

1/48 U.S.MAYY
METHERLANDS
EAST INDIES
ROYAL AIR FORCE

## BREWSTER F2A-2 BUFFALO





Realizing that the biplane had already reached the highest limit of its ability particularly in speed, the U.S. Navy ordered several manufacturers in 1936 to develop a new monoplane fighter with retractable landing gear to be used in place of conventional ship-based biplanes. Among various designs proposed by these manufacturers, the U.S. Navy selected the Brewster Aeronautical Corporation's design, which the manufacturer called "B-139", and designated it "XF2A-1". On 22nd June 1936, Brewster received an order for trial-manufacturing the XF2A-1. It was a modern mid-wing monoplane of all-metal construction (except for the rudder) jointly designed by Dayton T. Brown and R.D. MacCart. It had an air-tight canopy with wide range of vision and retractable landing gear. The fuselage was rivetted with flush-head rivets. On 11th June 1938, Brewster received a production order for 54 F2A-1 planes (Brewster called them B-239); which were to be the U.S. Navy's first monoplane carrier fighters.

land, and the United States immediately sent remaining 43 (44 in reality) F2A-1s to Finland. Instead, the United States officially accepted the F2A-2, an improved version of the F2A-1, for production. The F2A-1 in Finland showed an absolute advantage over the Russian Polikarpov I-153 and I-16 and gave birth to a number of aces by the conclusion of peace negotiations. The 24th Fighter Squadron among others became very famous for its activity.

The F2A-2 was heavier than the F2A-1 by about 360kg but had a maximum speed of 513kmph (at an altitude of 5,032m) which was higher than that of the F2A-1 by about 35kmph. From September 1940, the F2A-2 was delivered to the VF-2 and VF-3 on board the aircraft carrier USS Lexington and also to the Marine Corps units including the VMF-221. The United States received production orders from other nations for land-based export versions of the F2A-2 and sent 40 B-339E to Belgium. 170 B-339Es to Britain, and 72 B-

67th & 243rd Fighter Squadrons of the Royal Air Force for the defence of Malaya and Singapore

The Army Air Force of the Dutch East Indies distributed its Brewsters to Malaya as well as to Sumatra, Borneo and Java. They had aerial fights with invading planes of the Japanese Army and Navy at the initial stage of the Pacific War. Japanese pilots called the humorous-shaped plane "Flying Beer-Barrel".

《Specifications of the Brewster F2A-2》

Engine: Wright Cyclone R-1820-40 air-cooled 9-cylinder radial engine of 1,200hp (Wright Cyclone R-1820-G-105A air-cooled 9-cylinder radial engine of 1,100hp)

Span: 10.68m Height: 3.69m Length: 7.80m (7.93m)

## **PAINTING**

Paint the wide areas with a 10 to 20mm wide flat brush. Use a smaller brush (a oo or even ooo size) to paint narrow parts. When you use spray gun, mask off the model with masking tape etc. to cover the areas to remain unpainted prior to spray painting. Only do your spray painting in the ventilated place. Avoid work near fire.

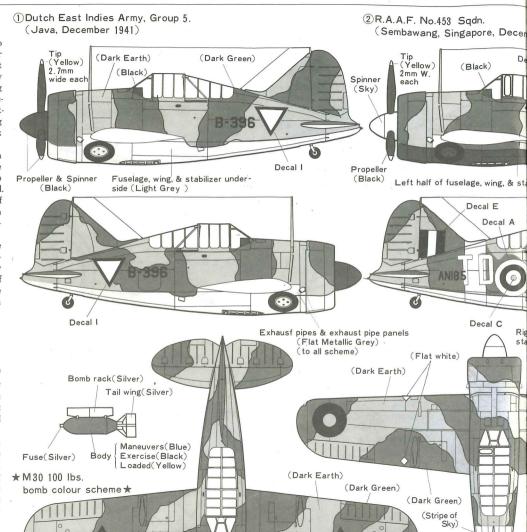
The paints do not adhere well to a greasy plastic surface. Wash the model in tepid water in which a drop of washing-up fluid has been dissolved. Then follow up with another bath of cold water, drying off each section in the dust-free condition before proceeding to the painting work.

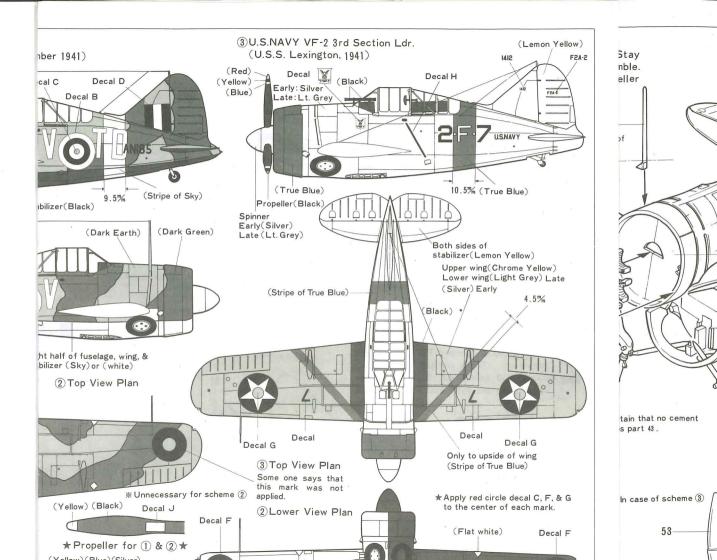
Use paints only for plastic. The paint may be thinned down with plastic thinner. Clean off the brush by dipping it in thinner at the end of your painting session. Then dry the thinner out with an old rag and return it to store.

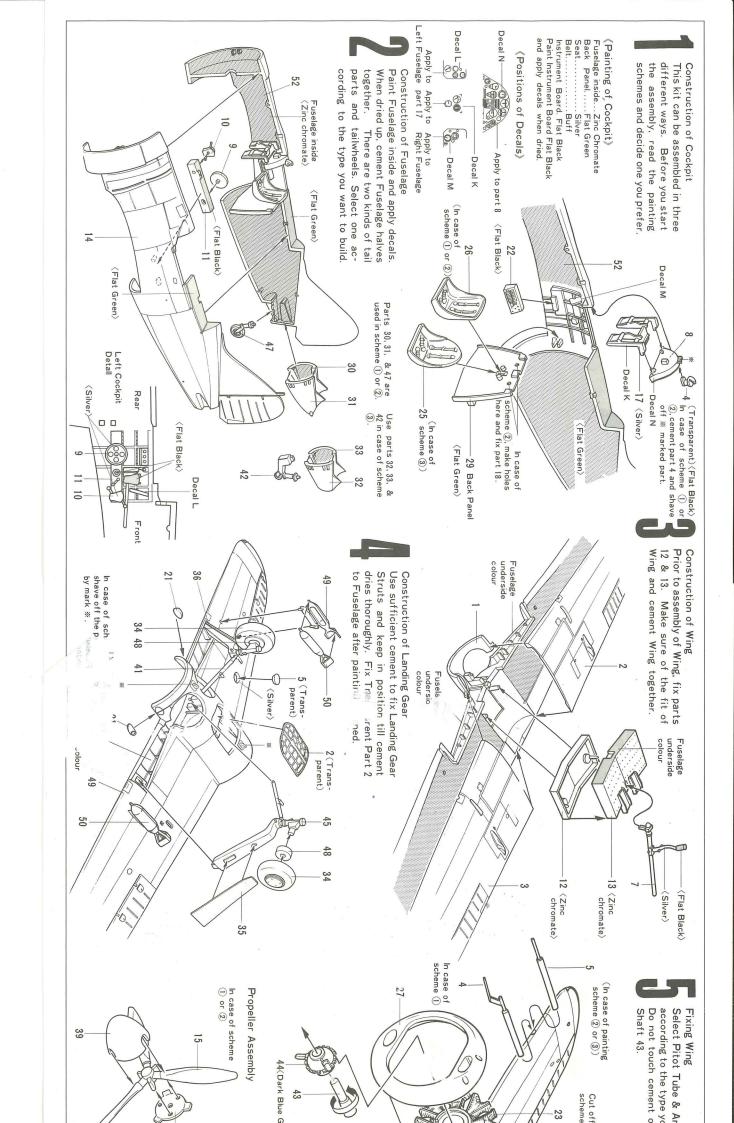
## Painting of Buffalo

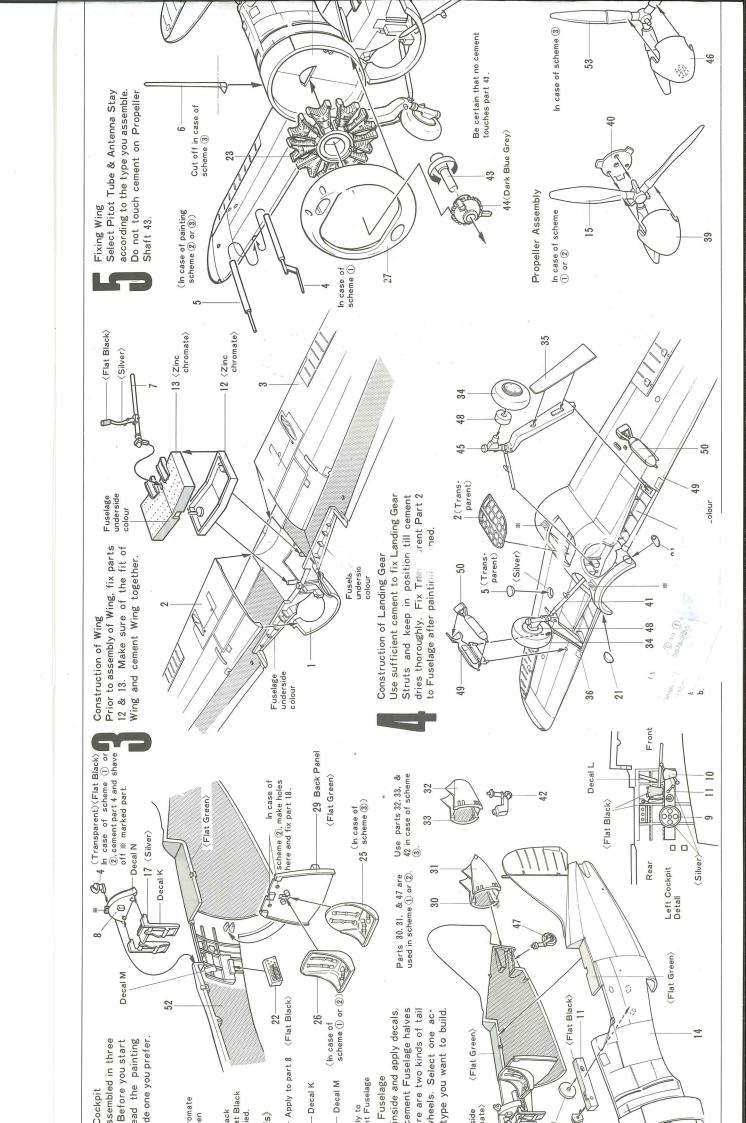
Paint zinc chromate inside the body with a mixture of one part flat green and one part flat yellow. The back plate and the cockpit interior behind it should be painted flat green.

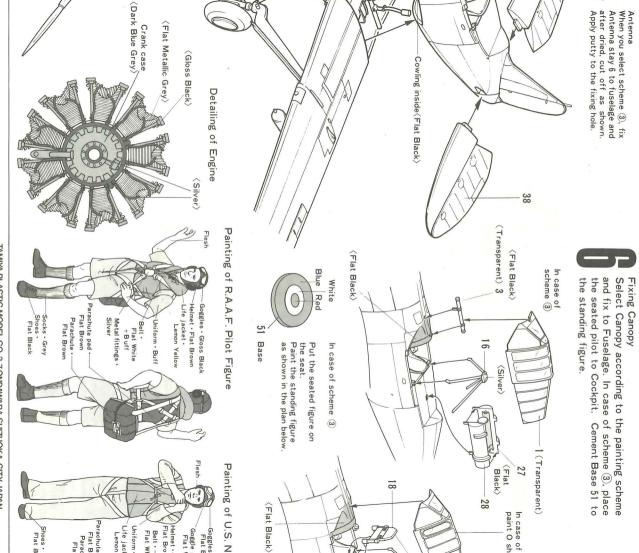
The instrument board and the cockpit interior in front of it should be painted flat black for the prevention of light reflexion. The main landing gear and wheel wells should be painted in the same colour as the bottom of the fuselage, but the inside cylinders must be silver.











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