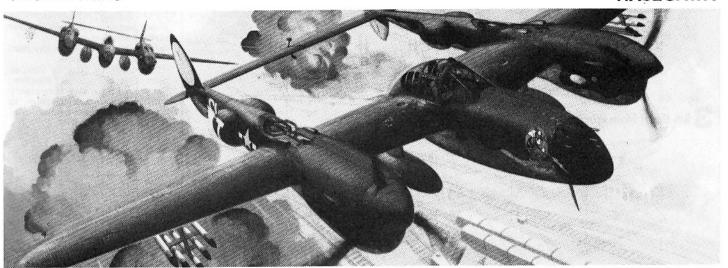
LOCKHEED LIGHTNING P-38 J/LorF LIGHTNING

Hasegawa

1/72 SCALE SERIES



The P-38 was a famous twin-engined, twin-fuselage and twin tailed high speed fighter of the U.S. Army.

When its prototype, the XP-38, made the first flight on January 1, 1939, it gained an epockmaking maximum speed of 665Km/h. It also set a new record of 7 hours and 2 minutes in transcontinental flight with only two midcourse stops. World War II began when the production of its additional trial model, the YP-38 was in the works. Mass production of more than 600 planes was started and in June 1941, the completed planes, designated P-38 and P-38 D/E, entered upon services. Some of these were used for reinforcement in the Royal Air Force at the beginning of 1942 and named Lightning, which became popular in the U.S. Army afterwards. The P-38E was armed with a Hispano 20mm machine gun and four 12,7mm machine guns. This was followed by the P-38F equipped with a higher-powered engine and an additional fuel tank in February 1942, and later

on, by the P-38, the remodified real longdistance fighter plane which distinguished itself by downing the aircraft carrying Isoroku Yamamoto, the Commander-in-chief of the Combined Fleet of Japan.

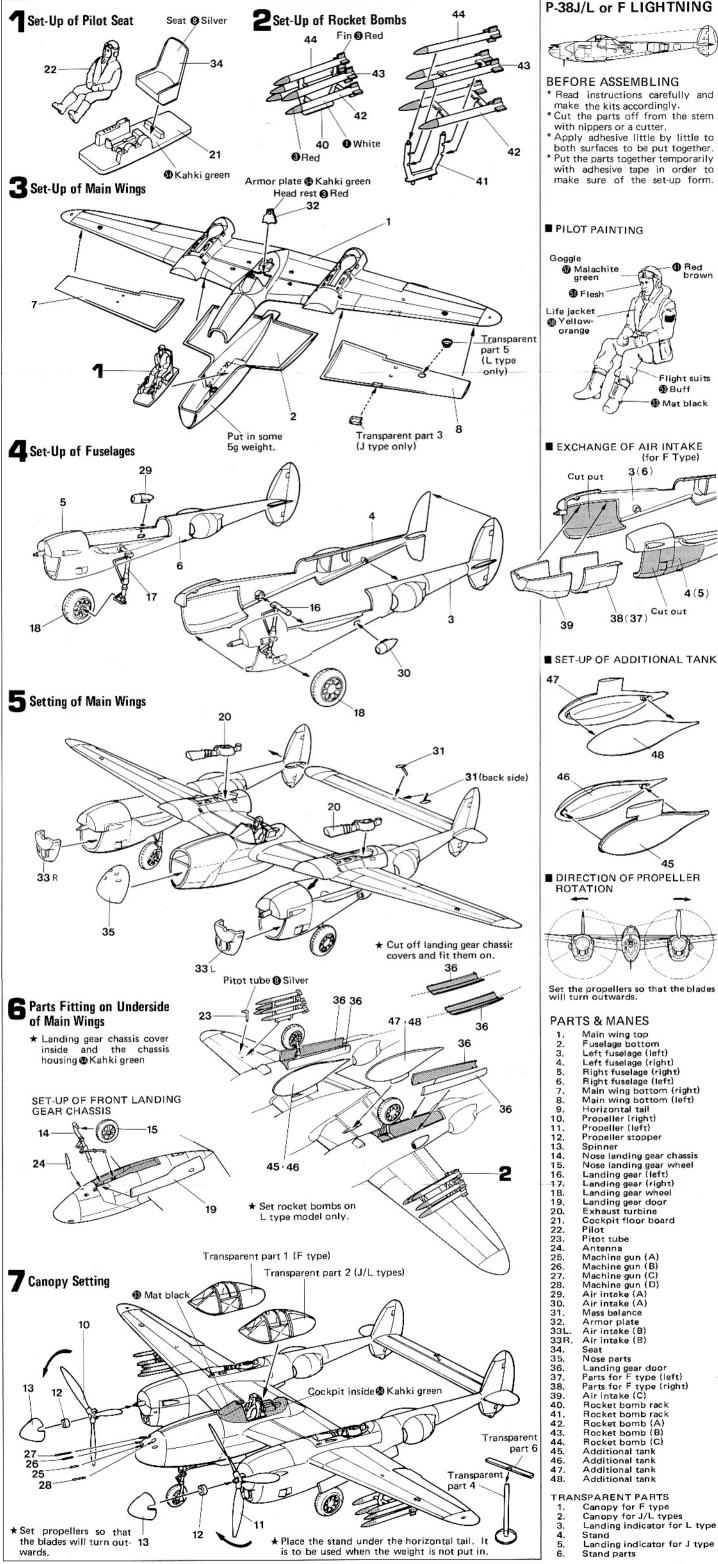
The engine was further powered up and in September 1942 the P-38H was completed, which later remodeled into the P-38J mounted with an enlarged jaw-shaped radiator cover in the underside of the engine. This radiator cover was characteristic of the latter half of the P-38J. The models subsequent to the P-38J were able to carry two 1600lbs. (725Kg) bombs under the wings, and later they were equipped with spoilers for dive bombing. On the planes used for long-range flight an additional fuel tank was installed instead of bombs enabling them to fly 12 hours patrol without refuelling.

Captain Bong, known as the Ace, was an able pilot who mainly flew the P-38J and downed 40 Japanese aircrafts. The P-38L appeared in June 1944 and was the last mass-production

type of the P-38. Carrying ten 12.7cm rocket bombs on the supports, the so called Christmas Tree, located under the main wings, it played an active part in ultra low-altitude ground attack. A few of the L types were remodified into the P-38M provided with radar.

The 3,923 L, 1,082 G, and 527 F combined, a total of 9,923 P-38s were produced, including 1,400 planes modified for photographic reconnaissance

naissance.
DATA FOR P-38J (in parentheses: for P-38L)
Overall width /m 15.85
Overall length / m
Wing area / m2
Full flight load / Kg 7,938 - 9,797
Engine Arison V-1710-89/91 (V1710-111/113)
Horsepower 1,425 x 2 (1,475 x 2)
Max. speed / Km 666
Service ceiling / m 13,410
Cruising range / Km 1,890 — 4,180
Armament 20mm machine gun x 1
12.7mm machine gun x 4



Marking & Color Painting Guide Upper surface Olive drab or Khaki green The 8th Air Force 55th Combat Regiment 33rd Squadron P-38J, Europe @Gun metal Lower surface Spinner @ Olive drab or Exhaust turbine @ Rust Khaki green Neutral grey (possibly, @ Red) 2 The 12th Air Force Ist Combat Regiment 94th Squadron P-38F, North Africa Rust P Olive drab or Kahki green \$82 Gun metal 520 Neutral grey 3 The 49th Combat Regiment Headquarters Squadron Major George Laven's Aircraft P-38L, Philippines Believed to have been painted only on the left side. Believed not to have been Mat black painted on the right side. @Rust Fuselage entire surface (3 Silver Mat black Mat white TOP & BOTTOM VIEW OF 2 TOP & BOTTOM Left light ★In case of painting, VIEW OF 3 OClear blue apply finned national marking, and for the rest, paint similarly. Right light Clear red Tank @Silver Tank @ Neutral grey

MARKING & PAINTING

In general, U.S. Army aircrafts were painted in Olive Drab for the upper surface, and Neutral Grey, the lower surface. However, since 1944 when the U.S. Army took command of the air, it had become unnecessary to adopt camouflaged colors and the aircrafts tended to have no painting on the fuselages or to be bare metalic. But there was no definite regulation on their painting, both bare metalic and camouflage-colored planes were often used for the same operation in the same unit. The national marking was altered in August 1943 into the finned insignia.

HOW TO APPLY DECALS

- Cut out the decal and remove the film covering. Then place in water for 20 seconds.
- Slide off the decal from the paper and position it at the proper place.
- Press the transferred decals with a soft cloth and remove the moisture,



Model colors numbered ① ~ ②.

Be sure to paint after assembling and make fine and beautiful kits.

Profile brush

Use a flat brush to paint wide area and a profile brush for detailed painting.

Flat brush

