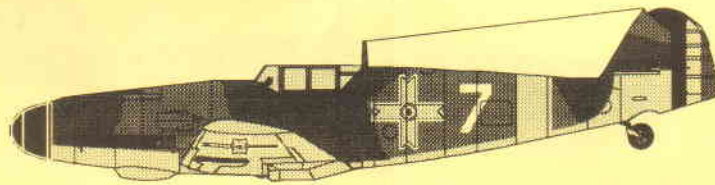


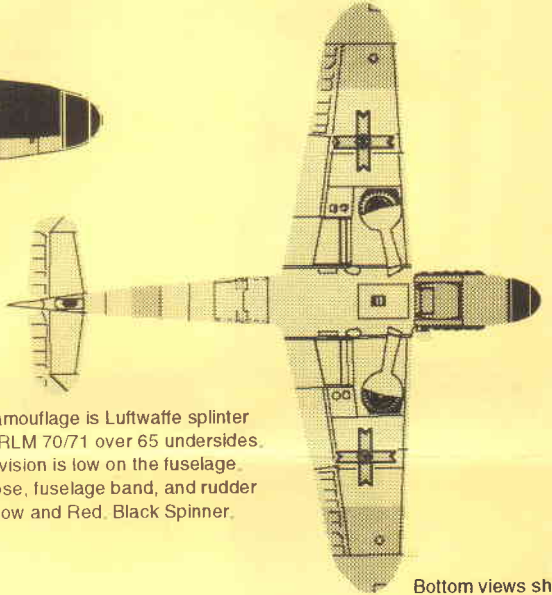


The G-3 was similar to the G-2, apart from fatter wheel fairings and the bulge that appeared in the top wing.

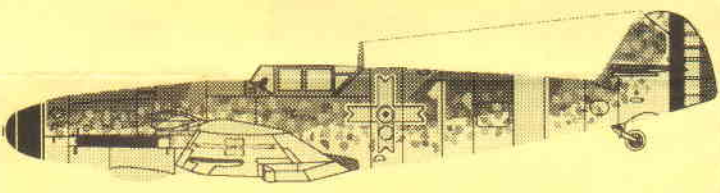


Bf-109G-3/R2, Black Sea area, 1943.

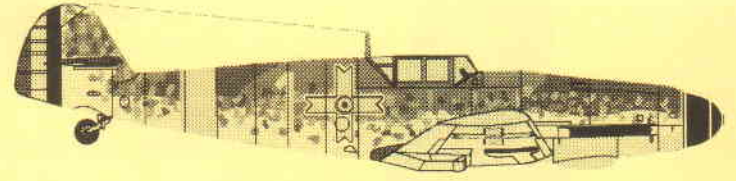
White 7, Bf-109G-3/R-2. Camouflage is Luftwaffe splinter more usual on earlier marks, RLM 70/71 over 65 undersides. As with the Emils, colour division is low on the fuselage. Yellow lower wingtips and nose, fuselage band, and rudder striped Blue (leading), Yellow and Red. Black Spinner.



Bottom views show position of insignia and identification markings.



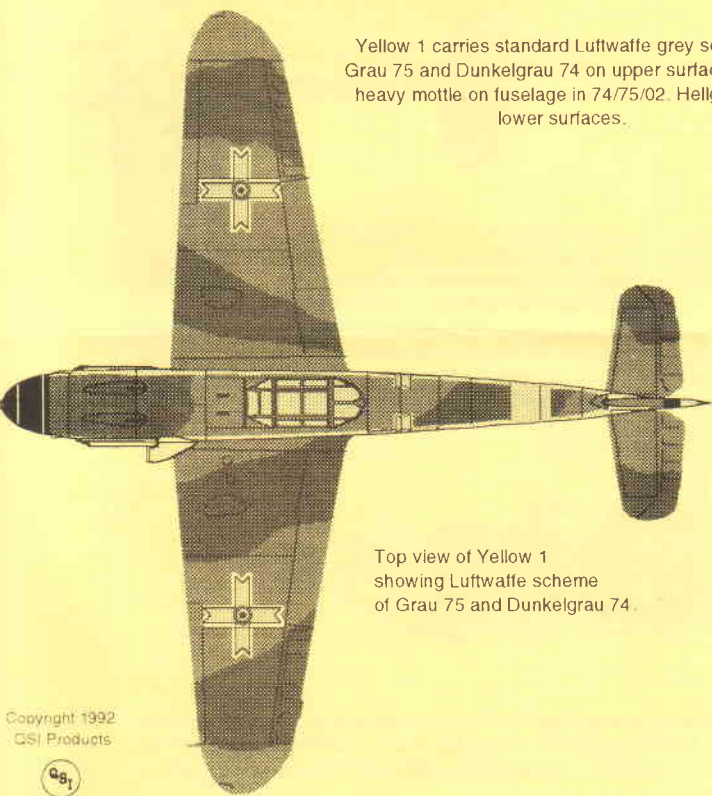
All aircraft have the Blue/Yellow/Red Romanian tricolour on the rudder. Eastern Front identification markings are also common, with a Yellow fuselage band, lower wingtips and nose.



Bf-109G-4/R2 I Air Corps operating under I Fliegerkorps, Ukraine 1943.

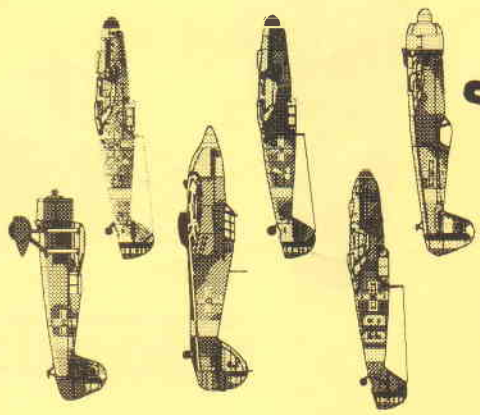
Yellow 1 carries standard Luftwaffe grey scheme. Grau 75 and Dunkelgrau 74 on upper surfaces, with heavy mottle on fuselage in 74/75/02. Hellgrau 76 lower surfaces.

Suggested kits:
 Bf-109E-4 - Airfix, shorn of rivets
 Bf-109G - rumors of one from Hasegawa
 Hurricane - Airfix #2067, plus DH prop
 I.A.R. 80A - Pegasus or epoxy
 P.Z.L. P.24E - Modelland P.24G vac, converted



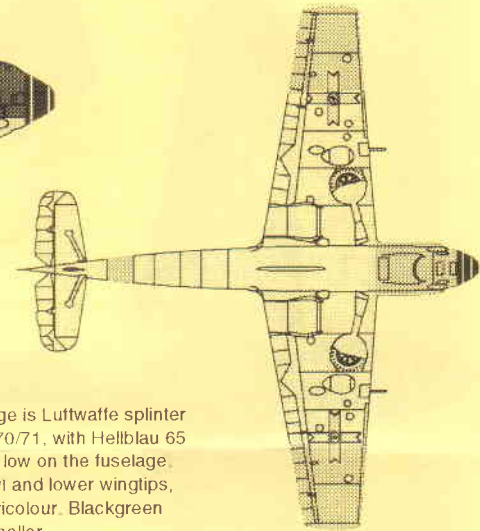
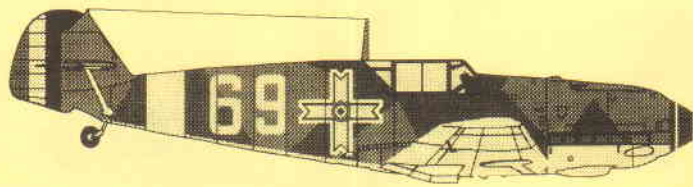
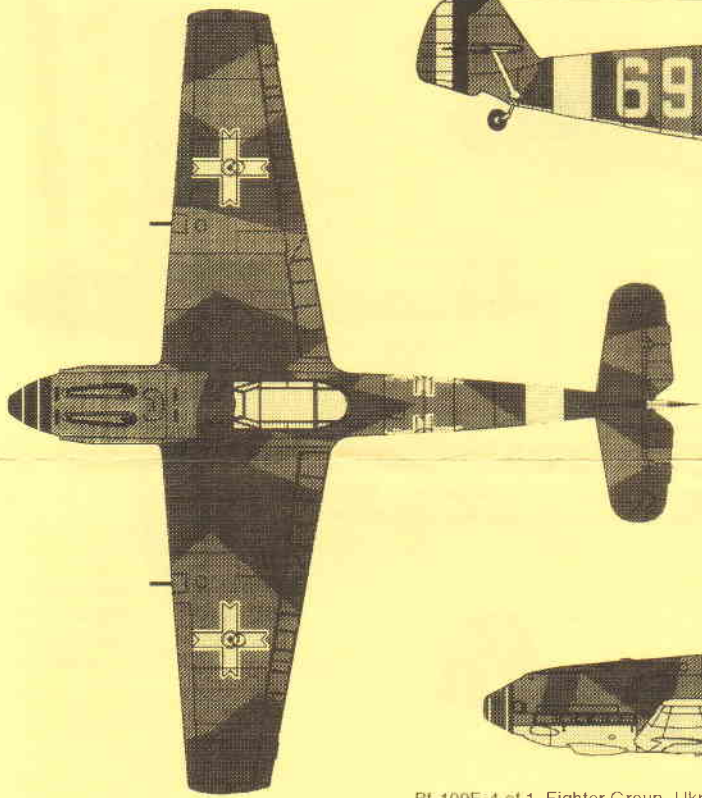
Top view of Yellow 1 showing Luftwaffe scheme of Grau 75 and Dunkelgrau 74.

7118 - Romania - Bf-109E-4, Bf-109G-3, Hurricane, I.A.R. 80A, P.Z.L. P.24E six aircraft

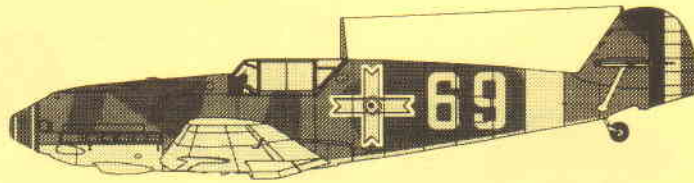


f/sk

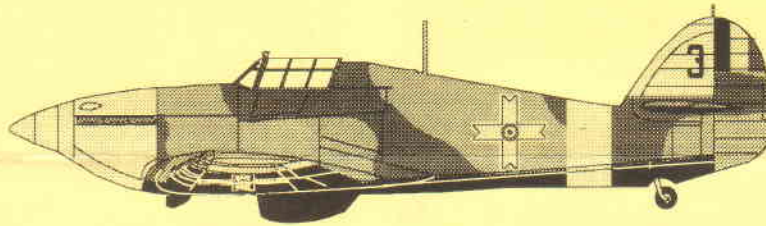
Aviation Usk,
 602 Front Street,
 Box 97,
 Usk, WA 99180



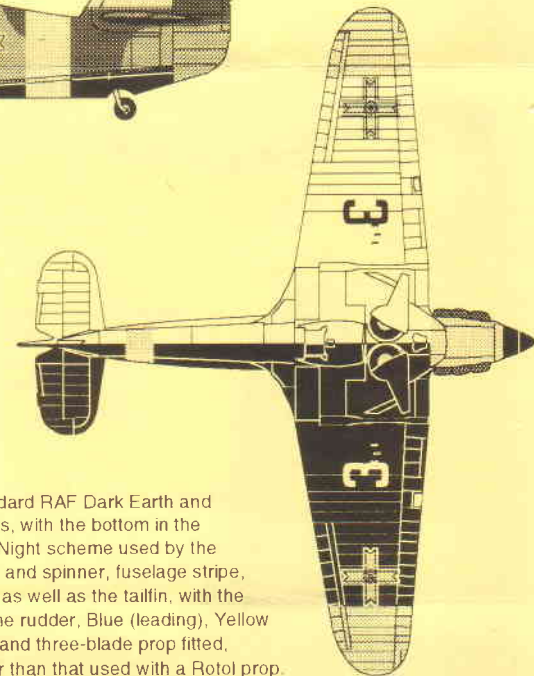
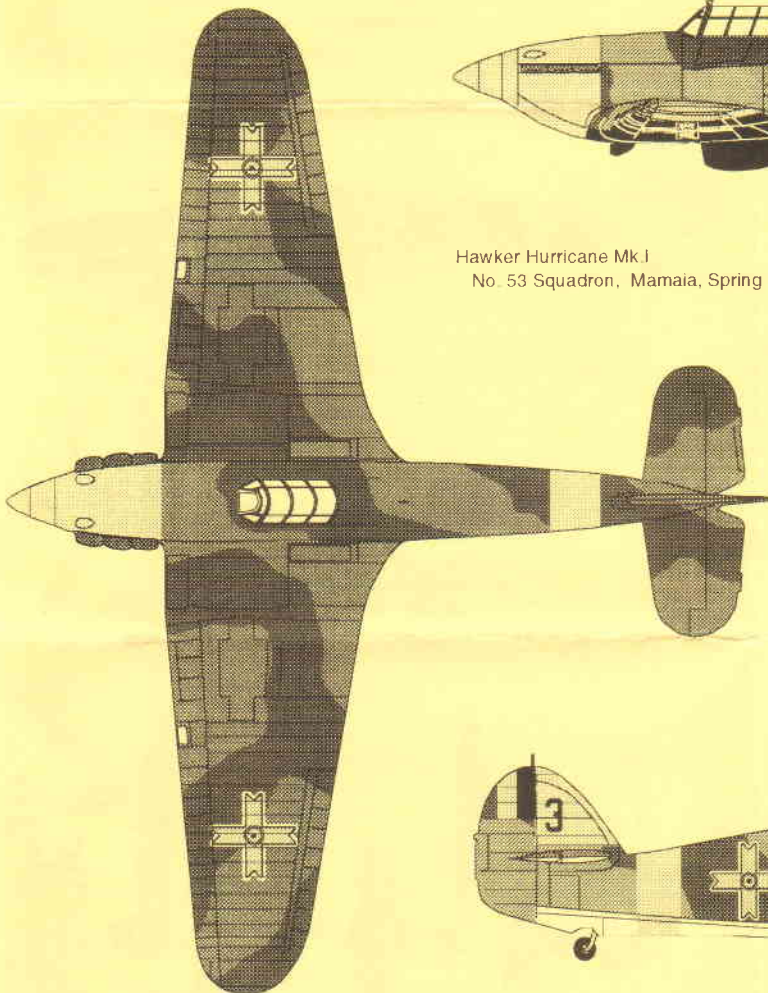
Yellow 69, Bf-109E-4. Camouflage is Luftwaffe splinter of Blackgreen and Green, RLM 70/71, with Hellblau 65 undersides, color demarcation low on the fuselage. Yellow fuselage, bottom of cowl and lower wingtips, rudder painted with national tricolour. Blackgreen spinner and propellor.



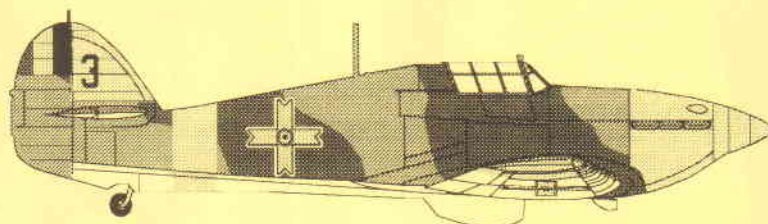
Bf-109E-4 of 1. Fighter Group, Ukraine, mid 1942.



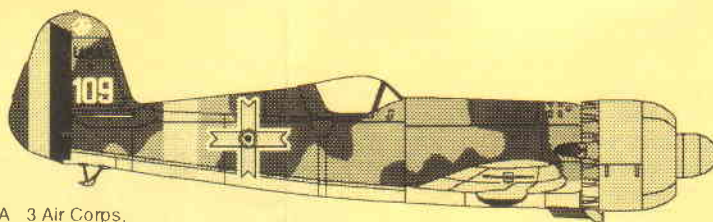
Hawker Hurricane Mk I
No. 53 Squadron, Mamaia, Spring 1941



Camouflage is standard RAF Dark Earth and Dark Green topsides, with the bottom in the peculiar White and Night scheme used by the British, Yellow nose and spinner, fuselage stripe, and lower wingtips, as well as the tailfin, with the Romanian flag on the rudder, Blue (leading), Yellow and Red. De Havilland three-blade prop fitted, with pointier spinner than that used with a Rotol prop.

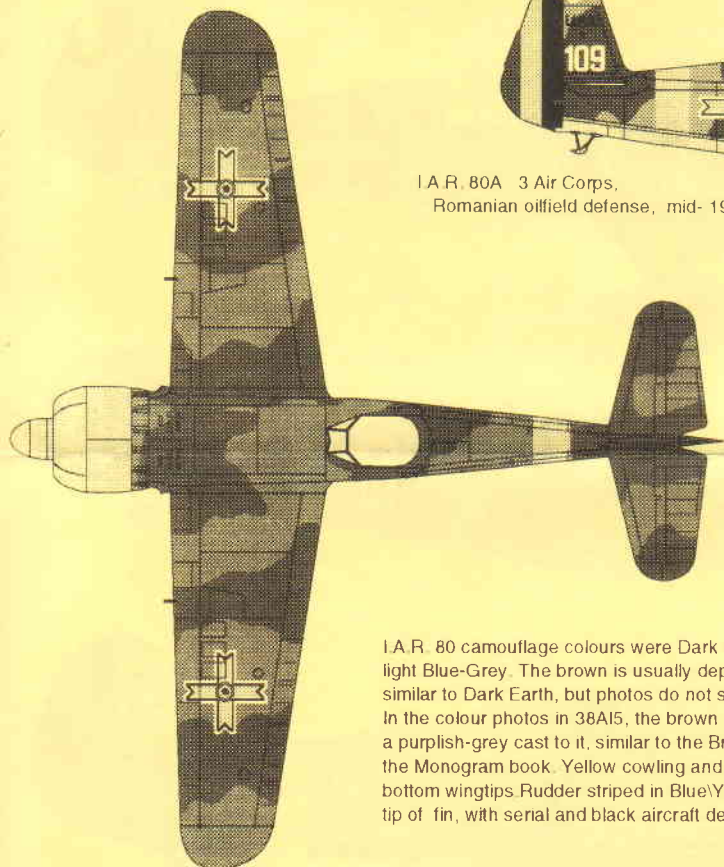


To build a Romanian Hurricane, use Airfix kit #2067, which provides an accurate base. A new prop and spinner can be found in kit #2042, which is ancient boilerplate best forgotten, apart from the prop and exhausts, which are also better than the later kit. The Hellairfix kit #2096 has nice detail but some noticeable outline errors. Aeroclub, Falcon and others have accessory parts.

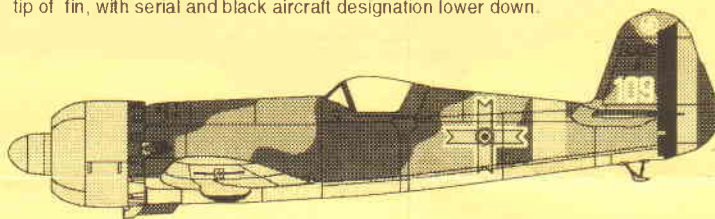
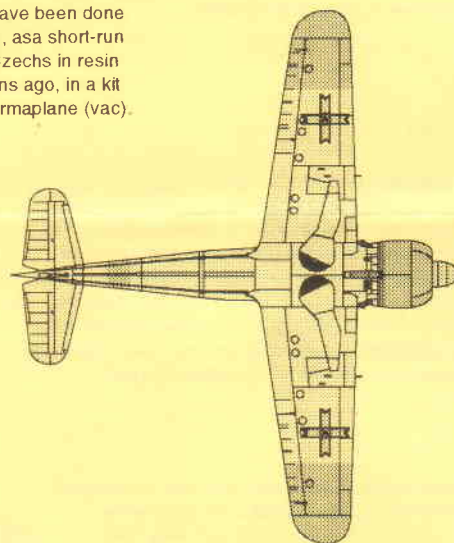


I.A.R. 80A 3 Air Corps,
Romanian oilfield defense, mid- 1943.

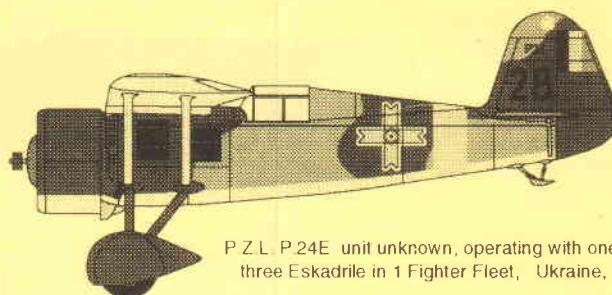
Kits of the I.A.R. 80 have been done by Pegasus, recently, as a short-run injected kit; by the Czechs in resin form, and many moons ago, in a kit best forgotten, by Formaplane (vac).



I.A.R. 80 camouflage colours were Dark Green and Brown over light Blue-Grey. The brown is usually depicted as a medium brown similar to Dark Earth, but photos do not support this description. In the colour photos in 38A15, the brown appears quite dark, with a purplish-grey cast to it, similar to the Brunviolett chip on p.35 of the Monogram book. Yellow cowling and spinner, fuselage band, bottom wingtips. Rudder striped in Blue/Yellow/Red, white logo on tip of fin, with serial and black aircraft designation lower down.

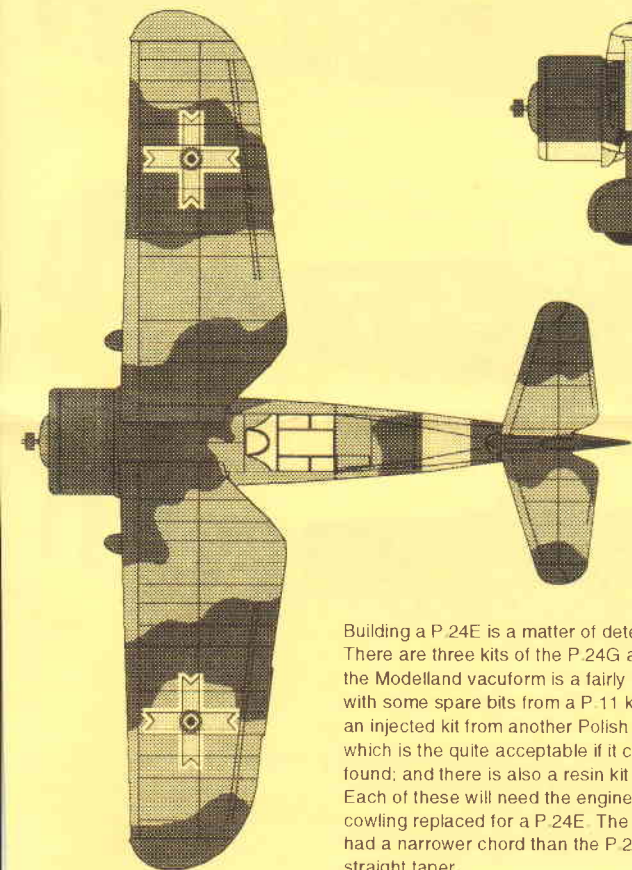
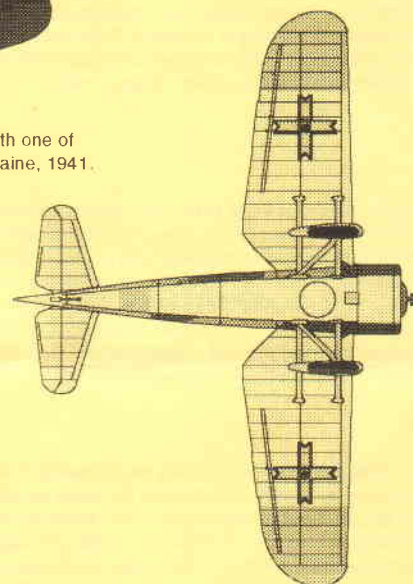


I.A.R. logo appears at the top of the fin on I.A.R. 80 and PZL P.24.

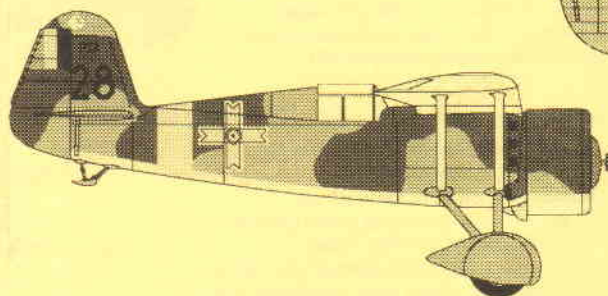


P.Z.L. P.24E unit unknown, operating with one of three Eskadrile in 1 Fighter Fleet, Ukraine, 1941.

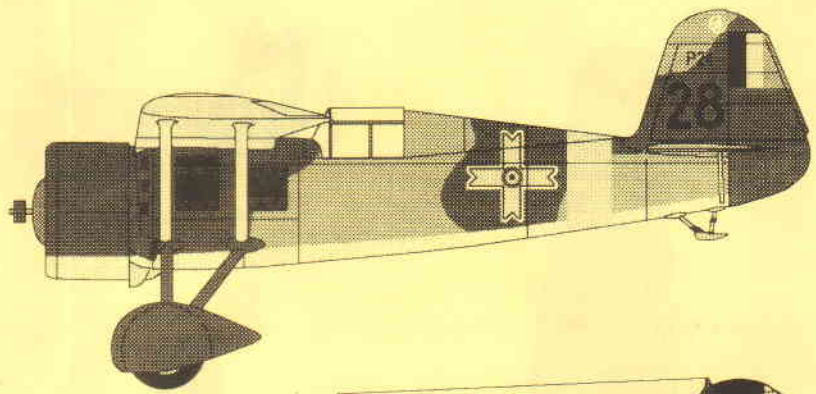
Camouflage is brown and olive, with light blue undersides. Yellow wingtips and fuselage band. Black numbers on tail with I.A.R. logo at the fin tip.



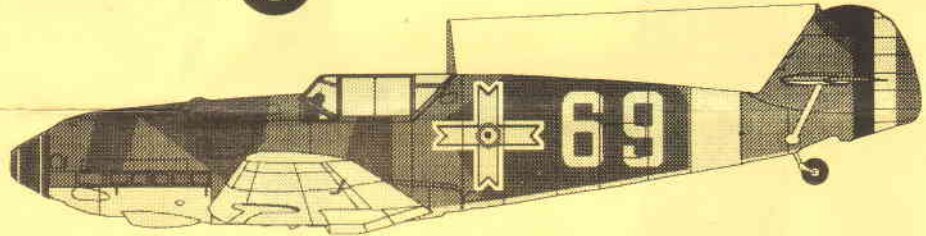
Building a P.24E is a matter of determination. There are three kits of the P.24G available: the Modelland vacuform is a fairly easy build with some spare bits from a P.11 kit; there is an injected kit from another Polish company which is the quite acceptable if it can be found; and there is also a resin kit available. Each of these will need the engine and cowling replaced for a P.24E. The cowling had a narrower chord than the P.24G and straight taper.



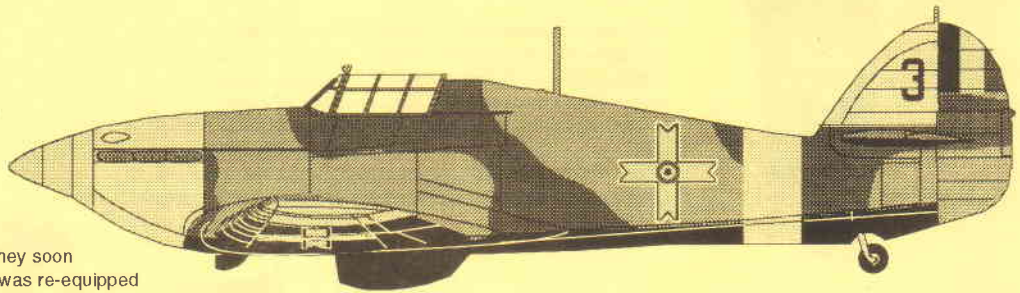
Through the 1930s Romania used mostly P.Z.L. fighters, the P.11b and then the P.24. From 1937, I.A.R. built 50 P.24Es under license, and from 1939 these aircraft flew with four Eskadrile. In 1941, when Romanian forces joined the German invasion of Russia, three of these squadrons, together with a squadron of He-112Bs, were attached to Luftflotte 4 to support Romanian troops in Bessarabia and later in the Ukraine. At the end of 1941, the P.24s and He-112s were replaced with Bf-109Es.



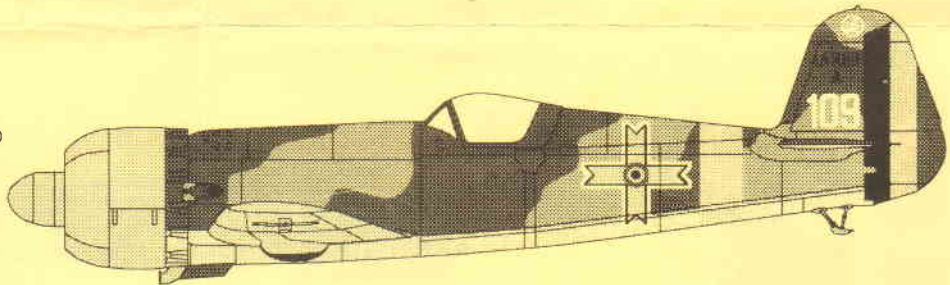
Romanian Emils flew in southern Russia throughout 1942 in support of Romanian Ju-87s and Ju-88s. The course of battle weakened the strength of the air contingent and when the Soviet counteroffensive began at Stalingrad, the initial attacks fell squarely on the weakened Axis units fighting with the Germans. In early 1943 the four Eskadrile in the USSR were reinforced, with 70 new Gustavs from Luftwaffe stocks. The Emils were withdrawn and retired to coastal duties, replacing the Hurricanes of 53 Eskadrila on the Black Sea patrol.



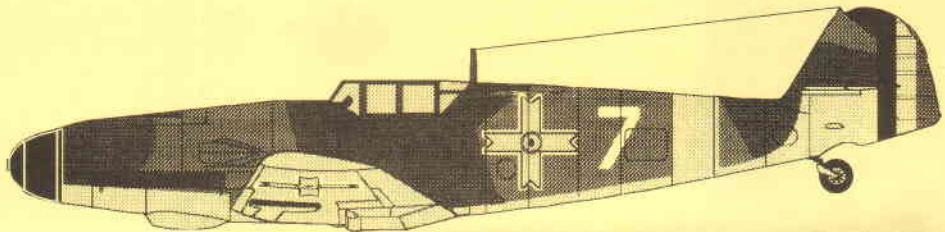
In 1939 Britain supplied twelve Hurricane Mk.I to Romania for political reasons. These aircraft were assigned to 53 Squadron in 1940, and from early 1941 they flew coastal defense patrols over the Black Sea. During Barbarossa, the Hurricanes flew some bomber escort sorties, but any Messerschmitt they came across would try to shoot them down. This limited their usefulness, and they soon returned to coastal patrol, flying from Mamaia until the unit was re-equipped with Bf-109Gs, in 1943. At that time the aircraft were withdrawn, and their Merlins made their way into Vosper patrol boats, once again patrolling the Black Sea.



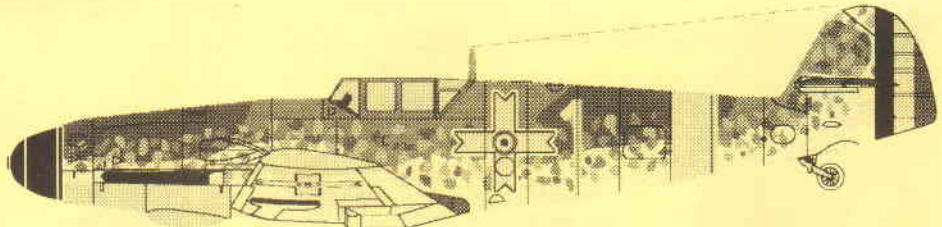
The I.A.R. 80 was Romania's only indigenous fighter. Between 1940 and 1943 some 175 fighter versions were built at Brasov, with another 260 I.A.R.81 dive-bomber aircraft. These aircraft were based in Romania throughout the war, dedicated to protecting the vital oilfields. By the time of Operation Tidal Wave, the I.A.R.s were concentrated into the 3 Air Corps, and shot down some of the 54 B-24s destroyed over Ploesti on 1 August, 1943.



The Bf-109Gs arrived in early 1943, and formed four Eskadrile based at Mariupol, in the Ukraine. Attached to I Fliegerkorps, they flew operations against the Soviets throughout 1943, until by February 1944 losses had reduced the strength of the contingent to one Eskadrila, flying perhaps 15 aircraft from Sai, in the Crimea. By then home defence had become a priority, with the oilfields getting increasing attention from the USAAF, and the remaining aircraft were recalled to Romania.



In August 1944, Soviet forces crossed into Romania. At that time there were some 195 I.A.R.80s and Bf-109Gs operational, but on 23 August Romania surrendered, and the remaining aircraft were remarked with the pre-war roundel and began operations against the Germans. Both types continued to serve until 1947, when they were replaced with Soviet aircraft.



Information on Romanian aircraft can be found in the following places:

Air Enthusiast (Magazine), June 1971 v1n1.
P.Z.L. P.24 Polish Aircraft, Putnam
Profile Publications #170, PZL P.24
I.A.R. 80 "Polish Profile" TBU No.133 on the I.A.R. 80
Air International, May 1990, v38n5
US Quarterly, IPMS USA, Spring 1985, v20n3
Sky Warriors Premiere issue, (Modelaid, 1990)

Bf-109 Squadron/Signal "Messerschmitt Bf-109 in Action" Pt 2.
"Polish Profile" TBU No.151 on the Bf-109E
Warplanes of the Third Reich.
Hurricane Scale Aircraft Modelling, Aug 1990, v11 n12
Air International, May 1988, v34n5
Squadron Signal "Hurricane in Action"