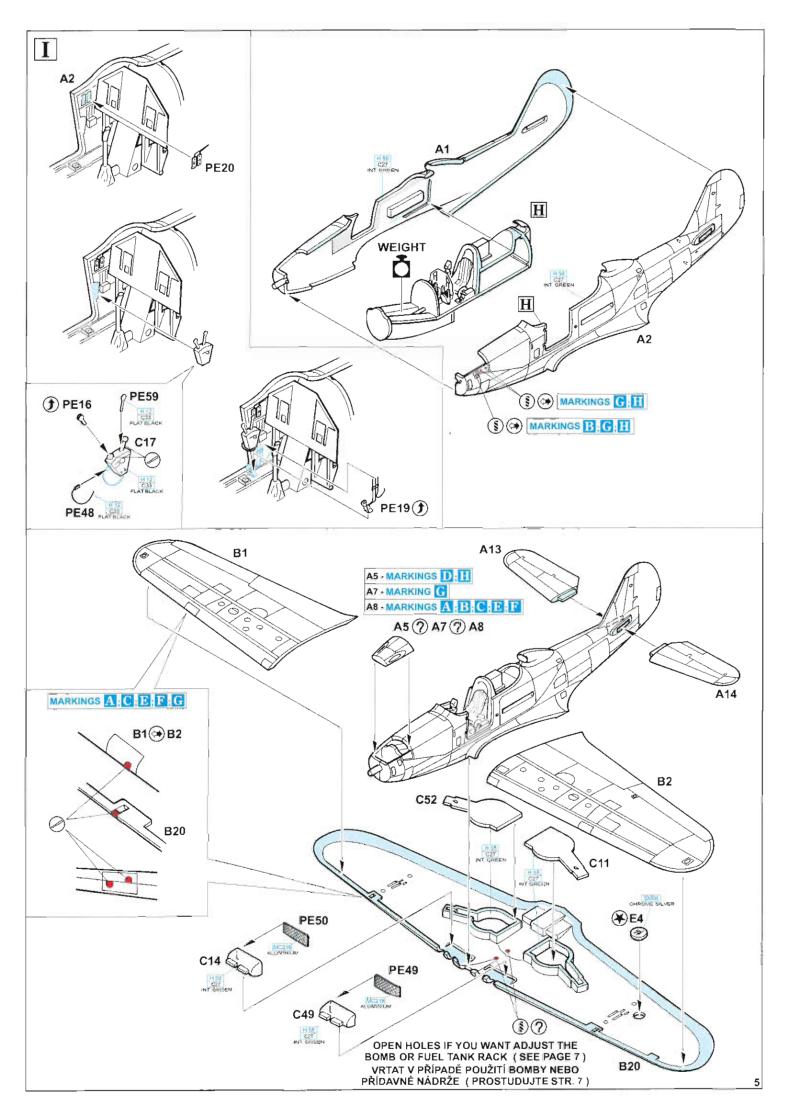
GSi Creas (GUNZE)		
AQUEOUS	Mr.COLOR:	
HZ	C2	BLACK
H.3	C3	RED
H.4	C4	YELLOW
H 8	Ca	SILVER
19.53	C62	FLAT WHITE
H 12	C33	FLAT BLACK
H.25	C34	SKY BLUE
H 33	C91	RUSSET

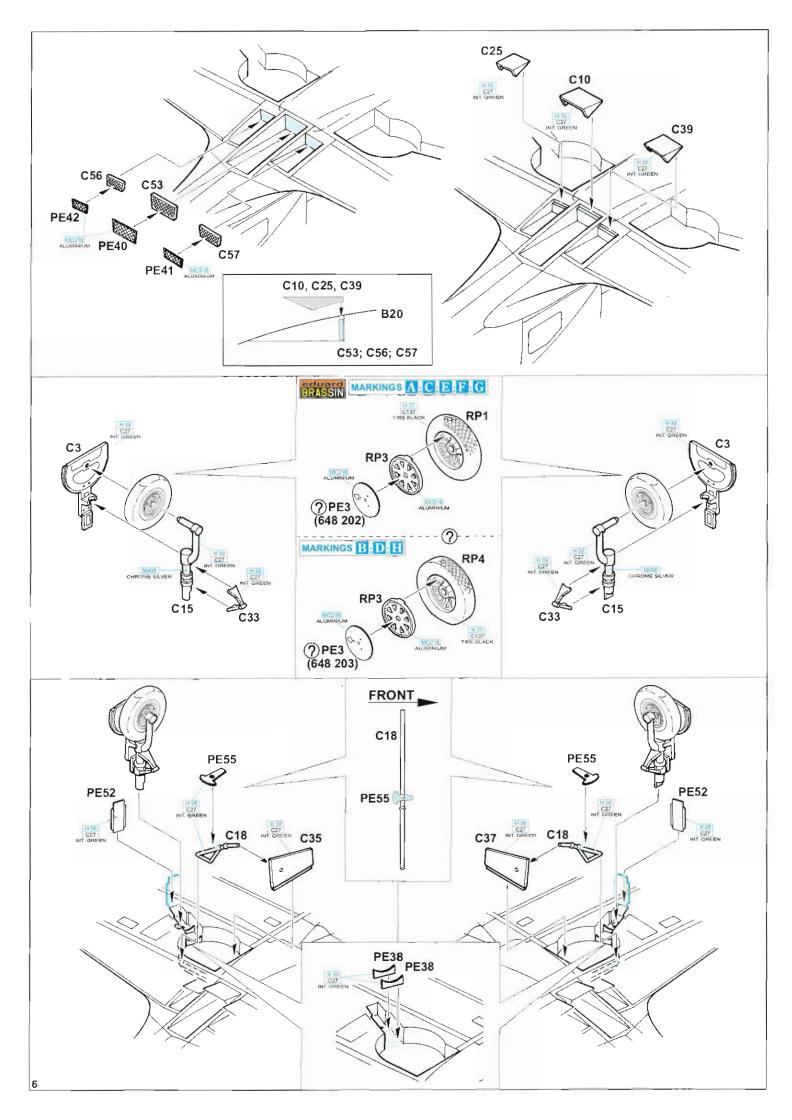
ACUEOUS	MYCOLOR	0.00
H 36	C70	DARK GRIEEN
H 52	C12	CILIVE DRAB
H 53	C13	NEUTRAL GRAY
H 56	C27	INTERIOR GREEN
H 72	C22	DARK EARTH
H 74	C26	SKY
H.77	C137	TIRE BLACK
H 90	C47	CLEAR RED
H 92	C58	CLEAR DRANGE

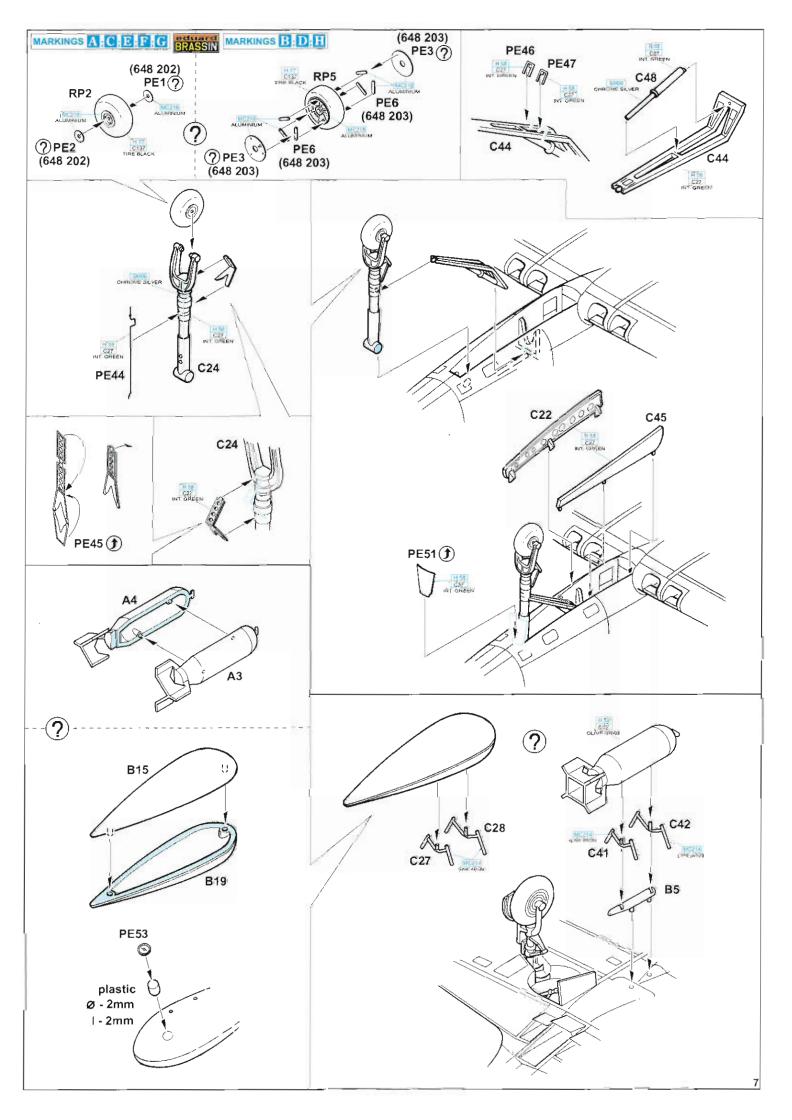
AQUEOUS	Mr COLOR	
H 94	C138	CLEAR GREEN
H 303	C303	GRIEEN
H 314	C314	BLUE
Mr METAL	LCOLOR	
M0214		DARK IFION
INS216		ALUMINIUM
Mr COLOR SUP	PER METALLIC	
55406		CHROME SILVER

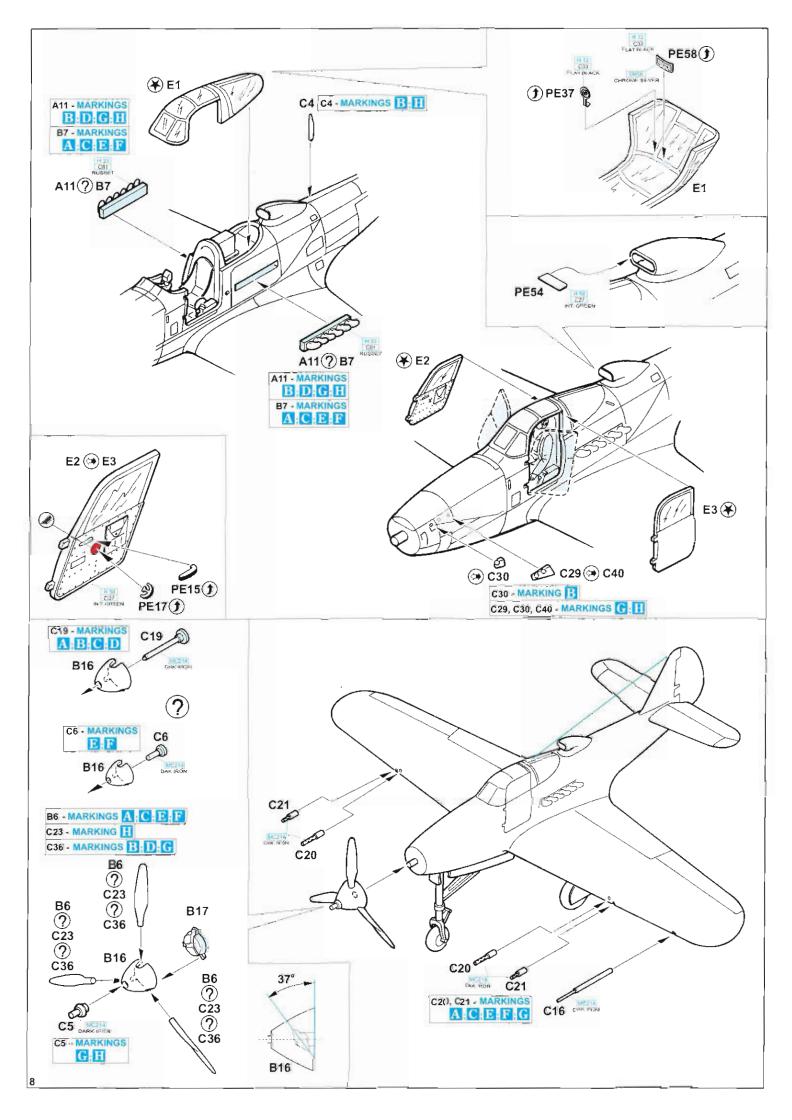






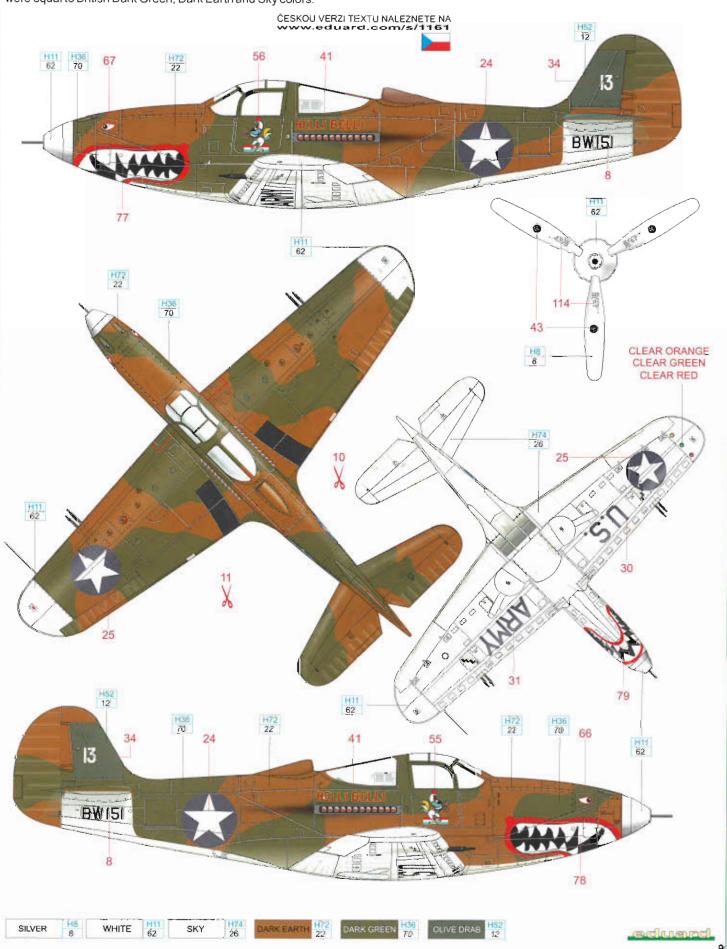






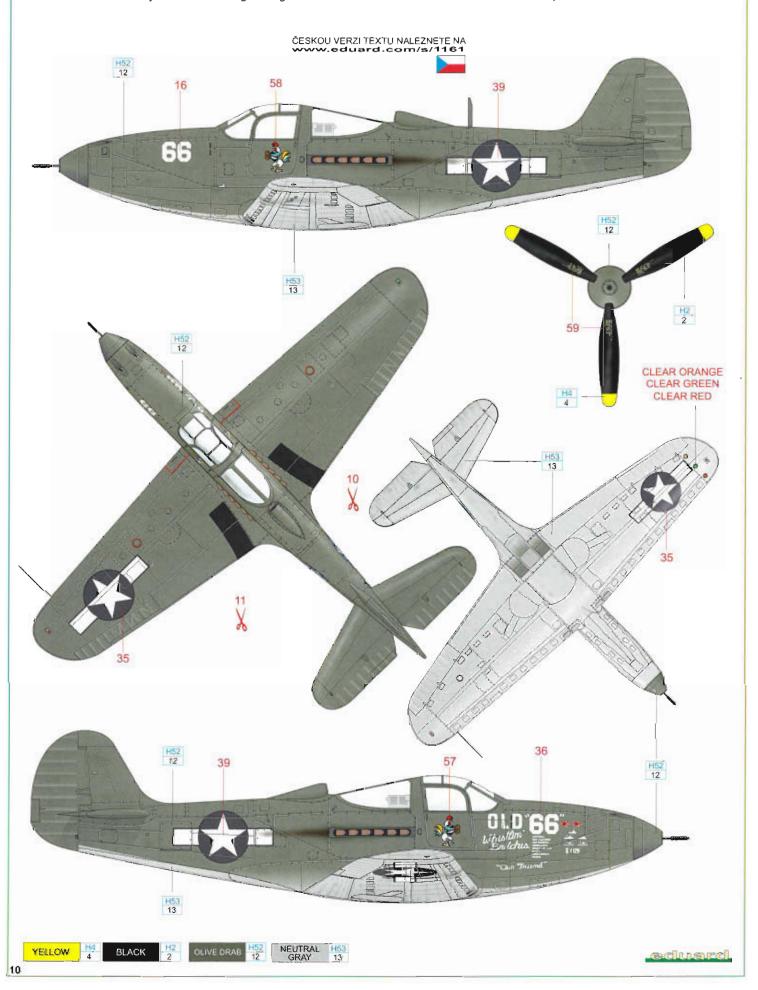
### A P-400, BW 151, 67th FS / 347th FG, Guadalcanal, October, 1942

Members of 67th FS 'Fighting Cocks' were photographed with a P-400 named 'Hell's Bells'. This Airacobra was probably flown by Lt. Robert Ferguson who downed a Rufe fighter that attacked Henderson Field on November 7, 1942. Due to a shortage of serviceable aircraft during the hectic fall of 1942, this aircraft was flown by other squadron members as well. The doors with the squadron badge and cowlings with 'Hell's Bells' atrwork were placed on a new aircraft when this one was destroyed. The camouflage consisted of US colors that were equal to British Dark Green, Dark Earth and Sky colors.



### B P-400, BW 146, 347th FG, Guadalcanal / U.S.A., 1944

This is reportedly the only P-400 Airacobra that survived the Guadalcanal campaign. It was ferried to the States in the middle of 1944 and took part in a Bell Aircraft Corporation promotional campaign. The kills achieved using this aircraft, places where the aircraft served and all three names carried by the aircraft during its long and successful service career in the Pacific were depicted on the nose.



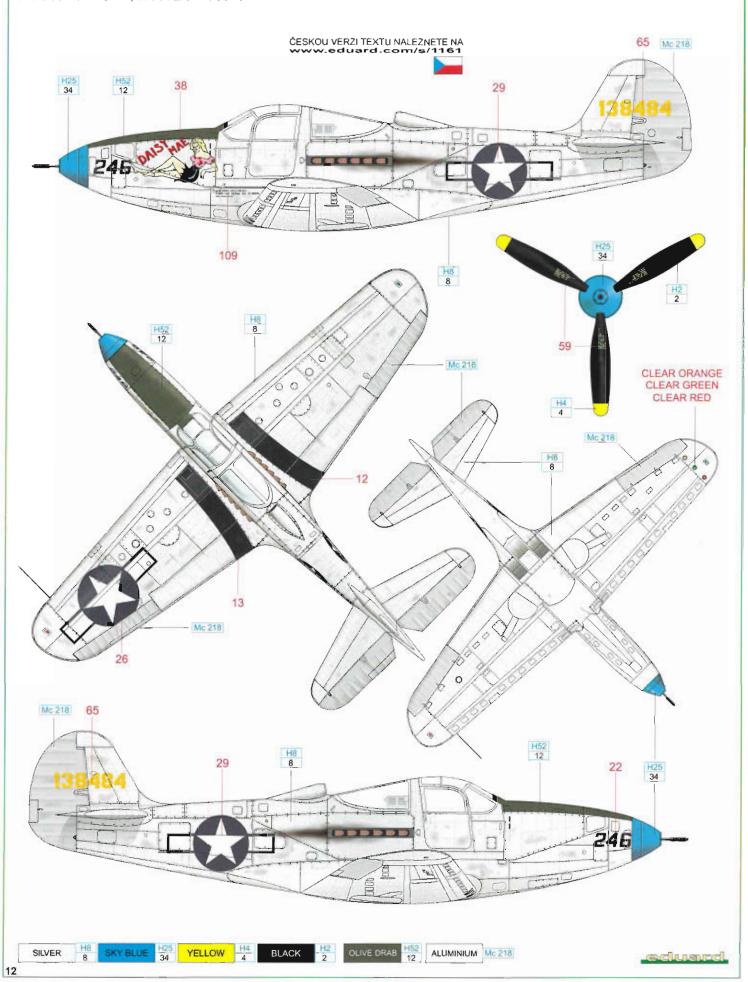
### C P-400, BW 146, 67th FS, New Caledonia, May / June, 1942

'Old 66' as it appeared during the early days of its career. It served for 22 months and her pilots destroyed two Zeroes, participated in the damage of four freighters, hit directly a Japanese destroyer and delivered 129 bombs on enemy positions. Frequent damage resulted in the need to replace the tail, wings and propeller. The engine was replaced four times. From the summer of 1943 onwards, this war-weary Airacobra participated in rescue missions focused on downed Allied pilots. During this period, the modified underbelly fuel tank with a life raft and the name 'Our Friend' on the nose were carried. Lt. Zed Fountain and Lt. Peter Childress were the aircraft's former pilots, and the last flight was performed by 70th FS CO, Lt.Col. M. R. Adams.



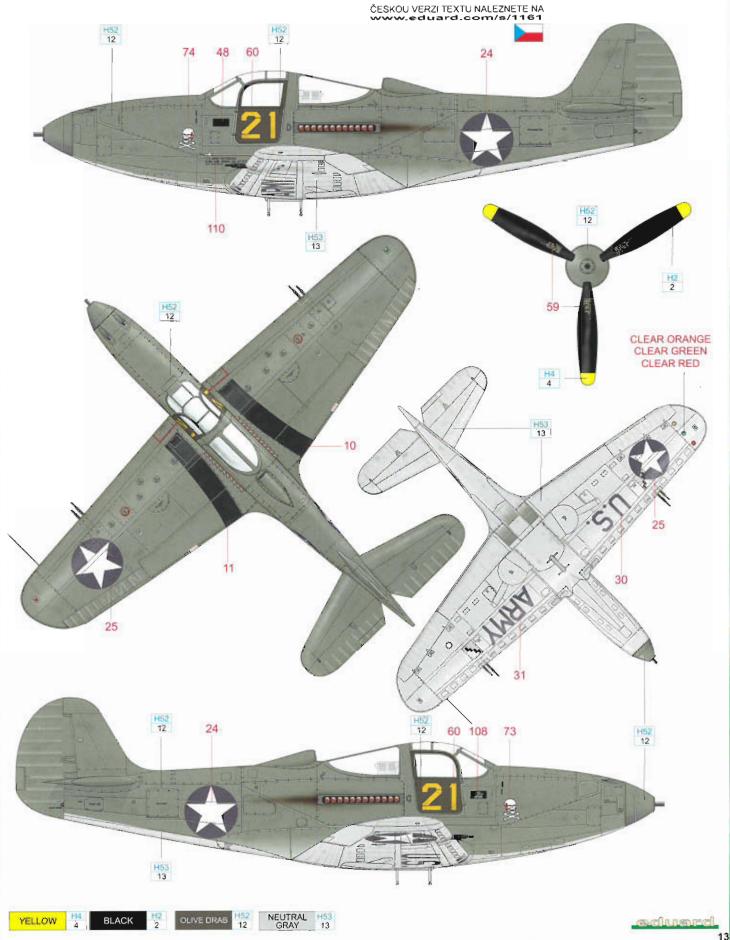
### P-39D, s/n 41-38484, 12th FS / 18th FG, Guadalcanal, Spring, 1944

The Airacobra named 'Daisy Mae' was another veteran aircraft that was flown in Guadalcanal for more than a year-and-a half. In this guise, only the 20mm nose cannon was carried and the aircraft likely did not serve as a front line fighter. 'Daisy Mae' may have been the personal aircraft of 18th FG CO, Lt.Col. L. S. McGowan.



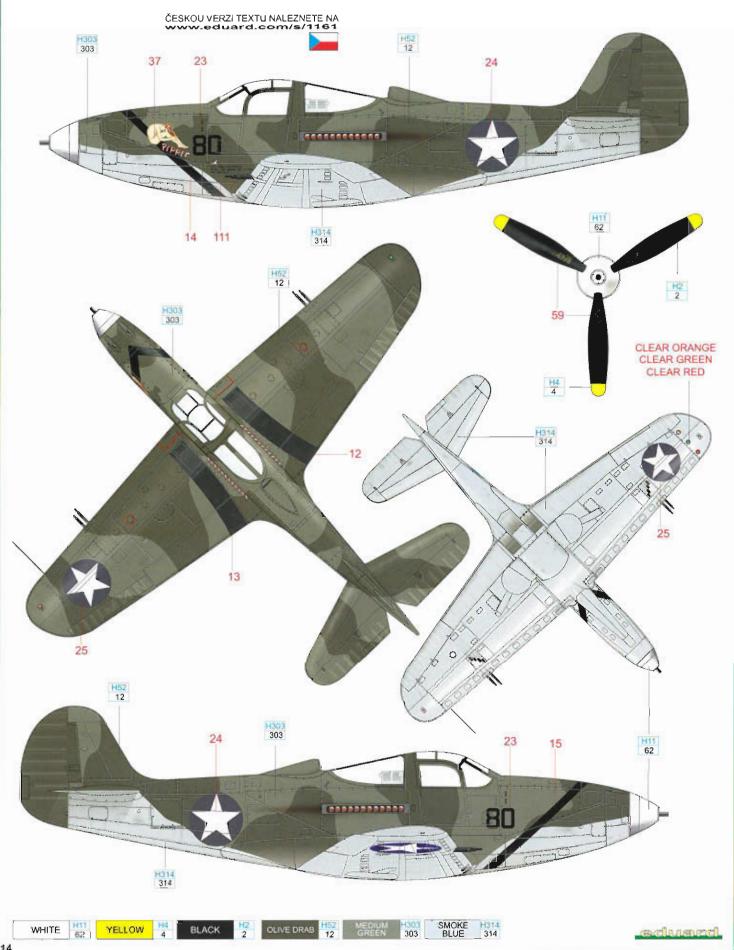
### F P-39F, Flown by Lt. William F. Fiedler, 70th FS / 347th FG, Fiji and Guadalcanal, Late 1942 / Early 1943

Lt. Fiedler was the only US pilot who scored five aerial victories flying the P-39. His first victory is dated January 26, 1943. He singlehandedly downed a Zero fighter that day and damaged an H6K Mavis, a Japanese four engined flying boat, in cooperation with Lt. McCulla that day. The Mayis returned to its base but was deemed unrepairable and was sunk. None of the US pilots was credited with this kill. William F. Fiedler was killed on June 30, 1943. His aircraft was ready to take off but was hit by a P-38 that failed to get airborne. Fiedler succumbed to severe burns a few hours later.



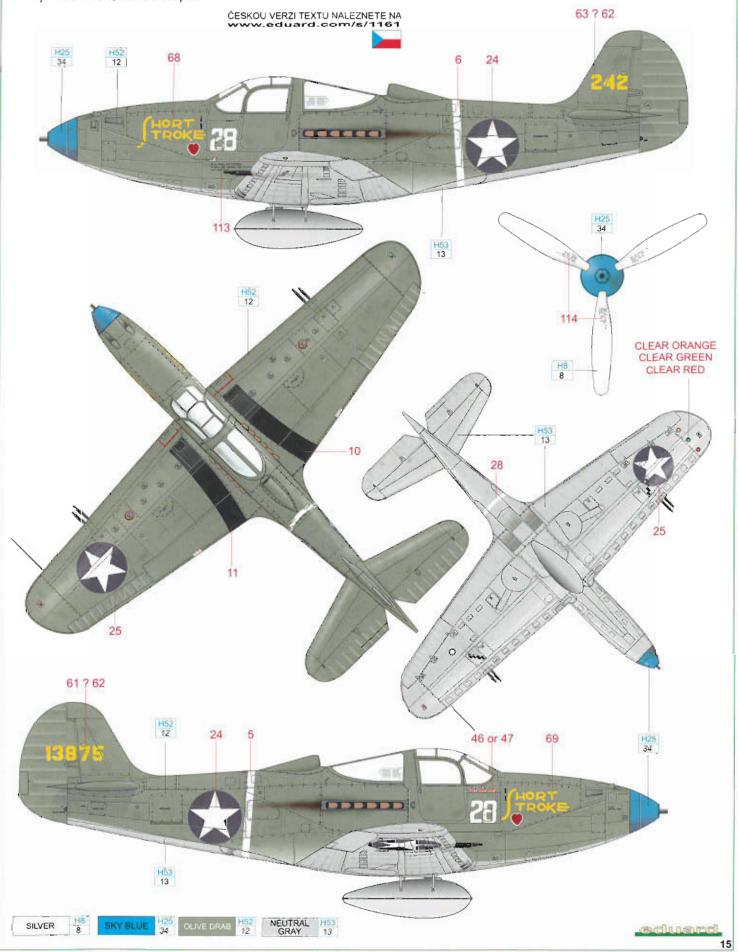
### F P-39F, Panama Canal Zone, Late 1942 / Early 1943

This colorful Airacobra was supposedly flown by the 67th FS / 247th FG. The Olive Drab / Medium Green camouflage colors and markings would suggest use by one of the squadrons active in the Panama Canal Zone, but it also cannot be ruled out that the pilot of this aircraft served in Panama prior to his combat tour with the 67th FS. Many of 5th and 13th AF pilots spent a part of their military career in Panama prior to combat deployment in the Pacific.



### G P-39K, s/n 24-275, 70th FS/18th FG, Guadalcanal, Spring, 1943

The first user of this Airacobra was the 12th FS. The K version P-39s were delivered to this unit in the fall of 1942, when the squadron was based at Easter Island, in the central Pacific. From December, 1942, this Airacobra named 'Short Stroke' was based at Henderson Field as a part of the 12th FS, and later the 70th FS. Note the two styles of kill marks under the canopy and replacement rudder taken from another aircraft. It gave the Cobra a new serial number that is not listed in USAAF archives. This aircraft was flown by many pilots, Lt. Darrell Cosart or Maj. Louis Kittel to name a couple.



# Guadalcanal Cobras

# STENCILING POSITIONS

