DH-2 8094

FRENCH WWI FIGHTER 1:48 SCALE PLASTIC KIT





INTRODUCTION

The Airco DH-2 was the second design of Geoffrey de Haviland. Thanks to its pusher configuration, it was the first British aircraft capable of competing with the German Fokkers. At the end of 1915, the British still had not developed a practical synchronization mechanism allowing the aircraft's main weapon to fire through the propeller arc. The pusher configuration allowed the installation of an unobstructed machine gun in the front. As a result, the DH-2, along with the F.E. 2b, became the cornerstones of the fighter units of the Royal Flying Corps until the British could develop a usable synchronization unit.

The DH-2 first took to the skies in July, 1915. It was armed with a single Lewis 7.7mm machine gun. Originally, the gun could be mounted in any of three positions, and the pilot could move them in flight as required. Finally, the gun was mounted on the longitudinal axis of the aircraft, and it was found that the best method of aiming the gun was to aim the whole aircraft.

The DH-2 was able to remain a thorn in the axis' side until the fall of 1916, when the German Halberstadt D.II and Albatros D.I appeared. They remained in the services of No. 24 and 32 Squadrons until the following year, when they were replaced by the DH-5. On the lesser fronts of the conflict over the Balkans and the Middle East, they were able to serve in front line duties until the end of the First World War. They also saw service with training units.

Most DH-2s were powered by a rotary Gnome Monosoupape engine rated at 100hp, with a part of the later series receiving the Le Rhone 9J offering 110hp. In all, there were 453 examples built.

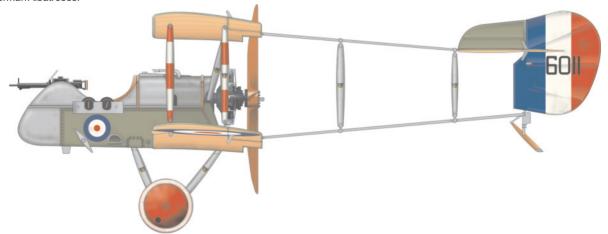
This kit offers the markings of four different aircraft. Three of them were from No.24 Squadron, and one from No.32 Squadron of the Royal Flying Corps.

No.24 Squadron RFC (Royal Flying Corps) was formed on September 1st, 1915 at Hounslow. The unit reached the combat area in France the following February. The unit was equipped with the Airco DH-2, where it would serve until being replaced by the DH-5 at the beginning of 1917.

Over the course of the First World War, the unit produced 33 aces. Among the No.24 Squadron aces, the most successful were ten-kill aces Alan M. Wilkinson and Patrick Langan-Byrne, which are also history's most successful DH-2 aces.

No.32 Squadron was formed on January 12th, 1916 and was initially equipped with the DH-2. It entered combat with the DH-2 over the Western Front and used the type until 1917, when the unit converted to the DH-5 and turned their attention to ground targets. At the end of the war, the unit's pilots flew the S.E.5a. The unit's most famous member was its CO, Major Lionel Rees, holder of the Victoria Cross.

Three DH-2 pilots were awarded Britain's highest award, the Victoria Cross: the aforementioned Alan M. Wilkinson, No.24 Squadron CO Lanoe Hawker (8 kills) and Lionel Rees, when despite injuries sustained, he was able to shoot down two of his eight kills on July 1st, 1916, both of which were German Albatroses.



ÚVOD

Typ Airco DH-2 byl v pořádí druhou konstrukcí Geoffreyho de Havilanda. Díky své tlačné konfiguraci dokázal jako první britský stíhací letoun konkurovat německým Fokkerům. Britové totiž ještě na konci roku 1915 neměli k dispozici synchronizační zařízení, které by umožňovalo střelbu oběžným okruhem vrtule. Pohonná jednotka v tlačné uspořádání umožnila instalaci kulometu do přídě. Proto se DH-2 společně s typem F.E. 2b staly úhelnými kameny výzbroje stíhacích jednotek Royal Flying Corps až do doby, kdy Britové vyvinuli vlastní synchronizační zařízení.

DH-2 se do vzduchu dosťal poprvé v červenci 1915. Výzbroj tvořil jediný kulomeť Lewis ráže 7,7 mm. Původně bylo možné instalovat jej do tří pozic na přídi, pilot je mohl dle potřeby měnit během letu. Nakonec se kulomet montoval napevno v pozici v ose letounu a jako nejlepší metoda zaměřování cíle se ukázalo míření celým letounem.

Čelit nepříteli dokázaly DH-2 až do podzimu 1916, kdy se na obloze začaly objevovat německé stroje Halberstadt D.II a Albatros D.I. Ve výzbroji No. 24 a No.32 Squadrony zůstaly až do následujícího roku, kdy je nahradil typ DH-5. Na méně exponovaných bojištích na Balkáně a na Blízkém Východě pak DH-2 setrvaly v první linii až do konce války. Své využití našly také u výcvikových jednotek.

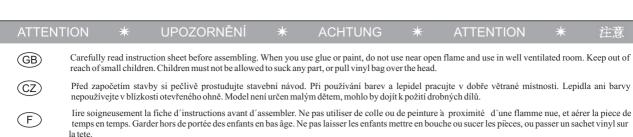
Většinu vyrobených DH-2 poháněl rotační motor Gnome Monosoupape (100 k), část pozdní produkce dostala motory Le Rhône 9J (110 k). Celkem vzniklo 453 kusů typu DH-2.

Z této stavebnice si můžete postavit čtyři různé letouny. Tři z nich patřily do No. 24 Squadrony a jeden do No. 32 Squadrony Royal Flying Corps. No. 24 Squadron RFC (Royal Flying Corps) byla založena 1. září 1915 v Hounslow. Na bojiště do Francie se dostala v únoru následujícího roku. Její výzbroj tvořily stíhačky Airco DH-2, které zde vydržely až do začátku roku 1917, kdy byly nahrazeny typem Airco DH-5.

Během 1. světové války v jejích řadách skórovalo celkem 33 stíhacích es. Na typu DH-2 byli u No. 24. Squadron s deseti vítězstvími nejúspěšnější Alan M. Wilkinson a Patrick Langan-Byrne, kteří jsou také nejúspěšnějšími piloty v historii typu DH-2 vůbec.

No. 32 Squadrona vznikla 12. ledna 1916 a její první stroje byly DH-2. Zapojila se do bojů na západní frontě a s DH-2 létala až do roku 1917, kdy přezbrojila na typ DH-5 a ze stíhacích operací svou pozornost přesunula na útoky na pozemní cíle. V závěru války její piloti létali na stíhačkách S.E. 5a. Nejznámější osobností jednotky byl její velitel, major Lionel Rees, držitel Victoria Cross.

Tři piloti DH-2 také obdrželi nejvyšší britské vyznamenání – Victoria Cross – již zmiňovaný Alan M. Wilkinson, velitel No. 24 Squadrony Lanoe Hawker (8 v.) a také Lionel Rees, za souboj ze dne 1. července 1916, kdy i přes zranění dokázal sestřelit dva z osmi německých Albatrosů.



Von dem Zusammensetzen die Bauanleitung gut durchlesen. Kleber und Farbe nicht nahe von offenem Feuer verwenden und das Fenster von Zeit zu Zeit Belüftung öffnen. Bausatz von kleinen Kindern fernhalten. Verhüten Sie, daß Kinder irgendwelche Bauteile in den Mund nehmen oder Plastiktüten über den Kopf ziehen.

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* INSTRUKTION SINNBILDEN * SYMBOLES



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(JP)

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BITTE BIEGEN

折る

PLIER SIL VOUS PLAIT

OPEN HOLE VYVRTAT OTVOR FAIRE UN TROU OFFNEN 穴を開ける

SYMETRICAL ASSEMBLY SYMETRICKÁ MONTÁŽ MONTAGE SYMÉTRIQUE SYMMETRISCHE AUFBAU 左右均等に組み立てる

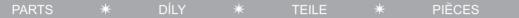
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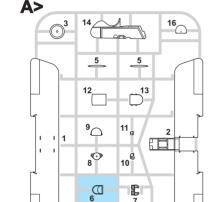
REMOVE ODŘÍZNOUT RETIRER

移す

APPLY EDUARD MASK AND PAINT POUŽÍT EDUARD MASK NARARVIT

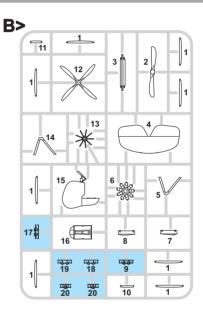
部品







PLASTIC PARTS



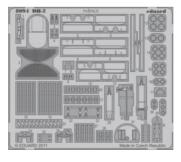


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5

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PE - PHOTO ETCHED DETAIL PARTS





-Parts not for use. -Teile werden nicht verwendet. -Pièces à ne pas utiliser. -Tyto díly nepoužívejte při stavbě. 雄市しない電温

FARBEN

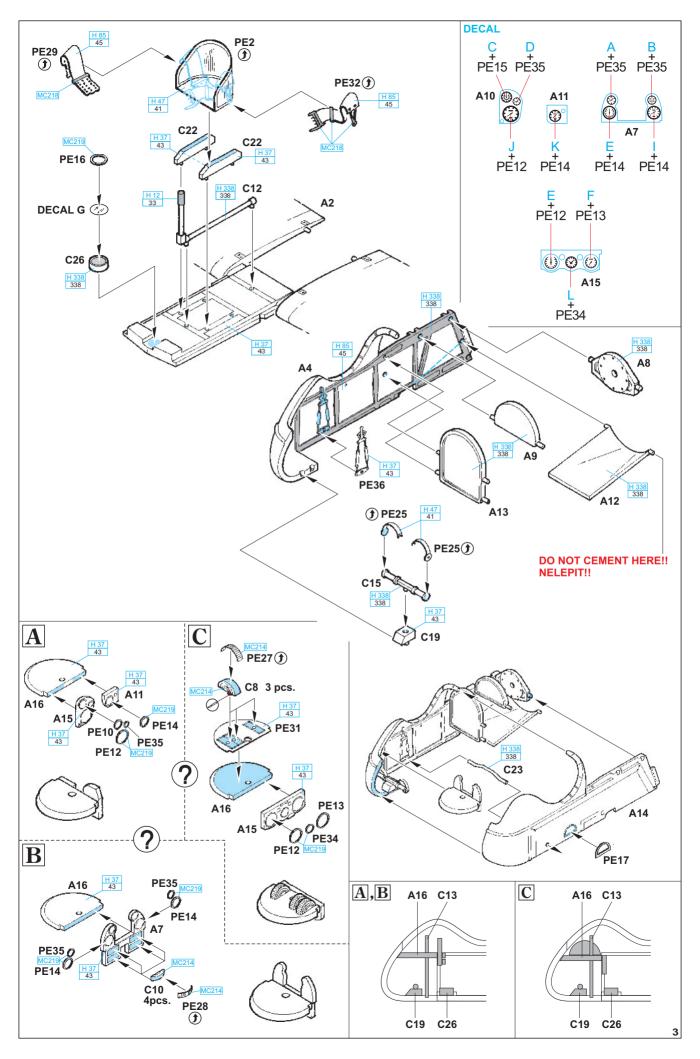
GSi Creos (GUNZE)		
AQUEOUS	Mr.COLOR	
H 11	C62	WHITE
H 37	C43	WOOD BROWN
H 47	C41	RED BROWN
H 57	C73	AIRCRAFT GRAY
H 85	C45	SAIL COLOR
H 309	C309	GREEN

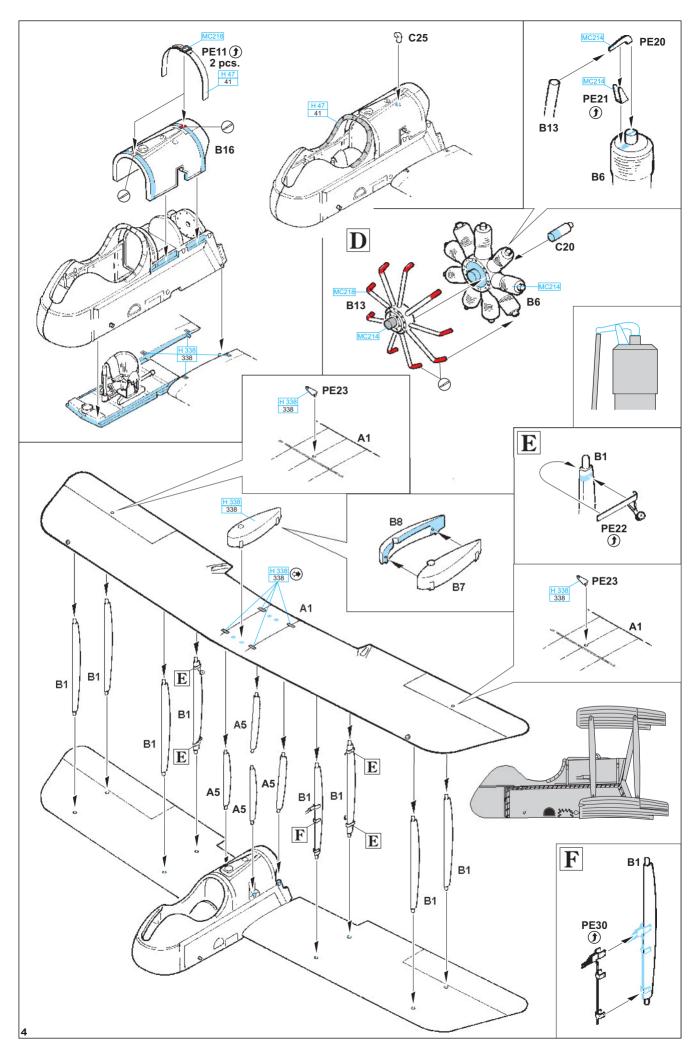
BARVY

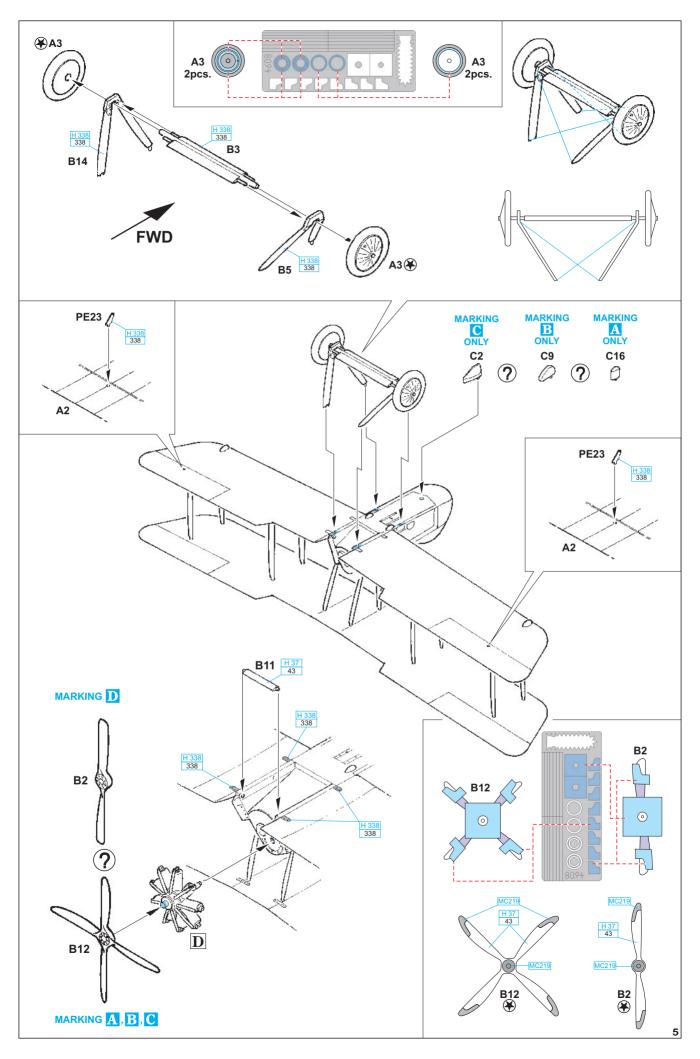
GSi Creos	(GUNZE)	
AQUEOUS	Mr.COLOR	
H 338	C338	LIGHT GRAY
Mr.META	L COLOR	
MC214		DARK IRON
MC218		ALUMINIUM
MC219		BRASS

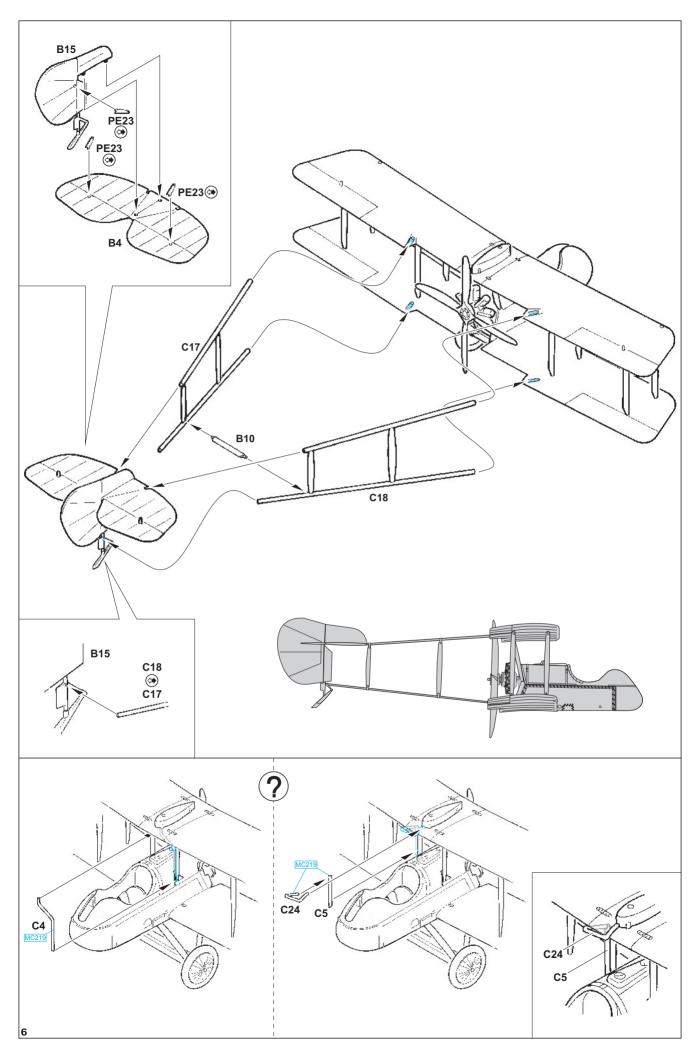
PEINTURE

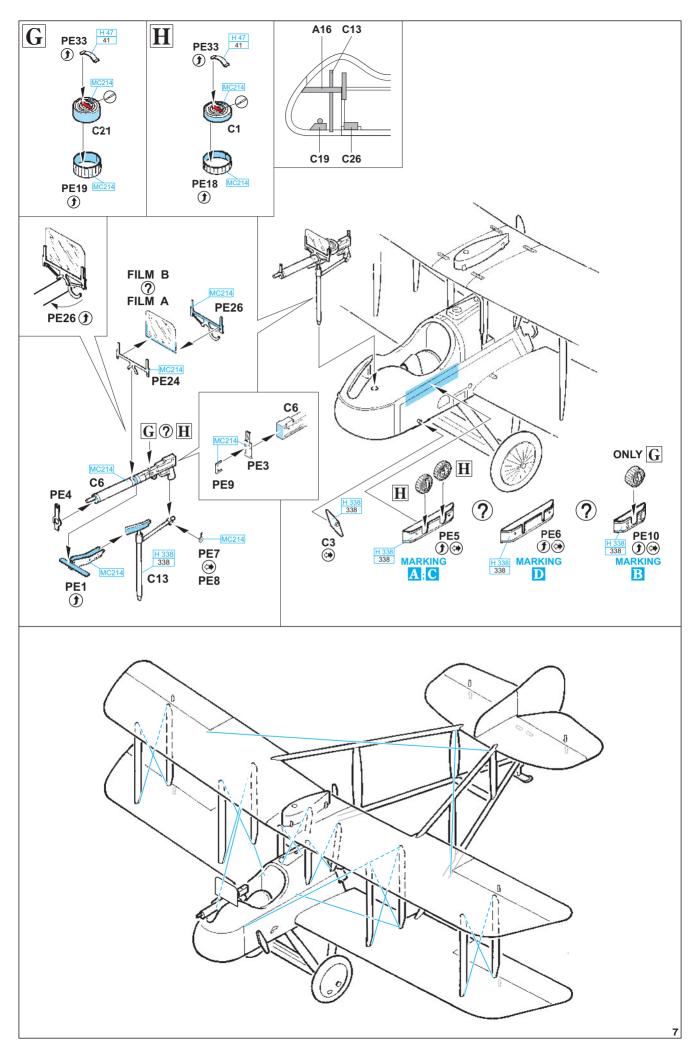
COLOURS

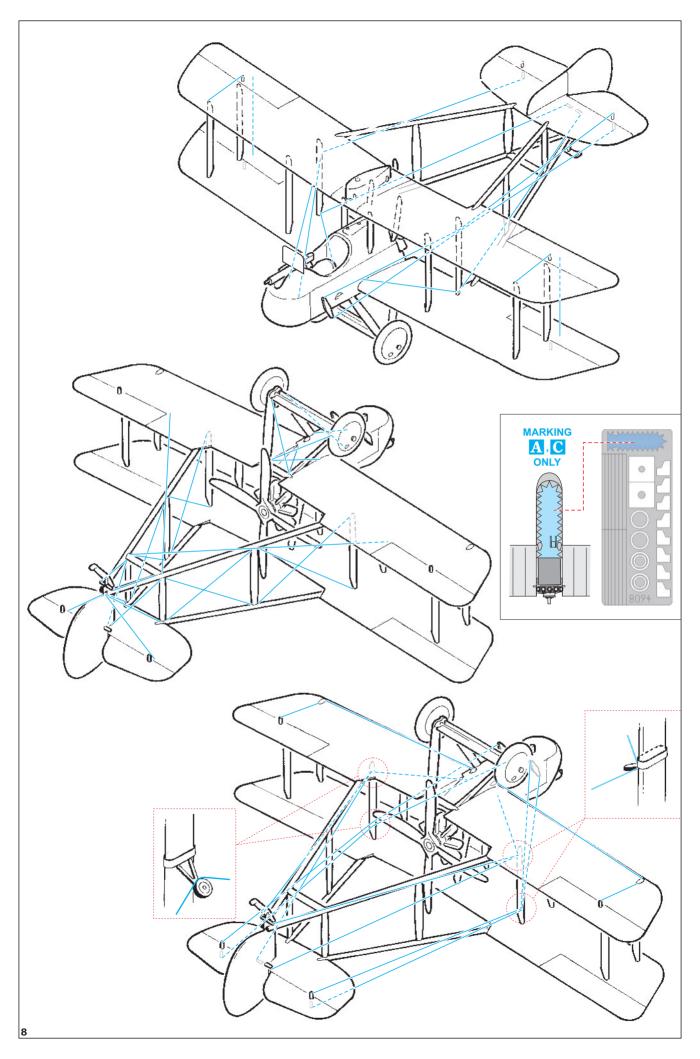








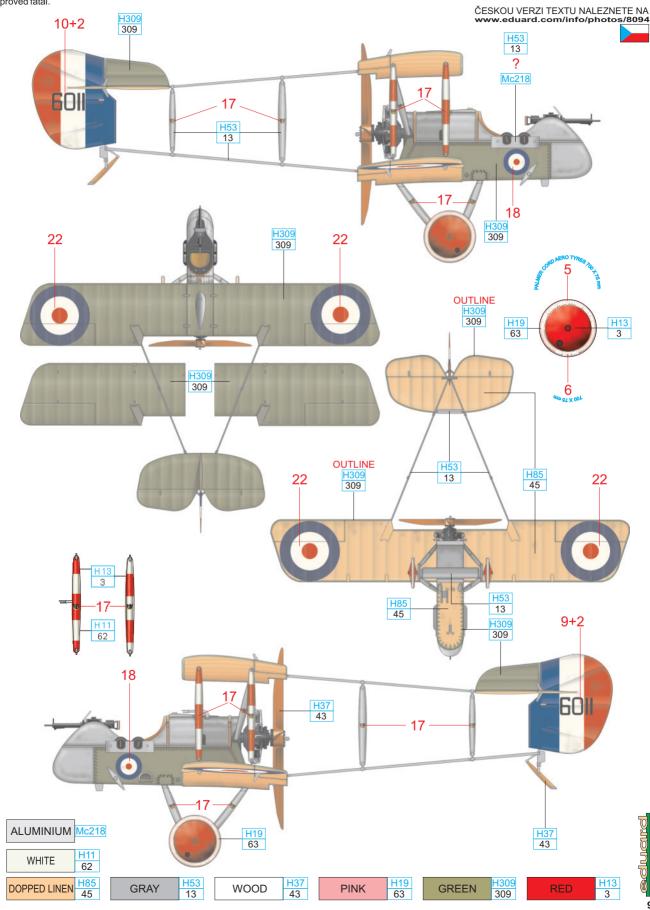




No. 6011, No. 24 squadron RFC, 1916

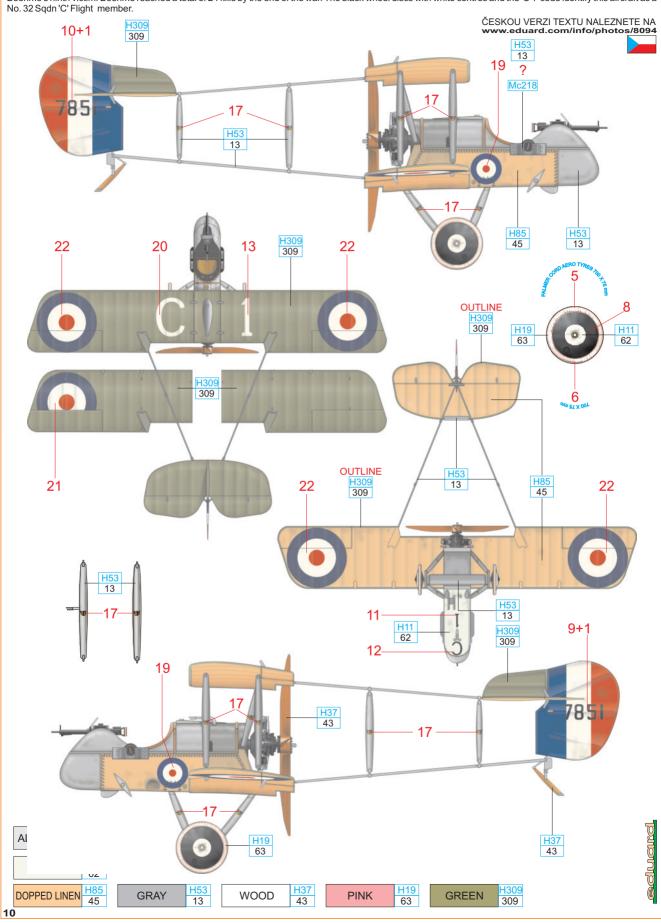
Arthur Gerald Knight gained his first aerial victory on this aircraft on June 22nd, 1916. His victim was identified as a two-seat German LVG, destroyed in the vicinity of Courcelette in France. Knight shot down eight enemy aircraft up to the time of his death, all of which were gained flying the DH-2.

On October 28th, 1916, he participated in combat that saw a collision between Jasta 2 CO Oswald Boelcke and his colleague Erwin Boehme, which saw his death as a result. On December 20th, 1916, Knight and his DH-2 became the thirteenth victim of German legend Manfred von Richthofen. For Knight, the encountered proved fatal.



No. 7851, No. 32 squadron RFC, Flight C, France, 1916

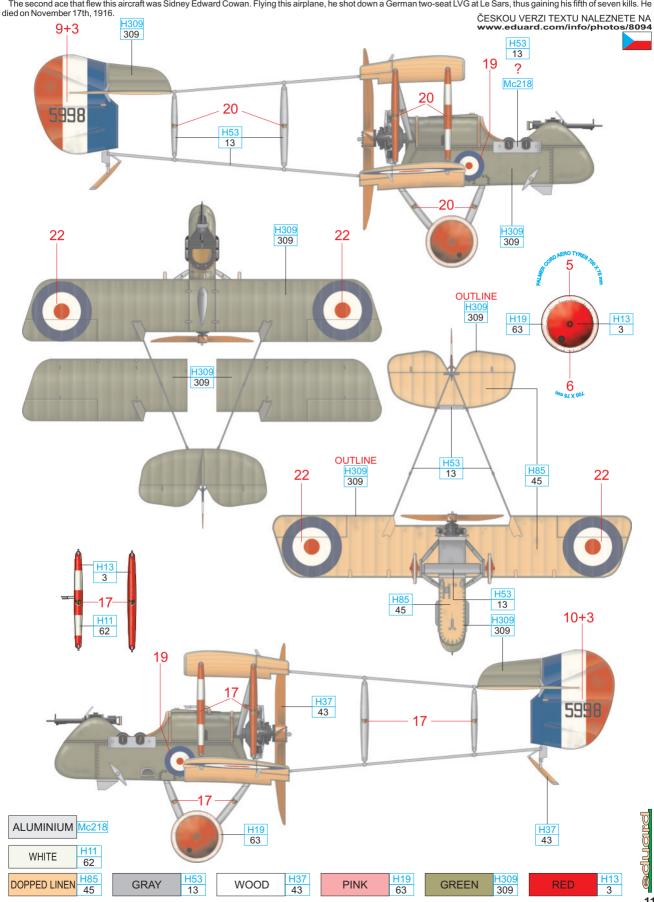
William G. S. Curphey gained a kill identified as a two-seat LVG on August 22, 1916, flying this airplane. Curphey shot down six enemy aircraft before his death on May 15th, 1917, all flying the DH-2 with No. 32 Sqdn. The service career of this aircraft ended on January 7th, 1917 at 1230h, when it was shot down by Lt. d.R. Erwin Boehme of Jasta 2. Sitting in the cockpit of the DH-2 was E.G.S. Wagner, who did not survive. Wagner, a member of No. 32 Sqdn RFC, thus became Boehme's ninth victim. Boehme reached a total of 24 kills by the end of the war. The black wheel discs with white centres and the 'C 1' code identify this aircraft as a No. 32 Sqdn C'l Flight member.



No. 5998, Capt. John Oliver Andrews, No. 24 Squadron, RFC, France, 1916

5998 was flown by twelve-kill ace Capt. John O. Andrews. His flying career began as an observer/gunner in an Avro 504 with No.5 Sqdn, RFC. He received his pilot rating on October 14th, 1915, and was assigned to the DH-2 equipped No.24 Sqdn, RFC. He flew combat against German aces. On April 27th, 1916, he damaged an Eindecker flown by Max Immelmann. On November 22, 1916, he gained his seventh and last kill with No.24 Sqdn. His victim that day appears to have been Stefan Kirmaier, CO of Jasta 2, and an eleven kill ace. The following day, he took part in combat that claimed the life of seven kill ace and No.24 Sqdn CO Lance Hawker, at the hands of Manfred Freiherr von Richthofen. Andrews was transferred to No. 66 Sqdn thereafter, and flew the Sopwith Pup. In all, he gained nine kills confirmed, and two listed as 'out of control'.

The second ace that flew this aircraft was Sidney Edward Cowan. Flying this airplane, he shot down a German two-seat LVG at Le Sars, thus gaining his fifth of seven kills. He



No. 5967, Robert H. M. S. Saundby, No. 24 Squadron RFC, 'A' flight, France, July 1916

This pilot of No.24 Sqdn, who's full name was Robert Henry Magnus Spencer Saundby, gained a total of five kills over the First World War, three of which were flown from the cockpit of a DH-2. His first victory was acquired flying this aircraft. On July 31st, 1916, he claimed a German Fokker Eindecker, which was credited as 'out of control'. During the course of the same combat, which reportedly took place east of Roisel, he was wounded. Evidently, this was not overly serious, as by August 6th, he shared another kill with John O. Andrews. Later, he was transferred to No.41 Sqdn. His last victim was the airship Zeppelin L48. During the Second World War, as a staff member of Bomber Command, RAF, he took part in the planning phases of carpet bombing plans of German cities. He received a list of British and foreign awards, was knighted, and left the service in 1946 as Air Vice Marshall.

