

AeroMaster

48-280

Fighting  Part 1
Polikarpov I-16's



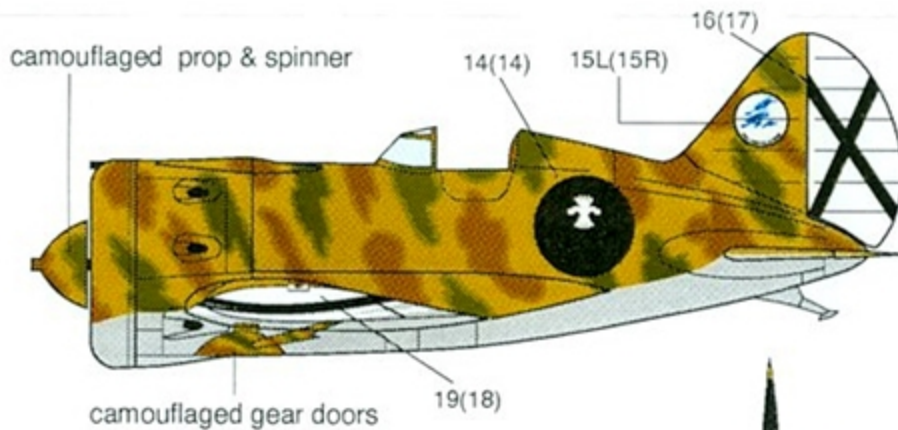
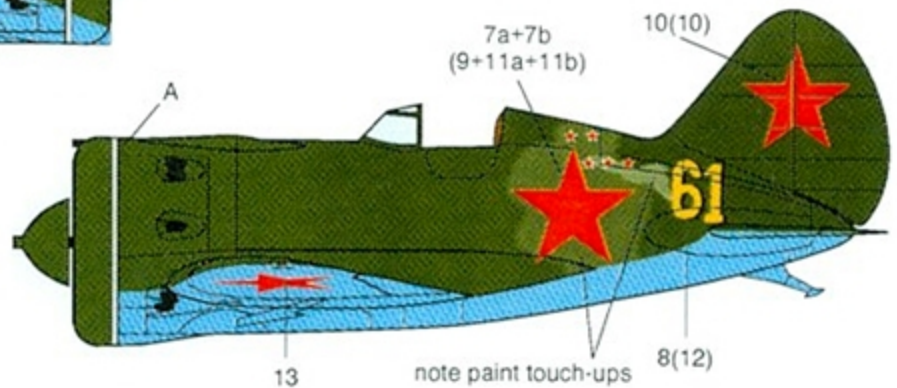
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Capt. Boris F. Safonov's Polikarpov I-16 Type 18, of the 72 AP, 1941, wears the standard Soviet Dark Olive Green over Sky Blue camouflage. Note that the position of the port-side fuselage star differs from that of the starboard-side star. Also note the head-rest gun camera and aerial.



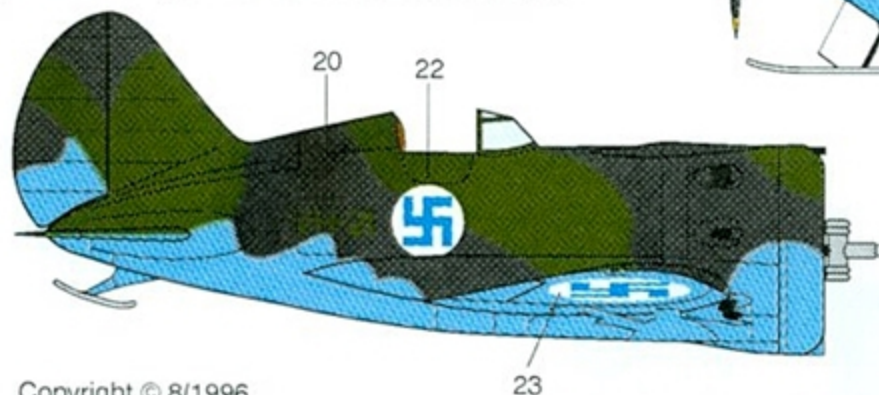
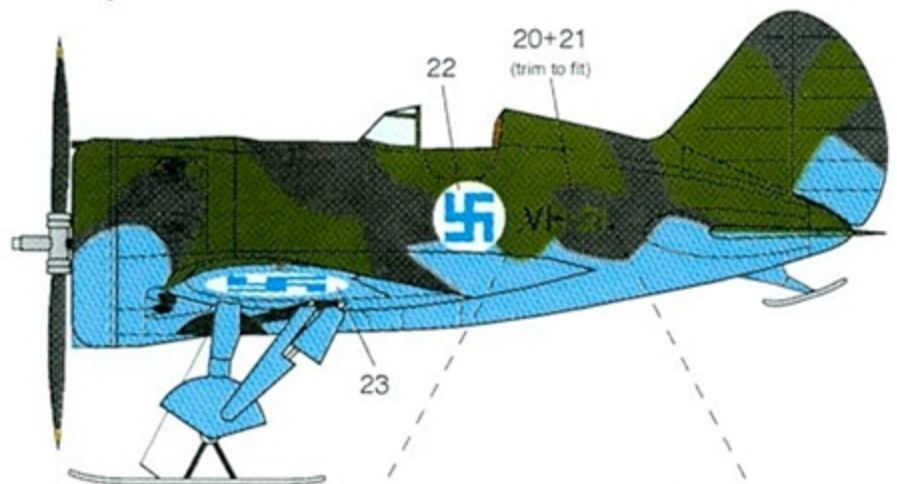
NOTE! Based on our analysis of available photos, we have concluded that the fuselage script of Safonov's Polikarpov was White — not Yellow, as some sources suggest.

Polikarpov I-16 Type 18, 286 IAP, 1942. The mount of pilot A.G. Tartarzhuka, this aircraft features the standard Soviet scheme of Dark Olive Green over Sky Blue. Note the touched-up paint near the port-side fuselage star, early pointed spinner and all-Green cowl front. Information on the starboard side is unavailable, so we have also supplied hypothetical versions of the kill marks (optional "handed" decals 11a & 11b), as well as a slightly different style of the hand-painted "61" (decal 12) and upper wing stars — which might not have been carried.



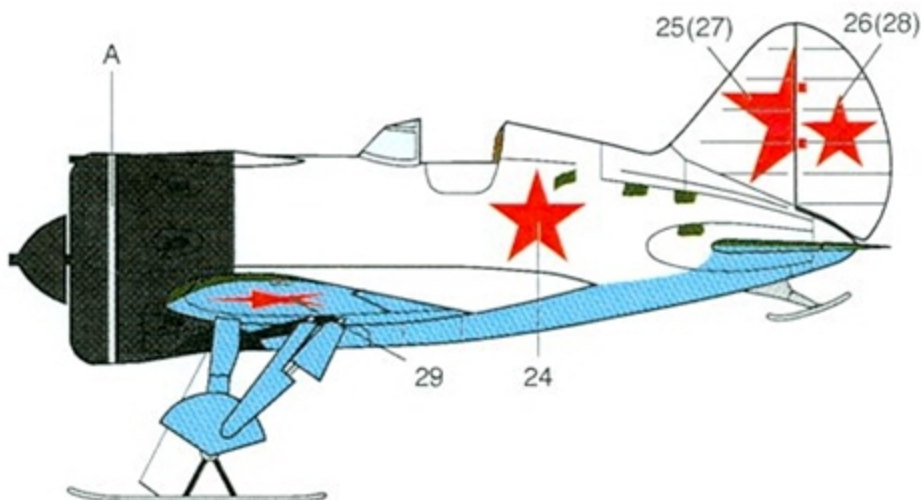
Spanish Nationalist I-16 Type 10, captured from Republican forces, early 1939. Mottled camouflage — possibly of Italian origin — consists of Ochre, Brown and Dark Green with Pale Gray beneath. Note that individual mottles sport an almost "striped" effect. Note, too, that the spinner, prop and landing gear doors wear the three upper-surface colors. Paint the rudder White before applying decals 16 and 17.

I-16 Type 18, Finland, LLv-24, 1941. Captured during the Winter War, ski-equipped VH-21 (originally "VH-201") wears Dark Green and Black over Sky Blue in a standard "Continuation War" pattern. Inset at the right shows how decal 21 could appear against the Finnish upper-surface camouflage. Lacking a spinner, the prop blades are Black with Yellow tips. Note that the upper-surface Black exhibits a slightly feathered edge. This machine was later shipped to Germany for technical and combat evaluation.



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This ski-equipped Polikarpov I-16 Type 10 of an unknown unit features White distemper winter camouflage over the fuselage upper surfaces only. Cowling is weather-beaten Black, while the tops of the aircraft's wings and stabilizers are standard Dark Olive Green. Note the patched-up battle damage on the aft fuselage, crudely touched-up port rudder star (decal 26) and incomplete fin insignia (decals 25 & 27). Since Hobbycraft's kits do not feature rudder hinge posts, the modeler might consider using decals 25 & 27 as scribing templates.



Suggested kits:

Hobbycraft Polikarpov I-16 series



References:

1. Alanshin, Michael. *Fighting Polikarpov*. Aviation International, 1994.
2. Guest, Carl-Fredrik, et al. *Red Stars In The Sky*, Vols. 1 and 3. Tietoteos, 1980, 1983. (bound reprint: Forssan Kirjapaino, 1993).
3. Gunston, Bill. *Aircraft Of The Soviet Union*. Osprey, 1983.
4. Keskinen, Kalevi, et al. *Venäläiset Hävittäjät*. (Soumen Ilmavoimien Historia, vol 7), Tietoteos, 1977.
5. Green, William, and Gordon Swanborough. *Soviet Air Force Fighters, Part 2*. Arco, 1977.
6. Michulec, R. *Stalinowskie Sololy*. AJ Press, 1995
7. Miranda, J., & P. Mercado. *Aviacion Mundial en España (Guerra Civil) 1936-1939 (vol. 1)*. Silex, 1985.

Recommended AeroMaster Warbird Colors Enamels			
9001	Black	9072	USSR Earth Brown
9002	White	9073	USSR Topside Green
9003	Yellow	9074	USSR Lt. Blue
9004	Blue	9080	Finn. Yellow
9005	Red	9081	Finn. Olive Green
9010	Tire Black	9082	Finn. Lt. Blue

If you have suggestions for future subject matter, AeroMaster would like to hear from you. Our goal is to provide high quality, well researched decals of unusual and interesting subjects. We value our customers' inputs, so if you have specific suggestions or photographs of unusual subject matter which you would be willing to share, please contact:

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