

TBF-1 AVENGER

1/72 scale

Although the Grumman TBF Avenger torpedo bomber had only made its first flight on August 1, 1941, it was available in sufficient numbers by the outbreak of World War Two to become a major factor in that war.

One of the primary factors in the success of the Avenger was its ability to carry a full-size submarine torpedo. This required a large weapons bay which could also be used to haul up to 2,000 lbs of bombs or other weapons, whereas earlier torpedo bombers could carry little more than half that amount. The Avenger also was equipped with far more defensive armament than any other carrier-based dive or torpedo bomber. The most apparent was the power turret located behind the cockpit green house. Additional armament was located in the cowling and the lower turret notch. This latter position sometimes gave the Japanese pilots a shock when they mistook the bombers for fighters approached them from below, only to come face to

with a live machine gun.

Nearly 10,000 of the big torpedo bombers were built by Grumman and General Motors' Eastern Aircraft Division. The GM-built models were designated TBM. Many of the TBMs were delivered to the Royal New Zealand Air Force and Great Britain's Royal Navy. Later versions of the Avenger were capable of carrying rockets and radar.

The end of the War did not bring an end to the Avenger's usefulness. Some were fitted with huge bellymounted radar tubs for anti-submarine search; a few were modified into passenger transports for seven people for shuttle flights, and eventually some found their way the aerial fire fighting service.

Though large, with a 54 foot wingspan, the Avenger had a top speed of 278 mph. With a full weapon load the TBF had a range of over 1,200 miles. Power was provided by a 1,700 hp Wright Cyclone engine.



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Cement Parts Kleben egar Incollare Klever



DO NOT cement Ne pas colle Nicht kleber No pegar Non incollare Nao colar Niet kleven



Cut away Couper Scheiden Cortar Tagliare Cortar Sniiden



Optional parts Choix Auswahlmoglichkeit Eleccion Scelta Opcao





Repeat operation Répéter l'opération Vorgang wiederholen Repitir la operacion Repitir a operação



