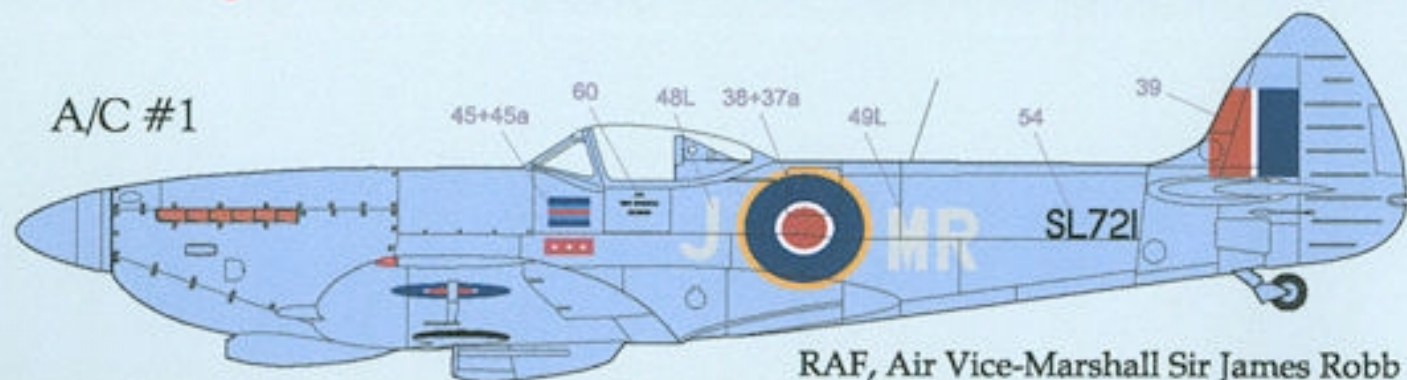
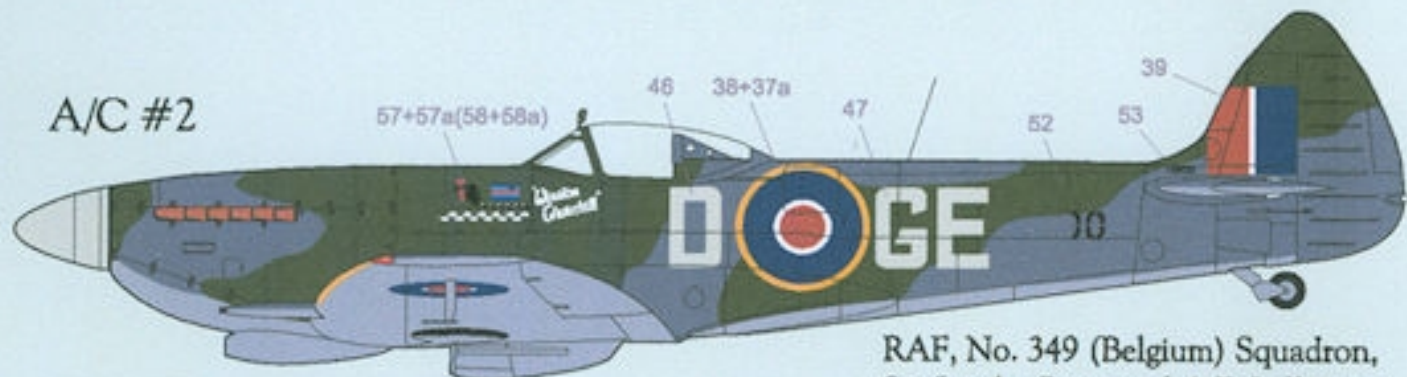


A/C #1



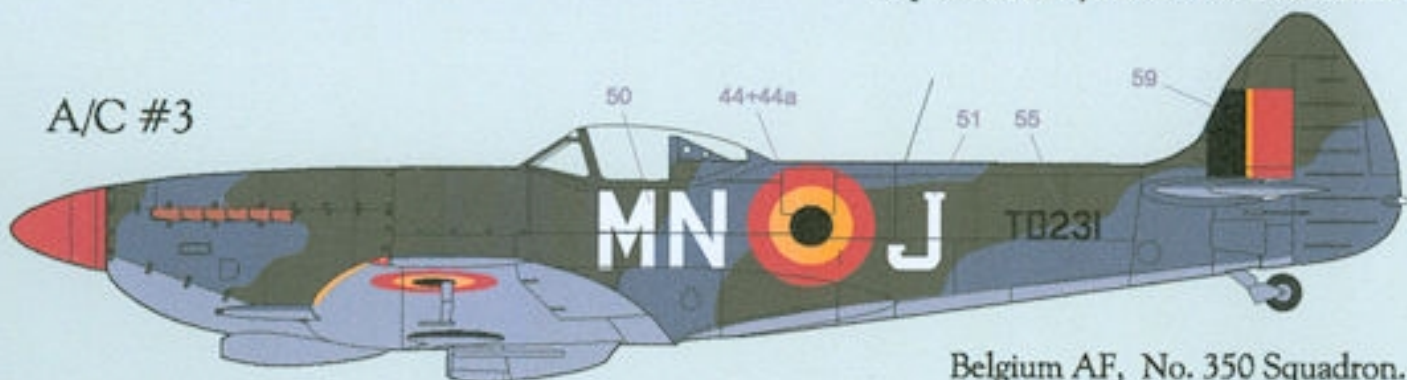
RAF, Air Vice-Marshall Sir James Robb

A/C #2



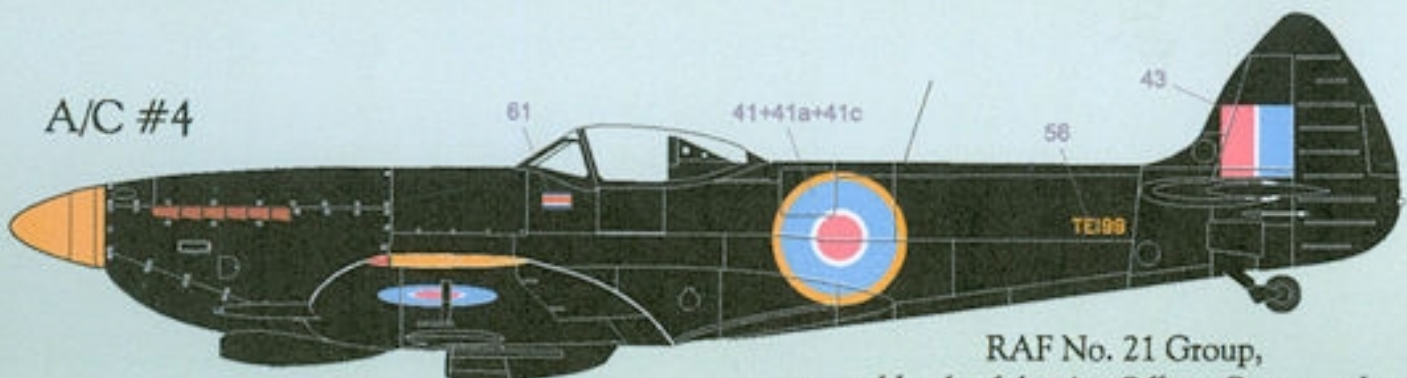
RAF, No. 349 (Belgium) Squadron,
Sq. Leader Raymond A.F. Lallemand.

A/C #3



Belgium AF, No. 350 Squadron.

A/C #4



RAF No. 21 Group,
personal hack of the Air Officer Commander.

Recommended kit: Tamiya Spitfire Mk.XVI

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Notes on the Colors and Markings.

A/C #1 Spitfire LF MK XVIe, SL721, flown by Air Marshall Sir James Robb, Fighter Command Communication Squadron, Northolt, February-July 1948.

This is a well-known A/C flown by Air Marshall James Robb as his personal hack, and similar marking is applied on several preserved A/C. But the original marking of the A/C flown by him is shown in the photograph of ref. 1. It is said that the overall camouflage is "powder blue", and Mr. Michael Payne in this ref. says it might be a mixture of PRU Blue and white, but its exact tint is not known. Ref. 2 shows color illustration of this A/C, but the photo in ref. 1 clearly shows that (1)its code is not aligned straight but staggered, (2)code letter is not white but Sky (clearly a bit darker than roundel white) and (3)three star pennant is white star on red (not dark blue) rectangle (he always used red rectangle, and the roundel red is of the same darkness as this). Left side marking is not photographed, so what is shown here is our best guess. The gun bay of this A/C is modified to luggage compartment, and the gun fairing is changed to a short one. It carried war-time type C1 RAF roundels on fuselage, probably type C roundels on upper and lower wings. The existence of lower wing s/n is not clear either, but we think it is not applied (as it is painted overall in light blue). The small letters on the cockpit door is not known, and that in this decal is just our guess. This A/C later changed its camouflage to dark blue overall (ref. 1, 3, 4) with its code grouped together after the roundel, roundel changed to post-war type, Air Marshall and three star pennant in the same position, but a small badge (of unknown details) are applied below the windshield on the right side. Air Marshall Robb later changed his hack to Meteor F4, EE549, a speed record A/C.

A/C #2 Spitfire LF MK XVI, TB900, flown by Squadron Leader Raymond A.F. Lallemand, RAF No.349 (Blegium) Squadron, Fassburg/Germany, 1946.

This is also a well-known A/C, whose photo is shown in ref. 5, and its camouflage/marking is applied on the preserved A/C of Fantasy of Flight

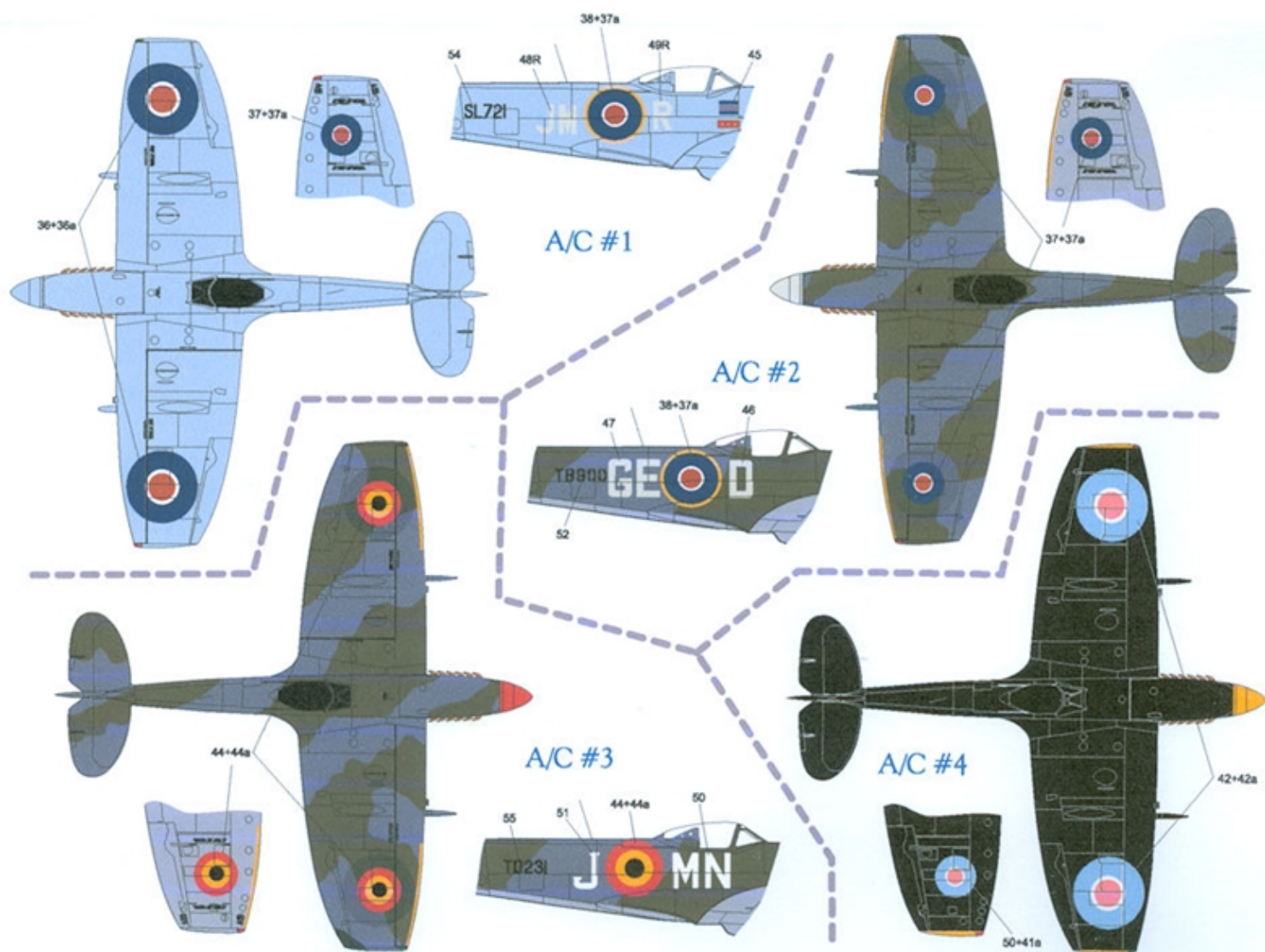
Museum/Florida. Clearer and close-up photos of the original A/C were supplied to us by Mr. Michel Willot and Mr. Frank Raeman MSM. Camouflaged in RAF Dark Green/Ocean Gray/Medium Sea Gray with Sky code. The figure in front of the Squadron Leader pennant is sometimes shown as a face of a man (Winston Churchill?), but in reality it is a cock's head. The s/n on rear fuselage is not fully shown and partially covered by the dark green color. The right side is not photographed, so the position of code and s/n on this side shown below is our best guess. Spinner is probably Sky. Lallemand is the 7th ranking ace of Belgium AF with 5 confirmed kill, half shared kill, 1 unconfirmed kill and 1 destroyed on the ground. He achieved all these kills in Typhoon, PR-D.

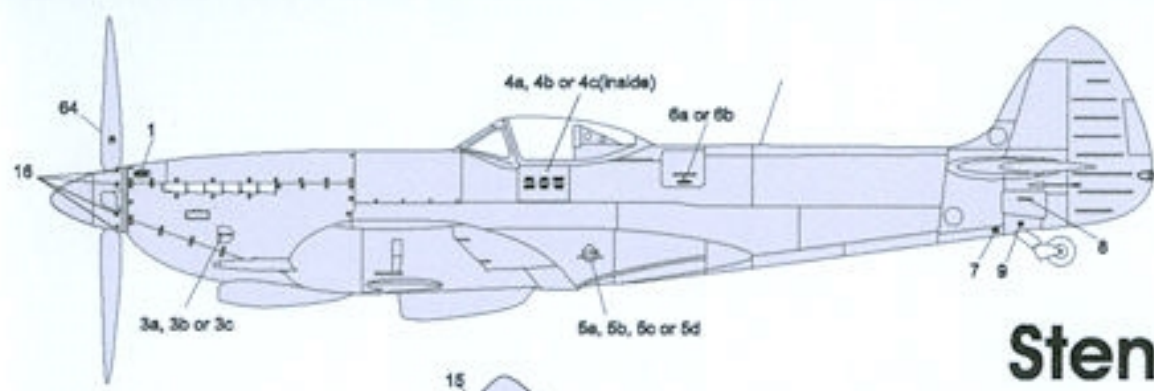
A/C #3 Spitfire LF MK XVIe, TD231, of No. 350 Squadron, Belgium AF, Fassburg/Germany, 1946.

The photo of this A/C is shown in ref. 5. Camouflaged in RAF Dark Green/Ocean Gray/Medium Sea Gray with white code. Spinner is red. There are two size of upper wing Belgium roundel, but we cannot be sure which is applied on this specific A/C. Smaller-sized one is included in this decal.

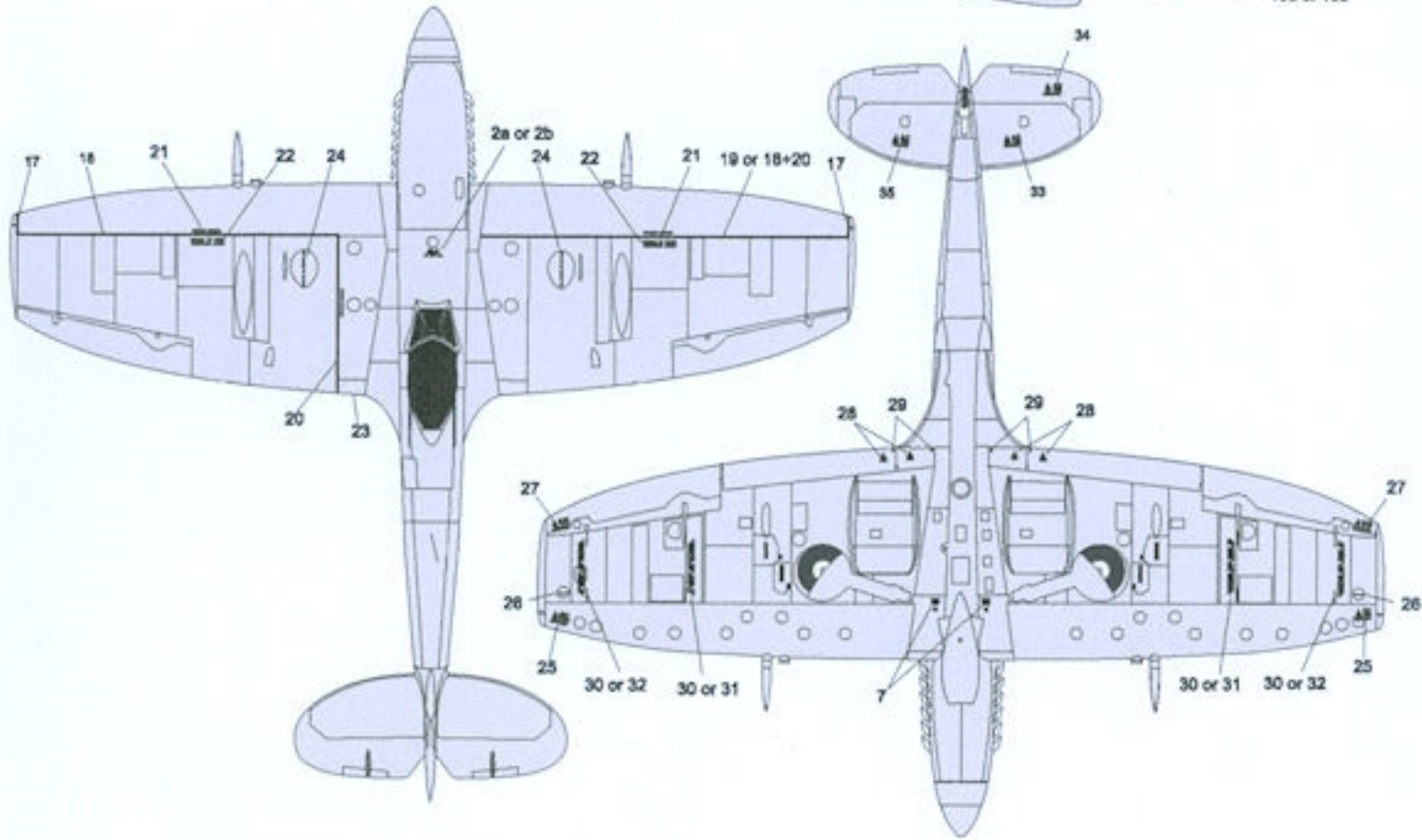
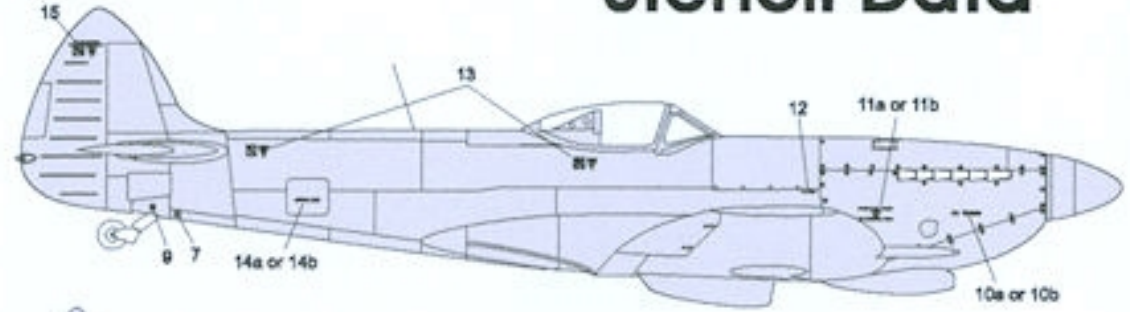
A/C #4 Spitfire LF MK XVIe, TE199, flown by Air Officer Commander of RAF No. 21 Group, Swinderby AB, September 1948.

The photo of this A/C is shown in ref. 6. It is painted in glossy black overall. The illustration of this A/C in ref. 5 shows a strange pennant below the windshield, but the photo clearly shows it is the pennant of Air Vice Marshall, though the background is white. Ref. 7 says its marking as "glossy black, gold trim overall". So the spinner and wing tip should be gold, though wing tip is out of photo. Its s/n seems to be gold also. Even the yellow outline of the roundel might be gold, but our guess is not. Remarkable is the "light color" of the roundel. The exact tint of these "light blue" and "light red" is not known, but probably they are close to those colors now in use. Such light roundel is sometimes seen on bombers even in the wartime photos (ref. 8).





Stencil Data



References;

- 1) Scale Aviation Modeller International magazine, vol. 3, no. 9.
- 2) Scale Aircraft Monographs No. 1-RAF fighters 1945-1950, UK based.
- 3) Aeroplane magazine, December 1998.
- 4) Warbirds Worldwide magazine, April 1999.
- 5) Aircam Aviation Series No. 4--- Supermarine Spitfire MK. I-XVI/Osprey Pub.
- 6) FlyPast magazine, March 2001
- 7) Spitfire, The History/ Key Publishing
- 8) The Royal Air Force of World War Two in Color/Arms And Armor Press

Special thanks to Mr. Michel Willot (IPMS Belgium, Editor in chief of KIT magazine) and Mr. Frank Raeman MSM (Warrent Officer, Belgian Army Historical Branch) for the photos of Lallemand's Spitfire which were supplied to us through Mr. Yuji Matsuki.