





FR IIB HL857 of 135 Sqn based at Hove, Burma (code-named 'Ritz') and flown by Flt Ltt Kenneth Athol Perken who was WIA and crashed landed at Ramu (code-named 'Reindeer') on the 4th april 1944. Weapons installed for Tac R. Eyes of the Phoenix' p.79. RAF Command Forum.



FR IIB HV538 of No. 6 RIAF. India, 21 Aug 1942. Although the aircraft was manufactured after Medium Sea Grey was introduced the photo shows an extremely bright lower colour akin to Sky. Of note also is the fact that the upper surface is in the 'A' scheme regardless of the seriel number ending in an even number! Note there is considerable wear to the paintwork around the inboard weapons bay but none around the outer bays suggesting that they may have not been used. IWM photo.



FR IIC LD903 of No. 10 Sqn RIAF being armed at Kyaukpyu in April 1945 most likely with standard Tac R camera arrangement. Aircraft may have all four cannon installed but with no drop tanks installed removing two of the cannon would increase range for strikes against retreating Japanese forces at Arakan. Many IICs in SEAC are seen with 2x inboard cannon only - also some have the wing bands in the 'India' Blue of the centre of the roundel but in this aircraft's case it is white and incorrectly added to the ailerons. Eyes of the Phoenix' p.136



PR Mk I P2638 of 208 Sqn, LG 39 / Burgh el Arab, Egypt, early July 1942. A short time latter it was passed to 274 Sqn to serve as a fighter and was almost immediately lost, being shot down by three bf 109 F's on the 27th July 1942. Note gun sight fitted for Tac PR. IWM photo.



Mk I L1658 - upgraded to Mk II PR and allocated new serial number DG622 - flown by W/O Carpenter of No. 2 PRU, Malta, Feb 1941. Note Early windshield and that centre section of wing up to end of early Mk I gunbay is fabric covered! Gun bay has large fuel tank blister with weapons ports dopped or faired over. Photographed latter with 'Kathleen' written under the cockpit whilst with 208 Sqn at Kabrit in 1942. Aluminium tail wheel hub and paint damage to nose area. AirHistory.net and Mason book.



PR Mk II A Z4949 of No.2 PRU based at Heliopolis and flown by F/O F.D. Proctor who along with K.A. Perkin in DG635 transferred on the 25th Jan 1942 to Mingaladon. Both pilots flying alternative days over the Japanese advancing areas. F/O K. Perkin also flew Z4949 in March. Note the 5" yellow surrounds. Sadly style of fin flash not seen in photo. 'Eyes of the Phoenix' p.33 & 224. Weapon openings doped over. rear F24 vertical, front F24 tilted to the left.

