

EAGLE STRIKE



48091

Checkertail Plan

Pt. II



Checkertail Plan



Suggested Kit: Tamiya P-51 Mustang

AIRCRAFT 1. P-51D-20-NA, 44-15480 'ShuShu', assigned to Major Norman McDonald, later lost with pilot Fred Wulf. Trim tail check decals (12L, 12R) as indicated. Photo ref. 5, page 53.



AIRCRAFT 2. P-51B, 43-24890, 'Hairless Joe', flown by Lieutenant Joe Smith, 319th FS, 325th FG. Trim tail check decals (29, 30) as indicated to fit tail fillet joint. Sources say Hairless Joe was written in Red, and we have no reason to doubt it. However, look at page 58 of ref. 5 and arrive to your own conclusions. Both colors supplied.



Every P-51 B/C of the 325th was retrofitted with the dorsal fin. They had 3 lines, White or Yellow. The purpose of these lines is unknown to surviving 325th personnel. Both colors supplied.



AIRCRAFT 3. P-51B 43-24852 'Delightful Dee / Gravel Gertie'. Pilot was Arthur Albin; aircraft was lost in October 1944 with Lt. Videto. Although it is known the aircraft carried the right side name, the style is speculative, as no photographs have been found of the name. Trim tail check decals (12L, 12R) as indicated to fit tail fillet joint. When A/C was lost, it had been re-assigned and renamed Gravel Gertie.



*NOTE: P-51's were delivered in a standard finish consisting of natural metal on the fuselage, vertical fin, and horizontal stabilizers. The majority of the upper and lower wings were painted aluminum lacquer with all rivets and joints sealed to provide smoother airflow over the laminar flow wing. Ailerons and flaps were left in natural metal. Anti-glare panels were olive drab.



References:

1. Photographs supplied by Dwayne Tabatt, of Spokane, WA, Historian & Researcher of the 325th Fighter Group, to whom we are indebted for his assistance and patience.
2. Aircom Aviation Series, No.1, North American P-51D Mustang, Osprey Publications LTD., England.
3. P-51 Mustang Aces, William N. Hess, Thomas G. Ivie, Motorbooks International, USA, 1992.
4. Koku Fan Illustrated, #52, P-51 Mustang, Masahiko Takeda, BUNRIN-DO, CO. LTD, Tokyo, 1990.
5. Checkertails S/Signal, E.R. Mc Dowell.

Suggested 1:48 Scale Kits:
Tamiya P-51 Mustang

