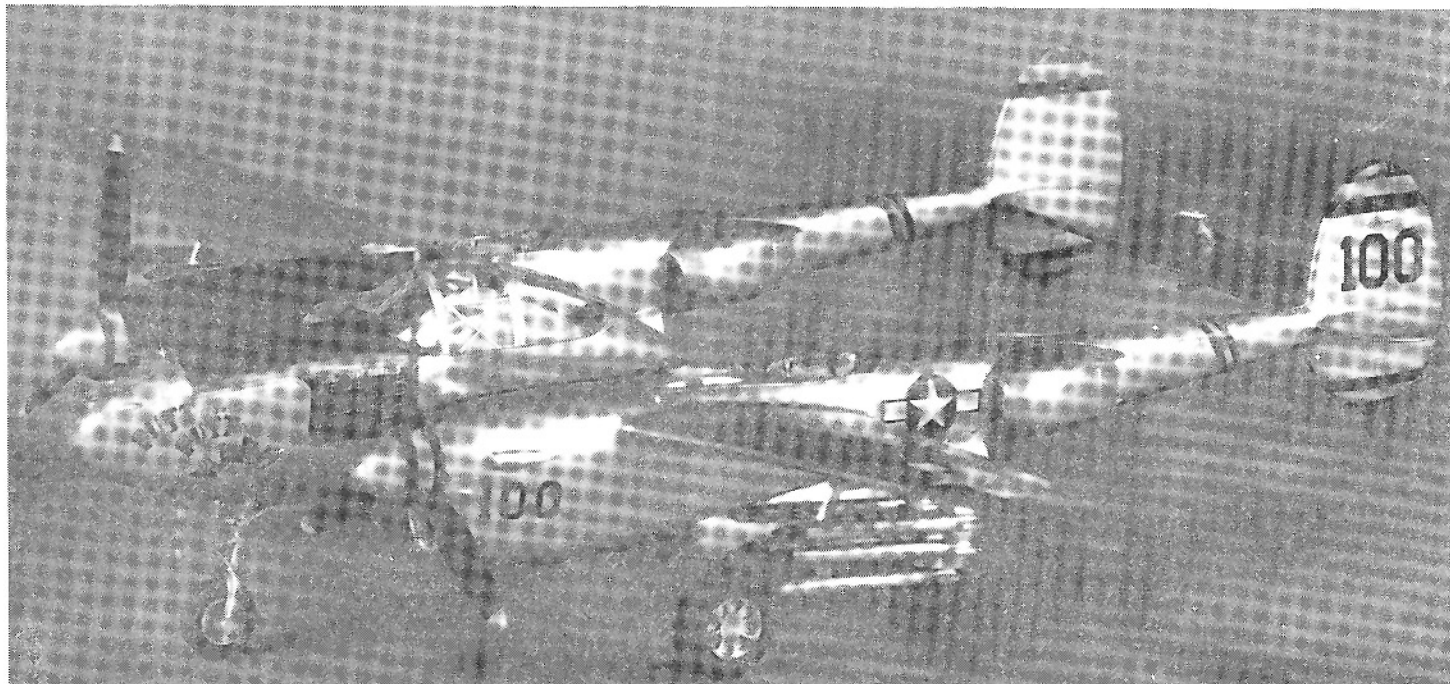


LOCKHEED P-38 J/LorF LIGHTNING

1074

1/72 SCALE



The Japanese called it "two planes with one pilot". To the Germans it was the "forked-tall devil." In fact, it was the U.S. Army's first twin-engine fighter, the Lockheed P-38 Lightning.

As a fighter, the Lightning introduced several new features to the Army. These included a two-engine, twin tall-boom configuration with tricycle landing gear. This unique arrangement permitted the installation of all the P-38's armament in the nose, which concentrated the firepower into a devastating stream of bullets. A total of four .50 cal machine guns and one 20 mm cannon gave the P-38 enough destructive power to sink a destroyer. A one-second burst was enough to destroy an enemy plane.

The P-38 Lightning began operations with the Army just before World War II. At that time it was the Army's fastest and most heavily armed fighter. In combat, the Lightning proved as rugged and maneuverable as it was fast. The two Allison engines gave the plane a flashing performance, but even if one engine was lost during combat, the P-38 could give a pretty good showing on its remaining power unit. Many pilots sang the praises of the Lightning's ability to bring them home even though severely damaged.

The Lightning's heavy nose armament was so potent it was often used to destroy locomotives. Major George Laven, Jr., was credited with no less than 18 locomotive "kills" in his P-38, making him one of the top scorers in this category.

America's top ace, Major Richard Bong, achieved all 40 of his victories while flying Lightnings.

The Army found a use for the P-38 in many different roles. Among these were high-speed photo reconnaissance. These camera-equipped Lightnings were designated F-4 and F-5. Other P-38s flew bombing missions, were long-range bomber escorts or Pathfinders, leading bomb-laden fighters to strategic targets.

CHARACTERISTICS

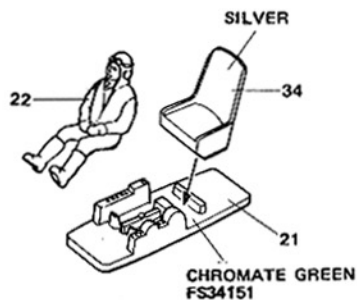
- Dimensions:** Wingspan— 52 feet
Length— 37 feet 10 inches
- Powerplant:** Two Allison V-1710 engines of 1,425 hp each.
- Performance:** Maximum speed was 426 mph at 30,000 feet.
Range: With drop tanks, over 450 miles.
Service ceiling: Over 40,000 feet.
- Armament:** Four .50 Cal. machine guns
One 20 mm cannon
Two 1,600 lb bombs or ten 5 inch HVAR rockets

MINICRAFT MODELS, INC.
1510 W. 228th STREET
TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA 90501



NOTE: This model can be built as one of three P-38 types. Decide before you begin assembly which version you will build. The P-38F requires engine nacelle modifications.

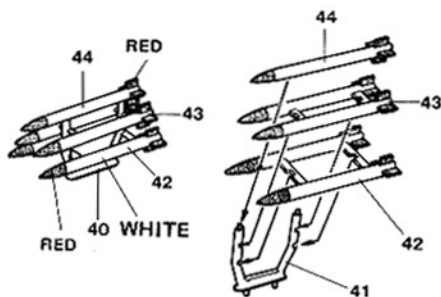
1 STEP 1 Cement 22 to 34 then cement 34 to 21.



2 Cement 42 to notches in 41 indicated in drawing.

Cement 43 to remaining notches in 41, then cement 44 to the ends of 41.

Repeat with 40, 42 and 44.



3 Cement cockpit assembly from Step 1 into 2. Put in weights in area in front of cockpit.

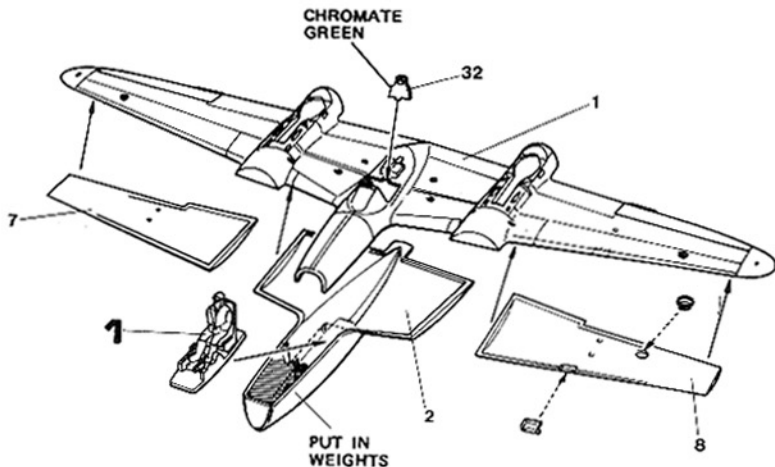
Cement 2 to the underside of 1 and cement 32 to 1.

Cement 7 to 1.

"J" Version only: Carefully open hole in 8 and cement round landing light (clear part 5) in place before cementing 8 to 1.

"L" Version only: Carefully open areas on 8 and 1 for leading edge landing light. Cement 8 to 1 then cement leading edge light (clear part 3) in place.

"F" Version only: Cement 8 to 1.



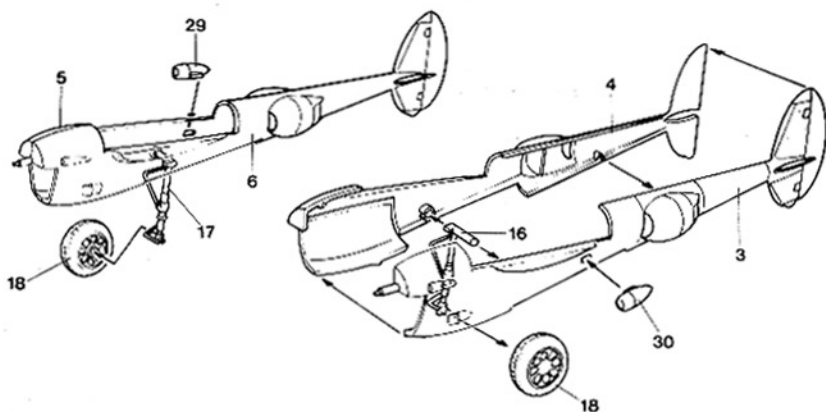
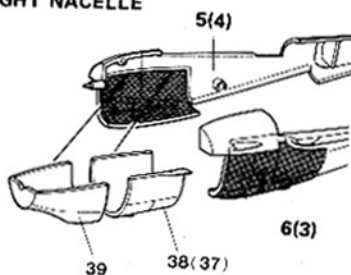
4 **"F" Version only:** Remove shaded area shown in drawing, and defined by deep groove on the pieces, from parts 3, 4, 5 and 6.

All Versions: Cement 18 to 16 then cement 16 to locator in 4.

Cement 3 and 4 together and cement 30 in place as shown. For right boom, repeat with 18, 17, 5, 6, and 29.

"F" Version only: Cement 39 to 38 and cement unit into cutout section on right boom. For left boom repeat procedure using 37 and 39.

RIGHT NACELLE



5

Cement left boom assembly to left wing. Slide 9 into tail slot in left boom but do not cement yet.

Now slide tail of right boom over 9 and cement right boom to wing, but before cement sets be certain both booms are straight and 9 is properly aligned.

Now cement 9 to both booms.

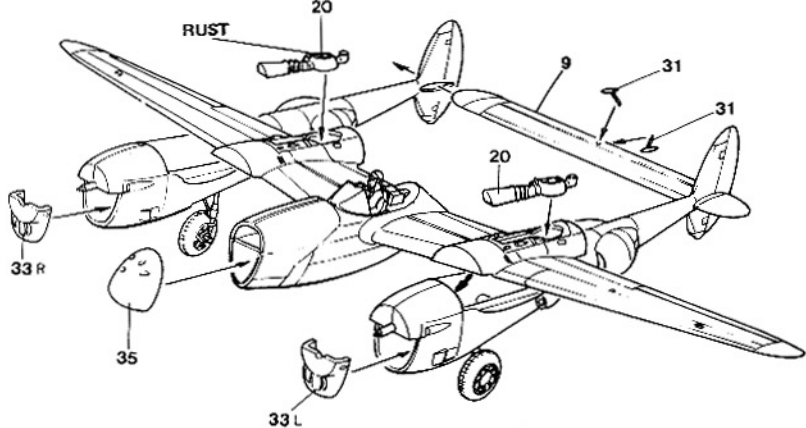
Cement one 31 above and one below the stabilizer, 9.

Cement one 20 in place on each boom as shown.

Cement 35 to the nose.

"J" and "L" Versions only: Cement 33L and 33R in place.

Cement 47 and 48 together and 45 and 46 together for drop tanks.

**6**

The main gear doors are molded in one piece. Carefully cut both parts 36 into two pieces each.

Cement parts 36 alongside the main wheel wells as shown.

Cement drop tanks to wing center section. (Note left tank pylon has gun camera fairing extending forward.)

Cement 23 to lower wing.

Cement 15 to 14 then cement 14 into nose wheel well.

Cement 19 alongside nose wheel well and 24 in front of well.

"J" and "L" Versions only:

Cement rocket launchers to locators on wings.

7

Cement 25, 26, 27 and 28 in place in nose.

Note that propellers rotate outward at the top. Place 10 on shaft of right boom and carefully cement 12 to shaft. Cement 13 over propeller.

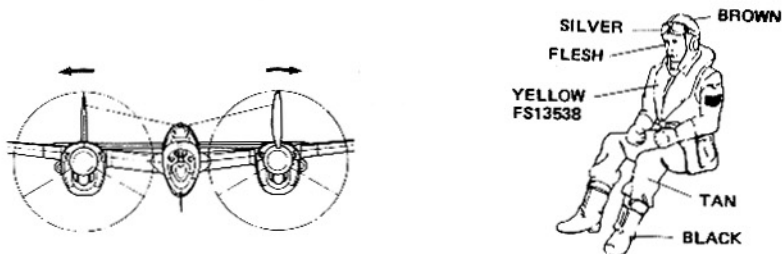
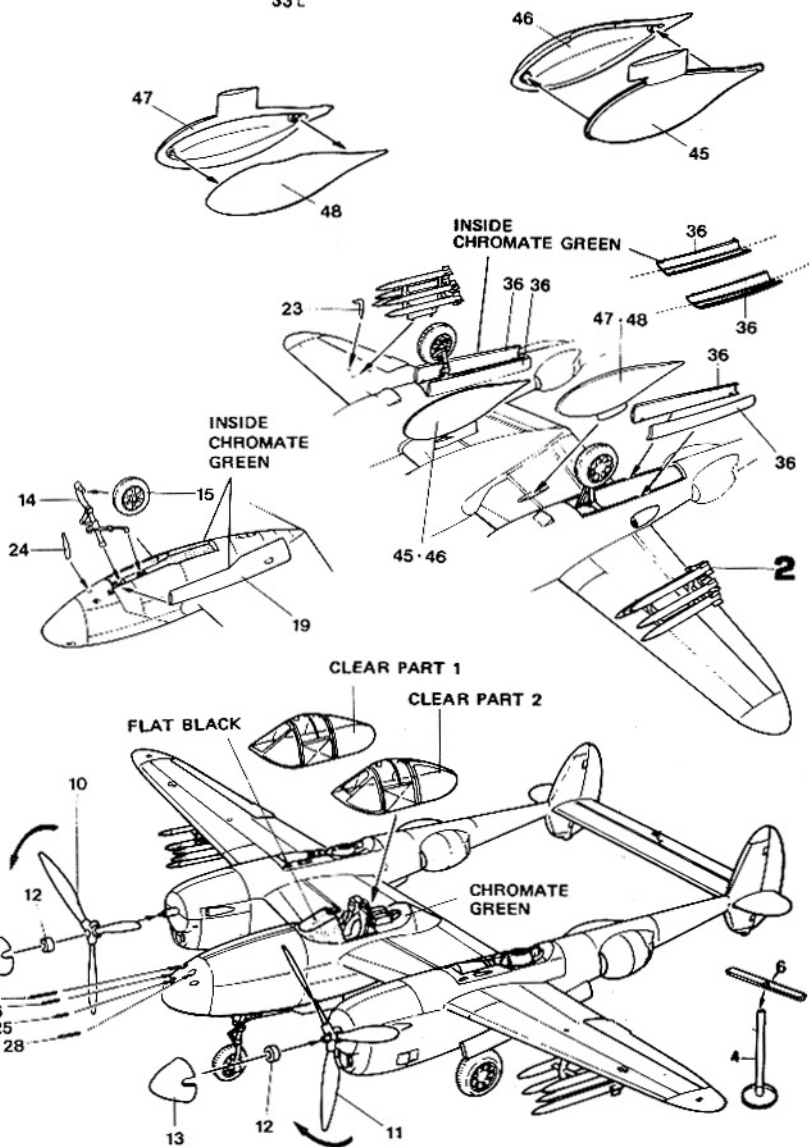
Repeat for left propeller assembly with 11, 12, and 13.

"F" Version only: Cement canopy (clear part 1) over cockpit.

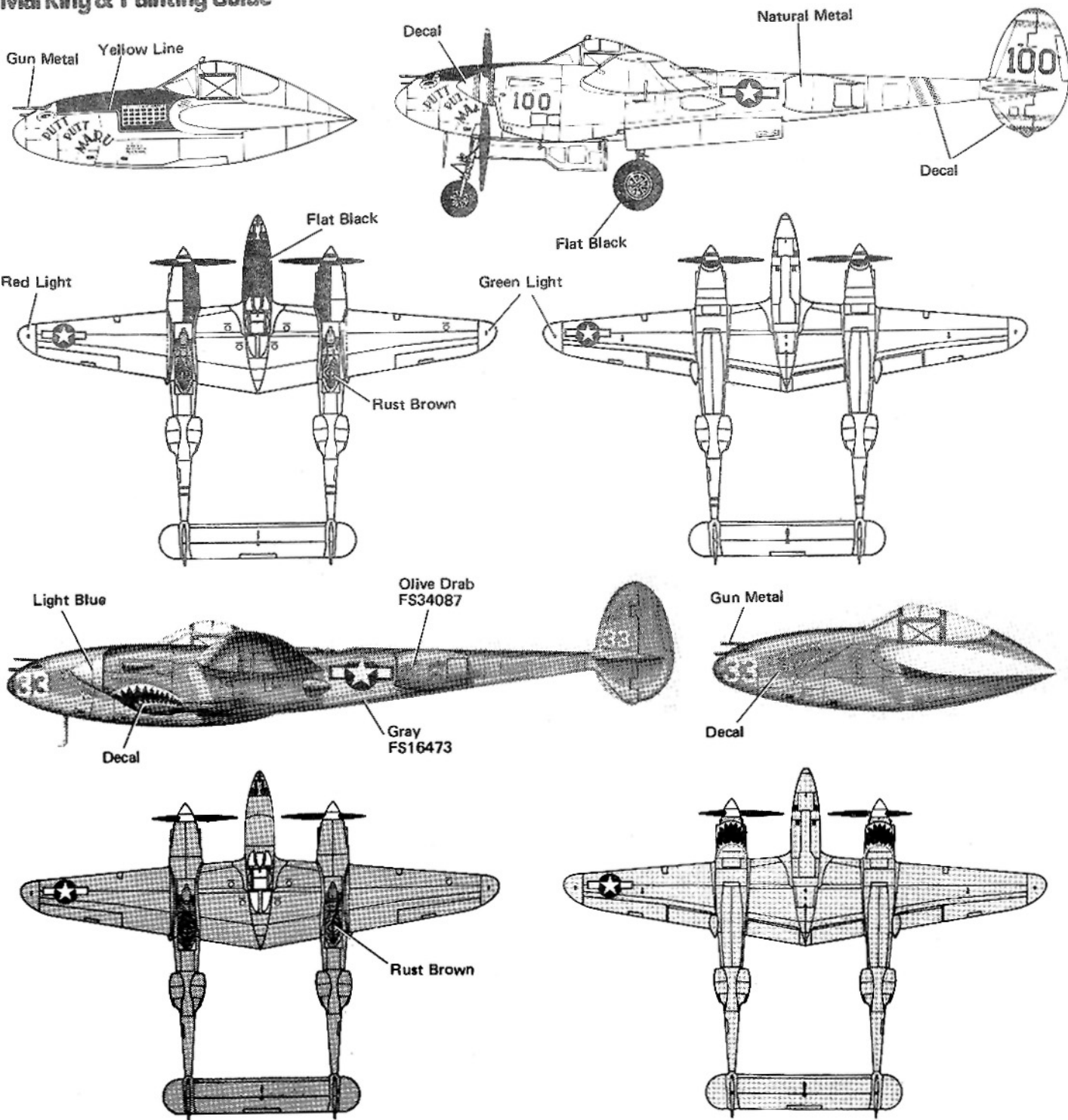
"J" and "L" Versions:

Cement canopy (clear part 2) over cockpit.

Cement clear part 6 to clear part 4 and place under stabilizer to support tail.



Marking & Painting Guide



PARTS LIST

1. Upper wing half
2. Wing center
3. Inside left boom
4. Outside left boom
5. Outside right boom
6. Inside right boom
7. Wing bottom (R)
8. Wing bottom (L)
9. Stabilizer
10. Propeller (R)
11. Propeller (L)
12. Retainer (2)
13. Spinner (2)
14. Nose strut
15. Nose wheel
16. Main gear strut (L)

17. Main gear strut (R)
18. Main wheel (2)
19. Nose gear door
20. Supercharger (2)
21. Cockpit floor
22. Pilot
23. Pitot tube
24. Antenna
25. Cannon
26. Machine gun
27. Machine gun
28. Machine gun
29. Oil cooler (R)
30. Oil cooler (L)
31. Elevator balance (2)
32. Headrest

33. "J/L" airscoop (L&R)
34. Seat
35. Nose
36. Main gear door (2)
37. "F" scoop fairing (L)
38. "F" scoop fairing (R)
39. "F" air scoop (2)
40. Rocket launcher support
41. Rocket launcher support
42. Upper rocket pair (2)
43. Lower rocket pair (2)
44. Single rocket (2)
45. Drop tank half (L)
46. Drop tank half (L)
47. Drop tank half (R)
48. Drop tank half (R)

Clear parts

1. "F" canopy
2. "J/L" canopy
3. "L" landing light
4. Tail support
5. "J" landing light
6. Tail support base



PUTT
PUTT
MARDI



SCALE-MASTER
INCHES
CENTIMETERS

PUTT
PUTT
MARDI



100 100

100 100

1 1/2" DIA.
1 1/2" DIA.
1 1/2" DIA.
1 1/2" DIA.

NET: 10" DIA.
NET: 10" DIA.

1 1/2" DIA.
1 1/2" DIA.
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NET: 10" DIA.
NET: 10" DIA.



JAPANESE
SANDMAN
II



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P-38
CAT. # 1074

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