

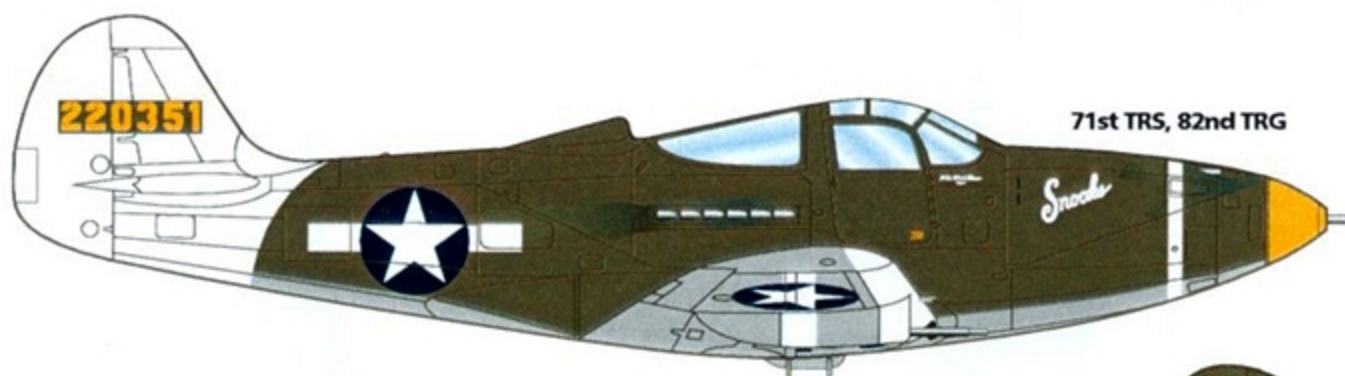
LIMITED EDITION!

CED48145

# P-39

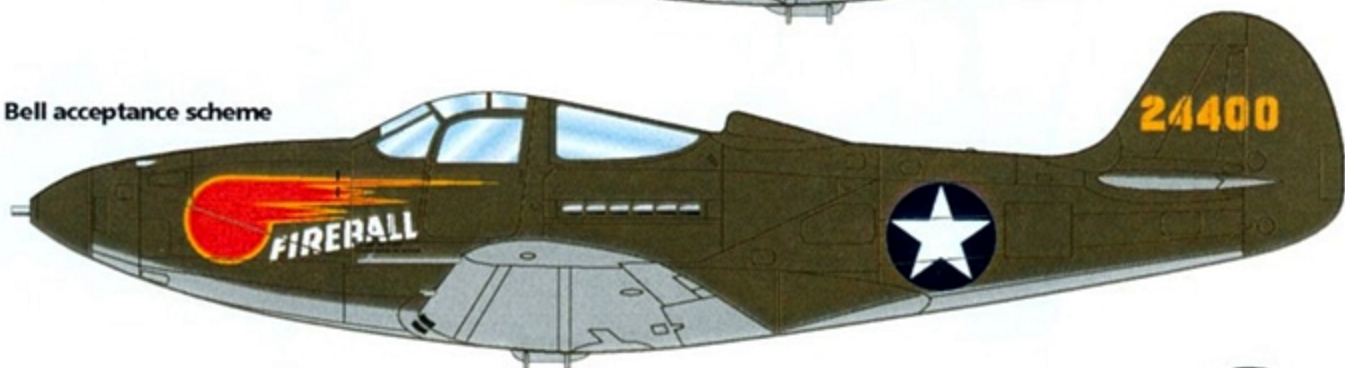
## Airacobra #3

P-39D, P-39N & P-39Q

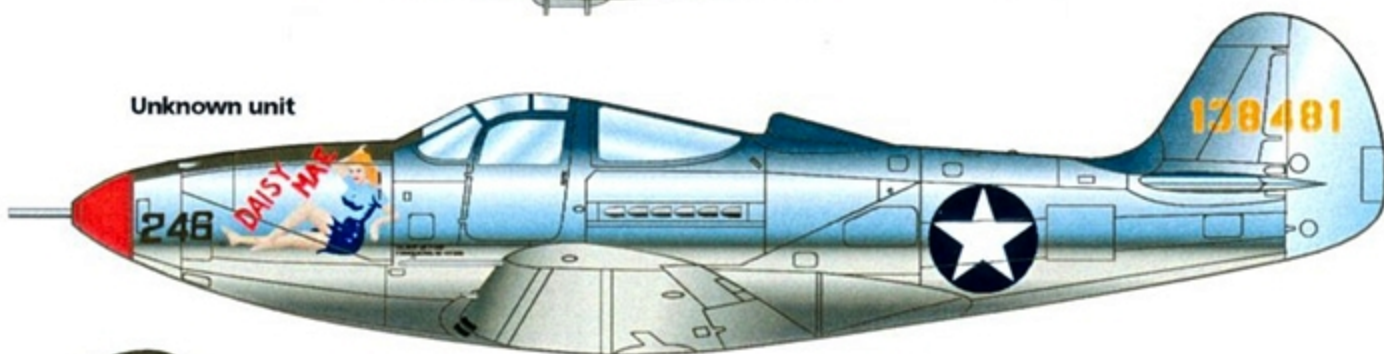


71st TRS, 82nd TRG

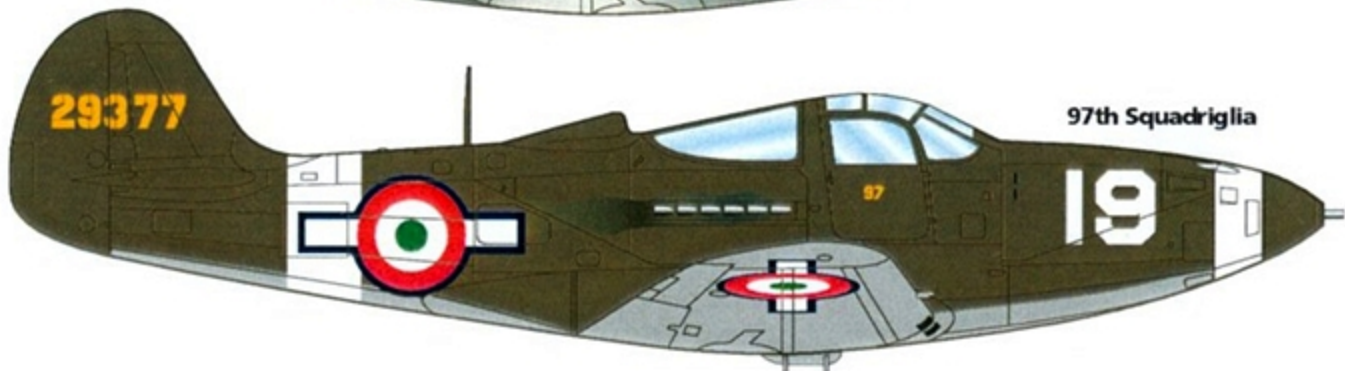
Bell acceptance scheme



Unknown unit



138481



97th Squadriglia

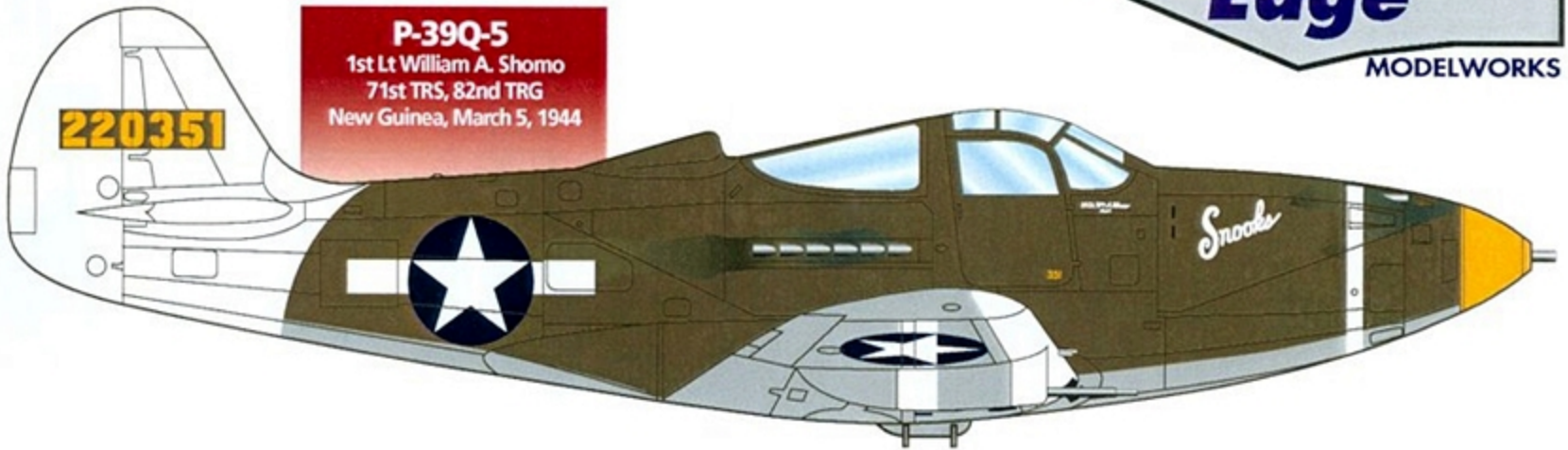
Recommended kit:  
Eduard P-39/P-400

**Cutting  
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MODELWORKS

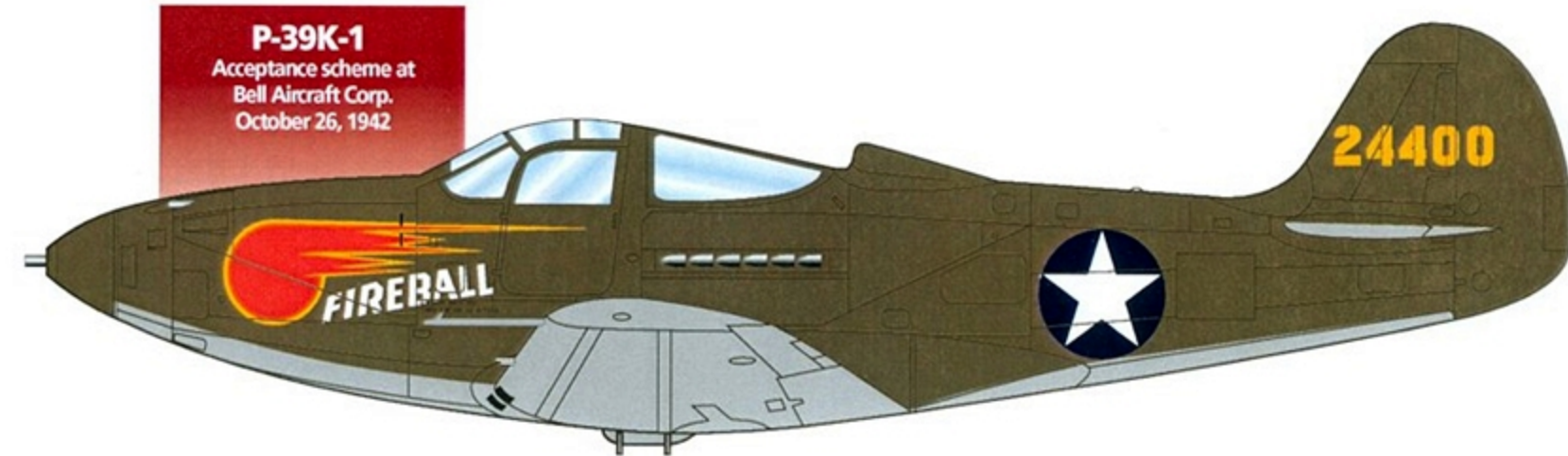
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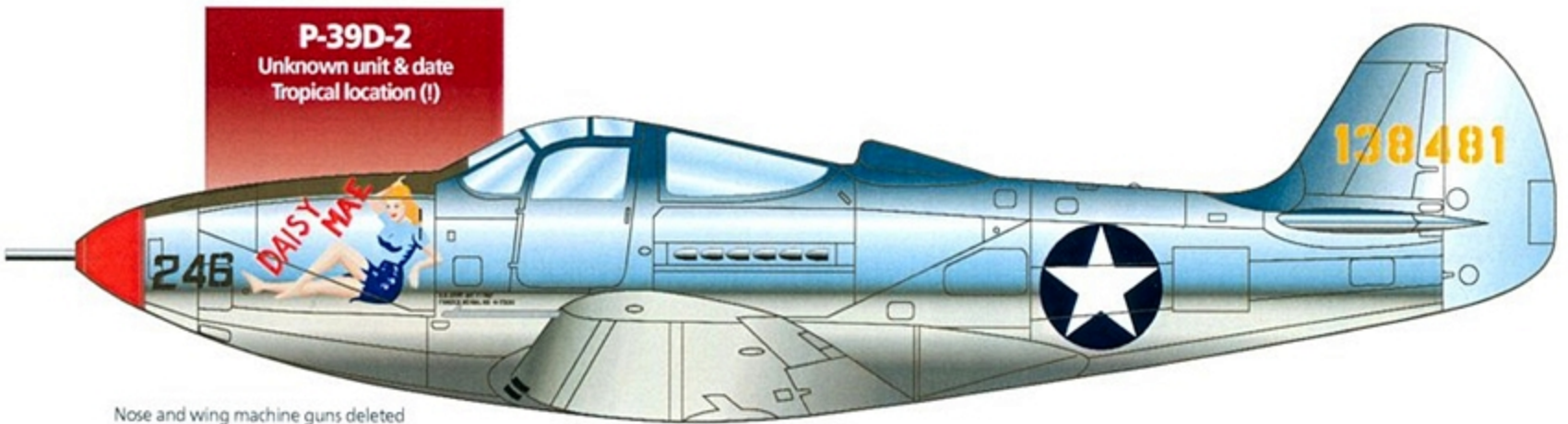
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**P-39Q-5**  
1st Lt William A. Shomo  
71st TRS, 82nd TRG  
New Guinea, March 5, 1944

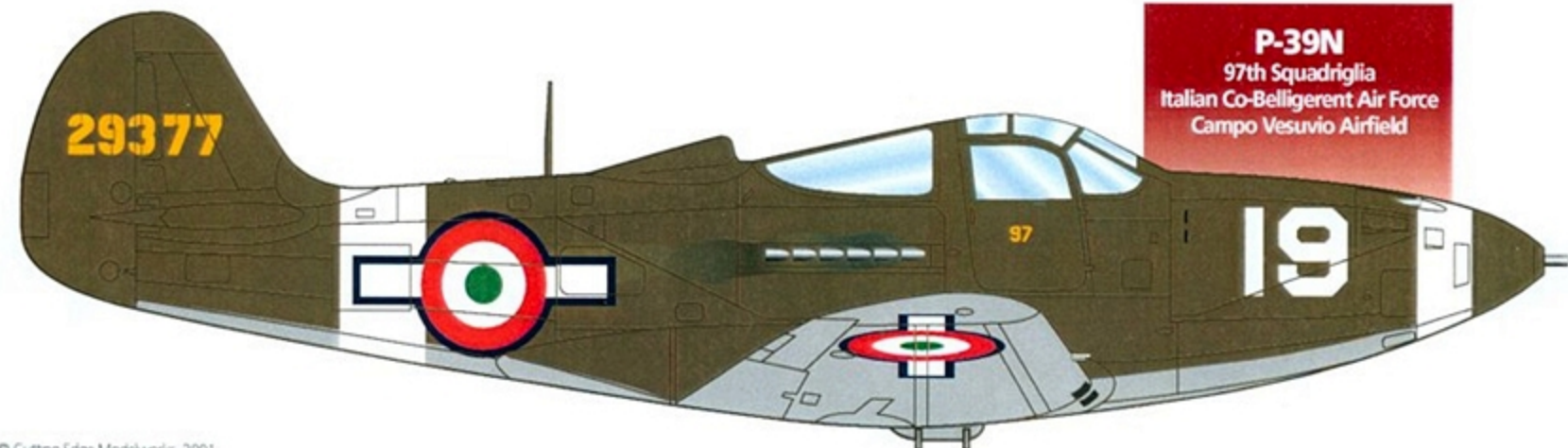


**P-39K-1**  
Acceptance scheme at  
Bell Aircraft Corp.  
October 26, 1942

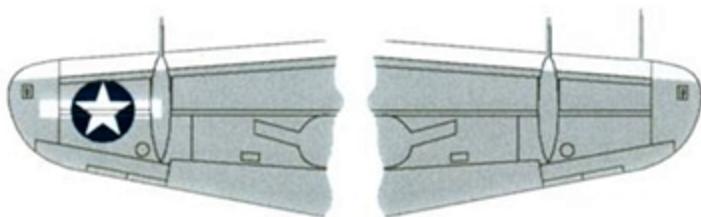
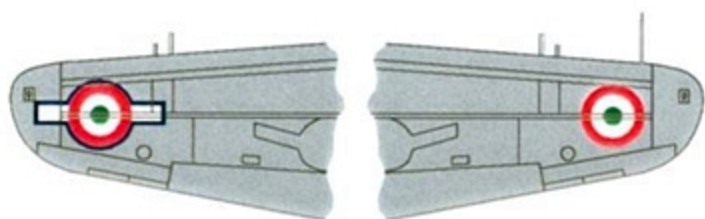
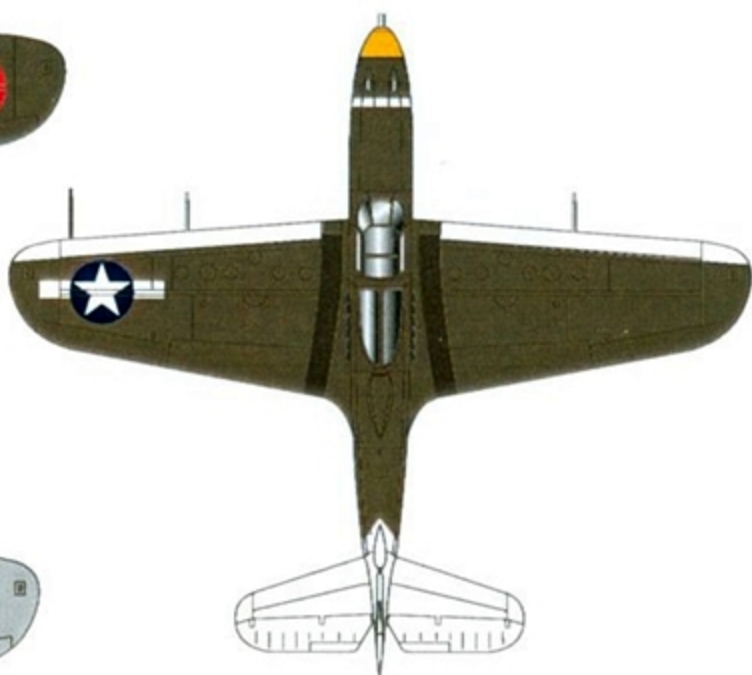
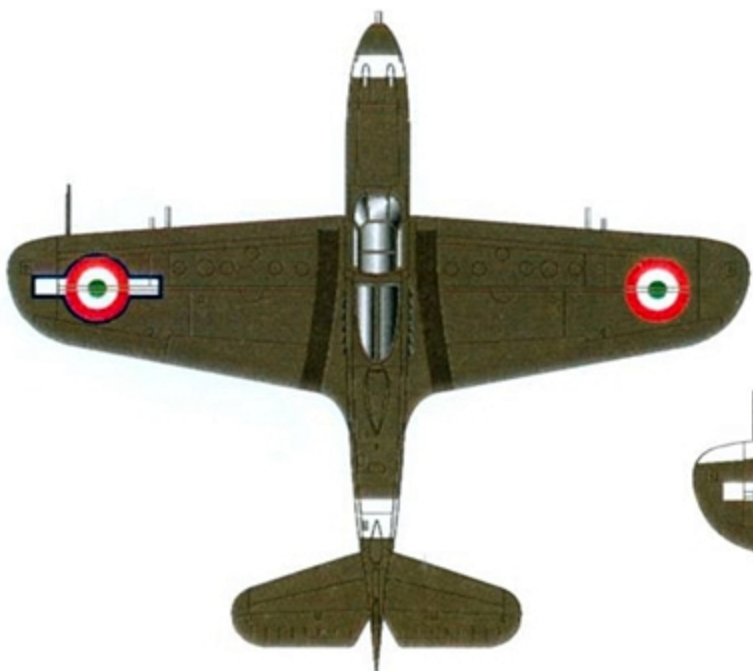
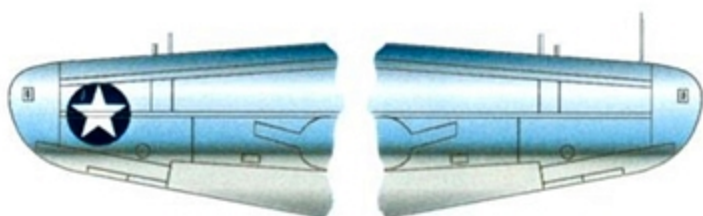
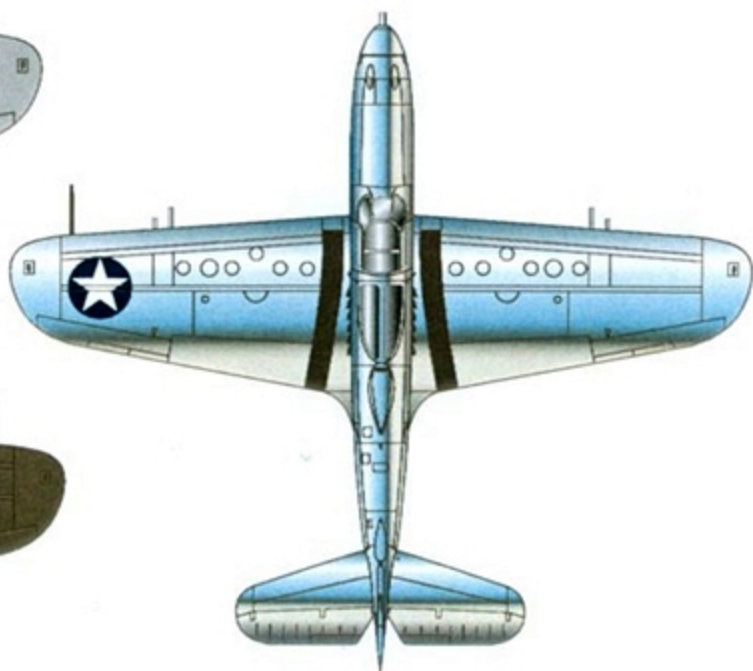
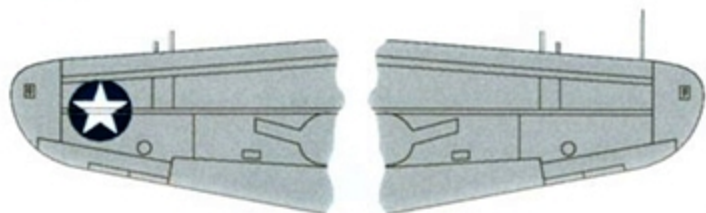


**P-39D-2**  
Unknown unit & date  
Tropical location (!)

Nose and wing machine guns deleted



**P-39N**  
97th Squadriglia  
Italian Co-Belligerent Air Force  
Campo Vesuvio Airfield



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## Notes on Aircraft



### 'Snooks', 'Fireball' and White 19

- These three aircraft carried the standard camouflage scheme of dark Olive Drab 41 over Neutral Gray 43.

#### 'Snooks'

- This was the first of the many 'Snooks' aircraft flown by legendary USAAF pilot William A. Shomo. Shomo would later fly P-51s (see Cutting Edge decal sheet CED48113) and earn the Medal of Honor.
- Note that the bar on the lower national insignia actually wraps onto the cannon housing. On most other P-39Qs it simply ran under the gun gondola.

#### 'Fireball'

- This is the scheme painted on this aircraft when the Army Air Force took delivery from the Bell Aircraft Corporation on October 26, 1942.
- While we do not know the significance of the 'Fireball' artwork or if it was applied to the opposite side of the fuselage, we have included it in case additional reference photos surface.

#### 'Daisy Mae'

- This plane is too cool! Unfortunately, although the nose art is correct, the angle of our photo is such that we cannot verify the type of national insignia carried. We believe it was as shown, but it could have been any other type of US national insignia except the star with red center dot. The aircraft was photographed in a tropical location, but it could have been a training bird (we think this is likely) since all the machine guns were removed.

#### White 19

- Note that the Italian roundels have been painted over the USAAF stars. The Italian roundels were painted in all four wing positions. This aircraft was probably transferred to the Italians from a 15th Air Force depot.

## Applying the Decals

You probably already know all this stuff, so feel free to use your regular process; however, if you're new to aftermarket decals, here goes:

- Generally, use the Microscale Finishing System. We don't recommend extremely strong decal solvents such as Solvaset.
- Your model must have a smooth, glossy surface, as decals won't adhere well to matte surfaces. Use gloss paints or your favorite clear gloss overspray over matte or semigloss paint.
- Cut each subject out without trimming off the slight excess film (this helps the decal film disappear when dry).
- Put the decal in warm water that has a drop or two of liquid dishwashing soap or photo-flo for 10 seconds.
- When the decal will slide off the backing paper without forcing it, apply it to the proper position on your model. Slide the backing paper out from underneath.
- Gently blot off excess water and smooth out bubbles under the decal surface. If you wish, carefully brush on a mild decal softener such as Micro-Sol.
- When all decals are completely dry, gently wash off all excess decal adhesive.
- Finally, overcoat your model with a good quality gloss coat, followed by your choice of matte or eggshell clear topcoat.

## FS 595 Color Cross Reference

41 Dark Olive Drab	(FS 34087 and FS 34088 [same color, different number!]) Xtracolor X111 & X112, Floquil 303170, ProModeler 88-0028, Poly Scale 505224 & 505080, Gunze Sangyo H304, Modelmaster 1711
43 Neutral Gray	(FS 36173) Floquil 303178, ProModeler 88-0035, Poly Scale 505086, Xtracolor X158, Gunze Sangyo H053

## Bibliography

*Official Monogram US Army & Air Corps Aircraft Color Guide Vol.1 1908-1941* by Robert D. Archer. Monogram Publications, 1995.

*Bell P-39 Airacobra, Famous Airplanes of the World #36*

*Air Force Colors Vol. 3* by Dana Bell. Squadron Signal Publications, 1997.

*P-39 in action*. Squadron Signal Publications, 1980.

*Bell P-39 Airacobra part 1*. Monographie #58 AJ Press 1999.

*Bell P-39/P-63 Airacobra & Kingcobra*, by Frederick A. Johnsen, Warbird Tech Vol 17