

Super Detail Set: WWII German aircraft weapons



N. 26101/26102

1:72 scale
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During World War II the Luftwaffe used an enormous number of dropping weapons, in a huge variety of weight, dimensions and uses. It should not be forgotten, however, that Germans bomber planes had construction and use features that influenced the size and type of bombs. And so, for example, in the German arsenal, differently from that of other countries, we find a countless series of perforating devices, which overcome by far in number and variety, those used by all the others belligerents put together. This was due to the confidence that the Germans had in dive-bombing. One limit was in the fact that the bomb hold, except in the case of the Dornier 217 and Heinkel 177 Greif, were dimensioned for a maximum of 500 kg of explosives, and therefore bigger bombs would fit only on the outside of the airplane, with all the limitations attached.

The most commonly used German bombs can be divided in three fundamental groups:

fragmentation bombs, or those of generic use - **SC** (Sprengbombe Cylindrich) weighing 10, 50, 250, 500, 1000, 1800, 2000 and 2500 kg; thick casing fragmentation bombs, or semi-piercing - **SD** (Sprengbombe Dickwandig) weighing 1, 2, 4, 10, 50, 70, 250, 500, 1000 and 1700 kg; anti-armour fragmentation bombs - **PC** (Panzersprengbombe Cylindrich) weighing 500, 1000, 1400, 1600 and 1800 (also equipped with rocket acceleration, when they have the **RS** ending- Ruck Stoss antrieb).

Then the following types existed which had more specific use:

armour-piercing bombs - **PD** (Panzer Durchschlagbombe) weighing 500 and 1000 kg;
napalm incendiary bombs - **FLAM** (Flammbombe) weighing 250 and 500 kg;
white phosphorus incendiary bombs - **B** (Brandbombe) weighing 1, 2, 4, 10, 50 and 250 kg;
high power splinter bombs - **SB** (Splitter Bombe) weighing 1000, 1800 and 2500 kg;
smoke bombs - **NC** (Nebelbombe Cylindrich) weighing 50 kg;
flash bombs and bengala bombs - **LC** e **BL** (Leuchter Cylindrich e BeLeuchter) weighing 50 kg;
cement drill bombs - **ZC** (Zielbombe Cylindrich) weighing 10, 50, 250 and 1000 kg.

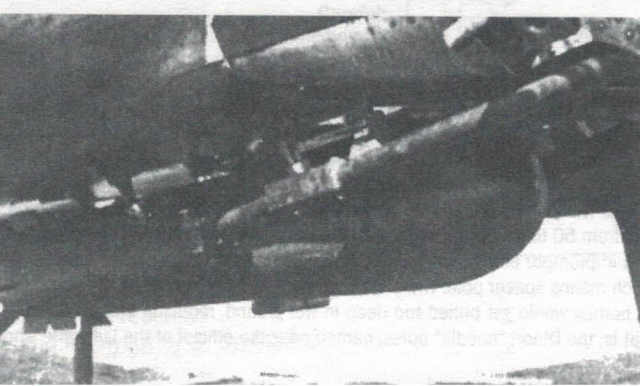
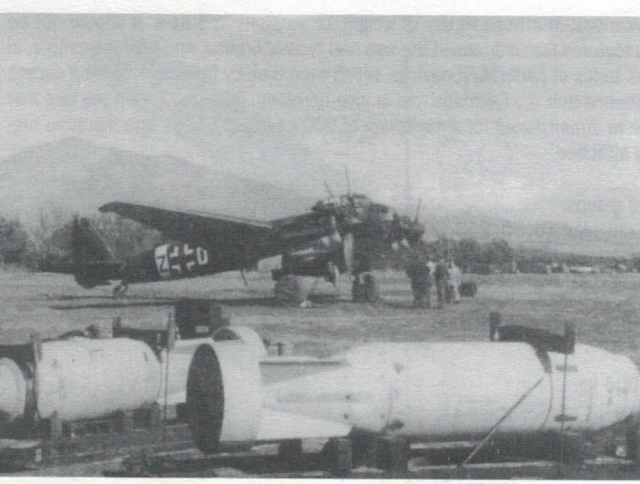
There was as well a whole series of dropping containers, like cluster bombs, which could be loaded with various types of ammunition, explosives, incendiaries, shaped charge piercing explosives or even with pamphlets. They can all be recognised by the initials **AB** (Abwurf Behalter). They were: AB 36, AB 70, AB 250, AB 500 and AB 1000, with the number indicating more or less the payload. Inside of them many explosives were inserted weighing 1, 2 and 4 kg

Finally a series of explosives existed as well, little used or of special use, like the air-launched naval mines, the torpedoes, mine bombs and torpedo bombs. At last there were the **KC** bombs (Kemische Cylindrich) with a variety of weights from 50 to 1800 kg, destined for chemical war, fortunately never used. The list is not complete because the locally conceived explosives or those modified impromptu are missing. We can cite some modifications coded as StaBo, StacheBomben, that is the pole bombs and the **Zar**, Zunder Abstand Rohr, which means spacer pole. While the first were destined to permit the bombs to lodge and explode at the right spot, the others were used to prevent that the bombs would get buried too deep in wet ground, reducing their effect considerably. Both were used only on the SC 50 and 250. The **Dinort Stab**, or that is, the Dinort "needle" poles, named after the official of the Luftwaffe who

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invented them, lieutenant colonel Oskar Dinort, ace of the Stuka. They were a further modification for "nailing" bombs between the beams on the railway.

It should be remembered that the 50, 250 and 500 kg bombs looked the same outside as if they were SC, SD, FLAM, B, NC, LC, BLC and ZC. The forms and dimensions were unified to facilitate loading them on the planes.

Model notes

German bombs tended to be painted with different colours according to size. For the 10, 50, 250 and 500 kg explosives generally the colour was Dunkelgrun RLM71; but sometimes Grau RLM02 was used as well especially for smaller calibre. For the bigger bombs fundamentally RLM65 was used and then ever more often RLM76. The reason is due to the fact that the large calibre bombs were loaded on the outside of the aircraft and therefore it was necessary that they be the same colour. Often the bigger explosives, hooked up beneath the night bombers, received a coat of flat black to make them the same as the parts underneath the aircrafts. The containers of the AB group were painted RLM02, for the AB36 and 70, RLM65 or 76, for the AB 250, 500 and 1000. Finally a note on the colour codes which distinguished the various types of explosives. They were carried on the outside of the bomb with stripes, or arrows, coloured according to a preordained code, and generally placed between the vanes, but also with stripes all around the bomb. At times the entire tail cone could be the same colour.

- The basic colours are:
- RLM04 yellow: **SC** bombs
 - RLM23 red: **SD** bombs
 - RLM24 blue: **PC** bombs

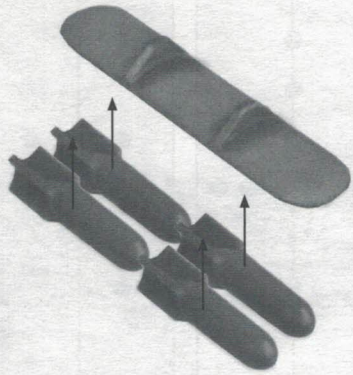
There were also the added codifications.

- RLM23 red: on the warhead with the black coat of arms of a **B** bombs; with two circular stripes at 1/3 of the bomb nose on **FLAM** bombs.

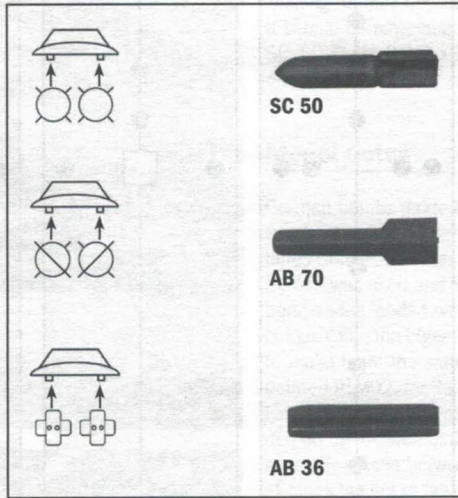
The higher calibre bombs then had the type and weight of the explosive stamped in black characters.

ER4 Assembly drawing for: SC 50, AB 70, AB 36 weapons

Bombs rings assembly drawing



Careful:
to note the bomb's
rudders inclination



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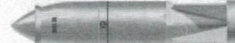
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PC 1400 (x1)



SC 1000 "Herman" bomb (2x)



SC 1800 Satan (1x)



SC 500 bomb (2x)



SD 500 (2x)



SD 1700 (1x)



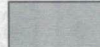
PD 500 (2x)



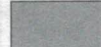
Italeri suggested color key



Dunkelgrun RLM 71
ITA MM II 2081



Lichtblau RLM 76
ITA MM II 2086



Grau RLM 02
ITA MM II 1742

Historical research
and kit layout by G. De Mattia

Examples of must used weapons loads (Other combinations was possible, i.e.: Ju 88 2 SC 500 + 2SC 250 - Ju 87 1 AB 500 + 2SC 250)

Weapons	Ju 88A	He 111H	Ju 87D	Hs 129B	Fw 190F	Me 262A
SC 1800	●	●				
SC 1000		●				
SC 500 L	● ●	● ●				
SC 500 J	● ●	● ●				
SC 250 ZAR			●			
SC 250	● ●	● ●	●			
SC 50			● ●	●		
SD 1700	●	●				
SD 500	●	●	●			
PC 1400	●	●				
PC 500 RS	●	●	●			
PD 500	●	●	●			
AB 500	●	●	●			
AB 250	● ●	● ●	●			
AB 70			● ● ● ●	●	● ● ● ●	
AB 36			● ● ● ●	●	● ● ● ●	
WB 81	● ●	● ●	●			
900 L	●	●				
ER 4*				□	□	