RRD7287



Late War Aussie Ansons 67 Squadron RAAF 1/72 Scale Limited Edition Digital Print Decals



Ansons inside the 67 Squadron maintenance hangar at Laverton (Victoria). VIC0197 Australian War Memorial

Avro and the RAAF

Avro was founded in 1910 by Alliott Verdon Roe in Manchester. The company remained based primarily in Lancashire throughout its 53 years of existence, with key development and manufacturing sites in Alexandra Park, Chadderton, Trafford Park, and Woodford, Greater Manchester. The company was merged into Hawker Siddeley Aviation in 1963, although the Avro name has been used for some aircraft since then.

The Avro Anson is a British twin-engine, multi-role aircraft built by the aircraft manufacturer Avro. Large numbers of the type served in a variety of roles for the Royal Air Force (RAF), Fleet Air Arm (FAA), Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF), Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) and numerous other air forces before, during, and after the Second World War. Developed as a general reconnaissance aircraft, it possessed many features that lent itself to the role, including considerable load-carrying ability, and long range for the time. The structure of the Anson was relatively straightforward and uncomplicated, relying on proven methods and robust construction to produce an airframe that minimised maintenance requirements. The Anson Mk I was furnished with a low-mounted one-piece wooden wing, composed of a combination of plywood and spruce throughout the wing-box and ribs. The fuselage was composed of a welded steel tubing framework which was principally clad in fabric; the exterior of the nose was clad in aluminium. The Anson was powered by a pair of Armstrong Siddeley Cheetah IX seven-cylinder air-cooled radial engines, which were each rated at 350 horsepower (260 kW).

The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) initially ordered 33 Ansons in November 1935 to fill the maritime reconnaissance role. The first were delivered in 1936 and 48 were in service before the start of the war. The RAAF eventually operated a total of 1,028 Ansons, the majority of these being Mk Is. These aircraft continued to be operated until 1955.

Number 67 Squadron RAAF

No. 67 Squadron was a Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) maritime patrol squadron of World War II. It was formed in January 1943, conducted patrols off the southern Australian coastline until the end of the war.

During the first half of 1943 Japanese submarines operated off the Australian east coast, sinking 16 ships and damaging several more. In response to these losses the Australian Government expanded the military's anti-submarine warfare (ASW) forces. Three new RAAF maritime patrol units equipped with Avro Anson training aircraft, No. 66, No. 67 and No. 71 squadrons, were raised during this expansion. While it was recognised that the Ansons lacked sufficient range and payload to be effective in the ASW role, superior aircraft were not available.

No. 67 Squadron was formed at RAAF Base Laverton on 6 January 1943 with a strength of 180 personnel and 14 Ansons. The squadron operated from Laverton and several other bases in Victoria to escort convoys and conduct anti-submarine patrols. It was later organised into two flights which operated alternately from Laverton and Mallacoota. In March 1944 the squadron reached a strength of 244 personnel and 17 Ansons.

No. 67 Squadron continued to conduct uneventful patrols off southern Australia until the end of the war. In addition to its main ASW task, it also conducted searches for missing aircraft and vessels and participated in naval and army co-operation exercises in Victoria and Tasmania. The squadron was declared non-operational on 17 August 1945 and its disbandment was completed on 10 November that year.

Avro Anson Histories

R9935 – Forced landing after engine failure, Amberley, Qld, in 1941 and was allocated to 67 Squadron as MK-K on 12 May 1944. In September 1945 it was transferred to 11 Elementary Flying Training School for storage and was Struck Off Charge (SOC) on 12 May 1948.

AW516 – Allocated to 67 Squadron on 3 August 1944. After a period of some months with HQ Point Cook and Ansett for overhaul it was transferred back to 67 Squadron on17April 1945. It was transferred to 11 Elementary Flying Training School for storage in October 1945.

EG504 – Issued to 67 Squadron as MK-S in December 1943 and collided with refuelling tanker, Warrnambool, Vic, May 1944. Allocated to 11 Elementary Flying Training School for storage on 21 September 1945 and eventually SOC in May 1948.

EG415 – Operated by the General Reconnaissance School and 71 Squadron in 1944, before being issued to 67 Squadron as MK-Z in January 1945. In September 1945 it was allocated to 11 Elementary Flying Training School for storage and taxied into a gun pit on delivery by I AD Ferry Flight on 29 September 1945. The aircraft was eventually SOC in February 1946.

DJ448 – Delivered to 67 Squadron and flown as MK-B in December 1942. The aircraft made a forced landing after engine failure, near Mount Gambier, SA, on 29 January 1944.

MG422 – Allocated to 67 Squadron in January 1945. The aircraft was transferred to 11 Elementary Flying Training School for storage in August 1945, eventually being SOC.

67 Squadron Anson Codes

The positioning of the squadron and aircraft code letters depicted on this decal sheet are in some cases our best estimate because most of the aircraft appear to have been photographed from the right hand side only.

Digital Decal Application

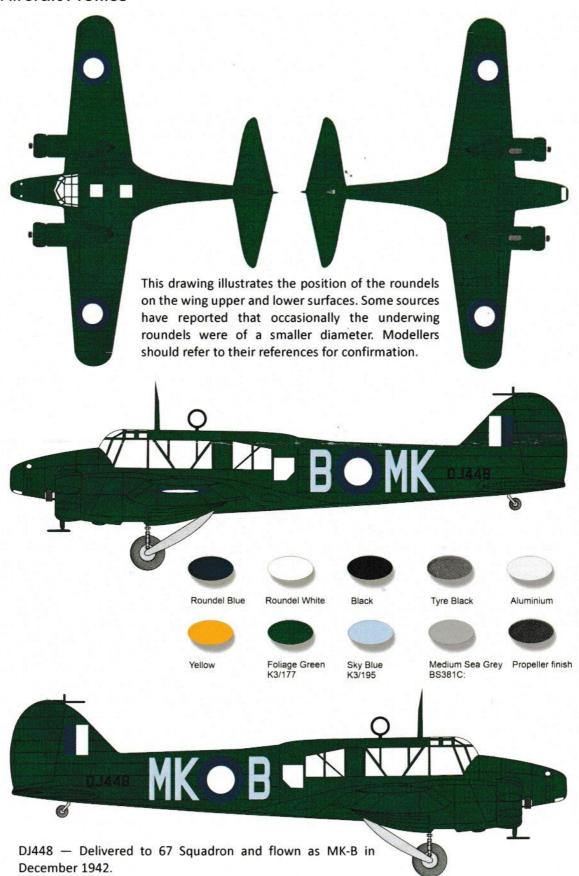
Warning: When applying decals to the model be very gentle as the decal film is very thin and may tear if mistreated.

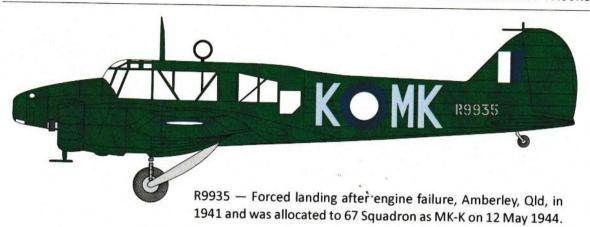
- 1. Apply a coat of gloss varnish to the model and allow to thoroughly dry before applying the decals.
- 2. This decal sheet is a continuous film decal printed on stock decal sheet which behaves the same way as silk screen produced decals. It is also vastly cheaper than silk screen production as it is without the need for large print runs per subject to cover the expensive silk screen master costs which in turn result in high retail costs. The decal sheet will require trimming of individual subjects. When you are ready to start applying the decals, we recommend that you cut out the item you want to use to achieve the best result.
- 3. Soak the decal in warm water to which a drop or two of dish washing liquid has been added. Allow the decal to rest on a smooth surface for a short period of time and then slide the decal off the backing paper onto model surface, using lots of water and a soft bristle brush.
- 4. Once on the model and in the right position, lightly press down on the decal with a Q-tip to soak up excess water. You may then apply your favourite decal settling solution and allow to dry. Allow any creases or bubbles to dry thoroughly before piercing with a pin and applying more settling solution to help the decal conform to the surface. Repeat the process as required.
- 5. Apply a coat of gloss varnish over the entire model once the decals are thoroughly dry. This ensures that the decals are sealed to the model's surface and carrier film is camouflaged.



Ansons of 67 Squadronon the tarmac at Laverton (Victoria). VIC0196A Australian War Memorial

Aircraft Profiles







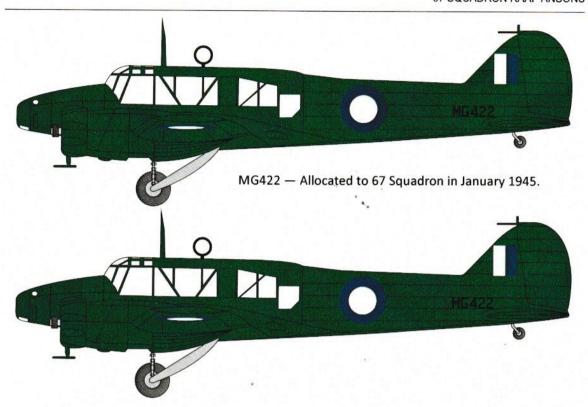


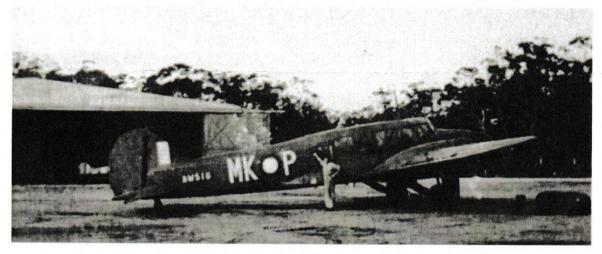


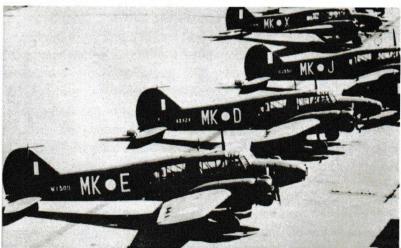


EG415 — Operated by the General Reconnaissance School and 71 Squadron in 1944, before being issued to 67 Squadron as MK-Z in January 1945.









Above:

AW516,MK-P photographed during a detatchment at Mallacoota (Vic) in 1944.

Left:

Parked 67 Squadron Ansons on the tarmac at Laverton circa 1945.

Acknowledgements

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RAAF Museum

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