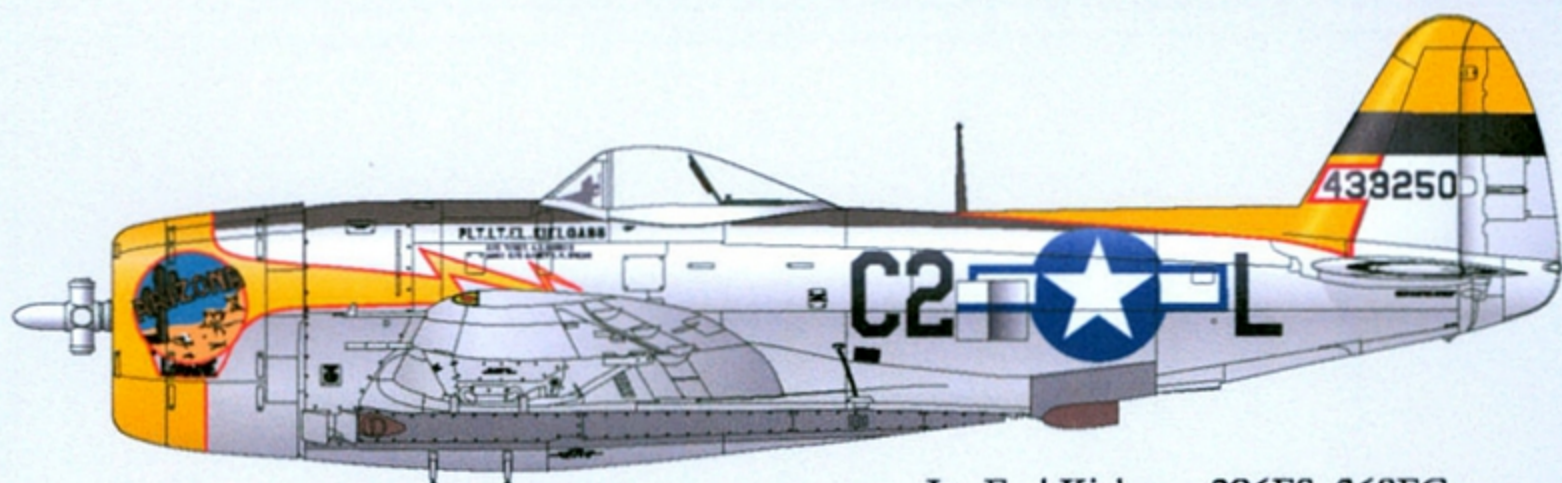


**Lifelike Decals**

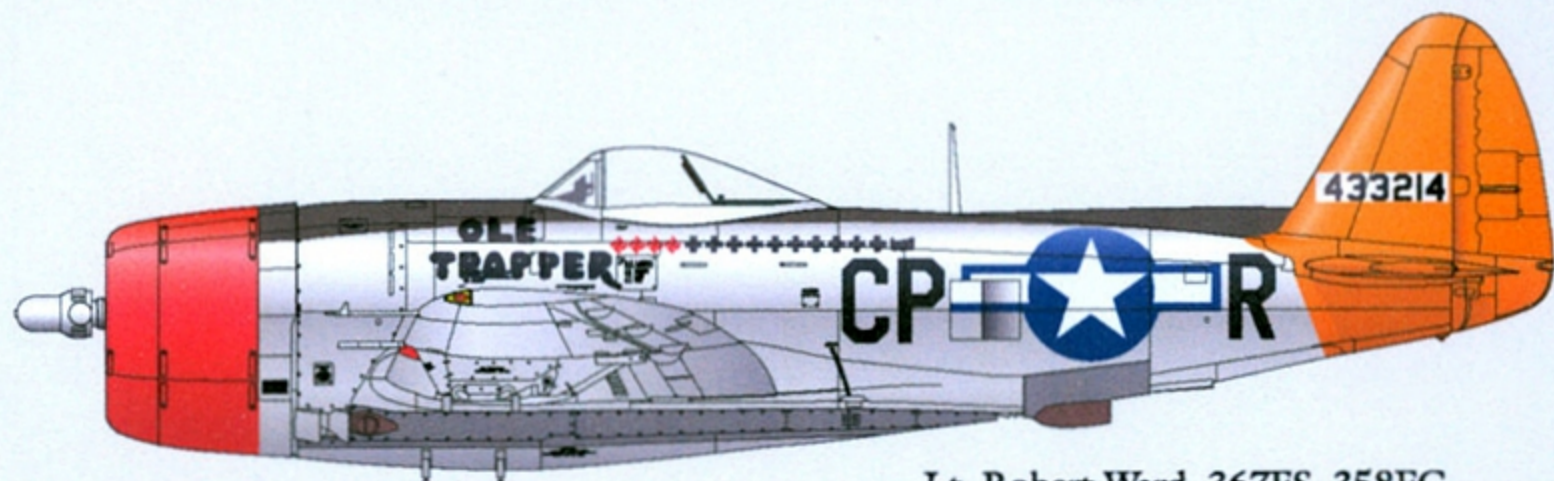
**48-011**

# Republic P-47D Thunderbolt Part 4

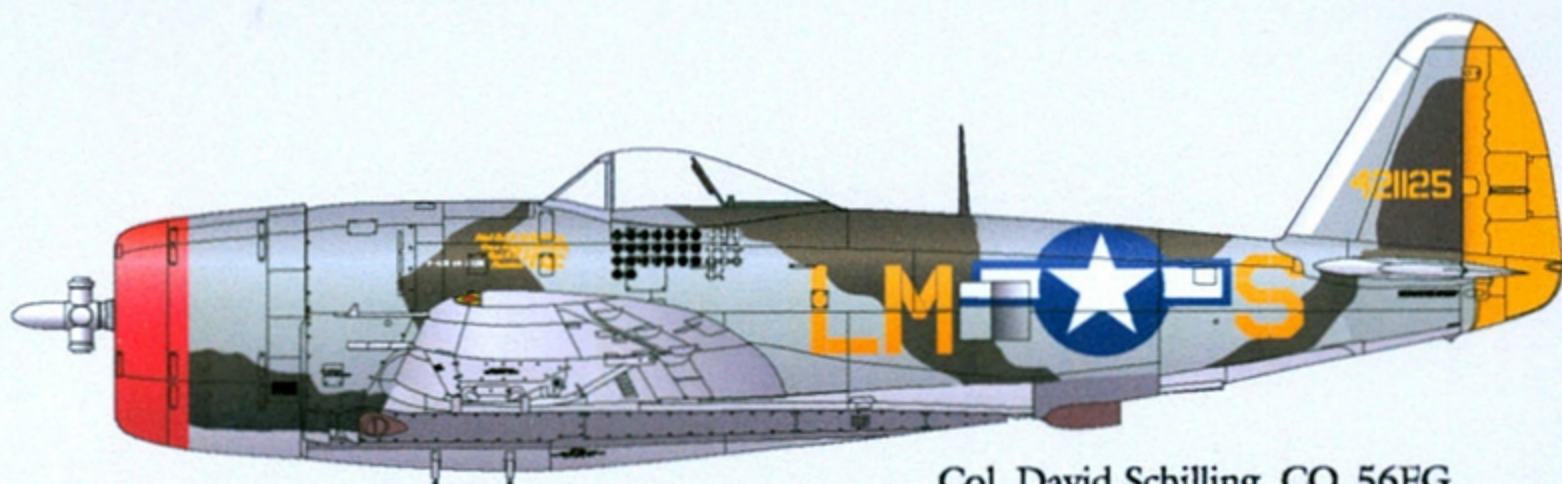
*Limited Edition!*



Lt. Earl Kielgass, 396FS, 368FG



Lt. Robert Ward, 367FS, 358FG



Col. David Schilling, CO, 56FG

Recommended kits: Tamiya P-47 Bubbletop (LM-S)  
Hasegawa P-47D Bubbletop (C2-L, CP-R)  
(Dorsal fin is always included.)

Lifelike Decals wants to hear from you and your input.

Fax: +81-743-73-5526, e-mail: [lifelike\\_d@kcn.jp](mailto:lifelike_d@kcn.jp)

<http://lifelikedecals.sakura.ne.jp>

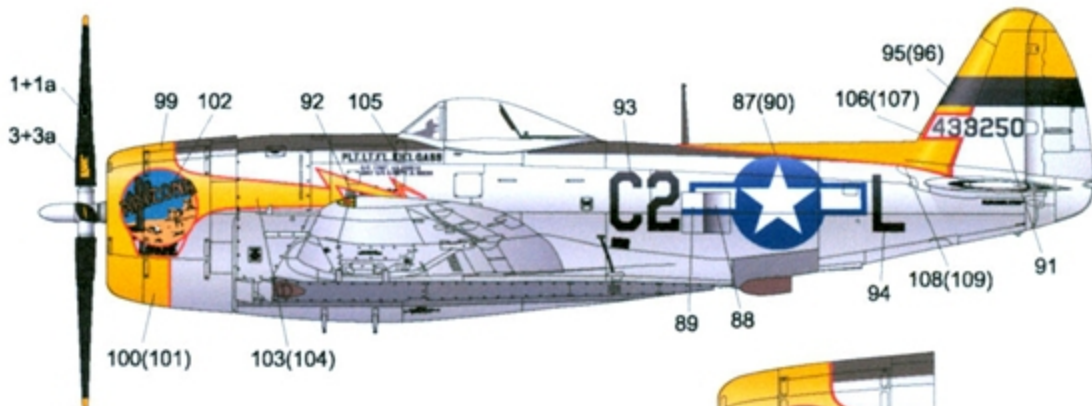


**Republic P-47D  
Thunderbolt Part 4**

**A/C #1**

P-47D-30-RA, 44-33250, flown by Lt. Earl Kielgass, 396FS, 368FG, Chievres/Belgium, November 1944.

This unit adorned their Thunderbolts in one of the most colorful way with its nose, cowl-flash (lightning bolt) in the squadron color and fin/rudder tip in yellow with a black band beneath. The initial marking of Arizona Loraine is shown in ref. 1, and the more elaborate nose marking provided here is shown by the photo in ref. 2 (taken from a 16mm film now owned by his son). The overall marking of this A/C is shown by the two paintings, one by Mr. Robert St. Vincent and another by Mr. Jim Foster, which are almost identical. The former painting was once shown on the 368FG website



(www.368thfighter.com), and the latter painting as well as the crew's names are provided to us by Mr. Dennis Kielgass, the son of the pilot. In the photo some dark color is shown to be between antiglare and yellow flash, but check of other frames of the film by Dennis confirmed its non-existence. No photo is known to show the right side marking. Though without kill marks, this is one of the gaudiest markings ever applied to P-47. Lt. Kielgass passed away in Decem-

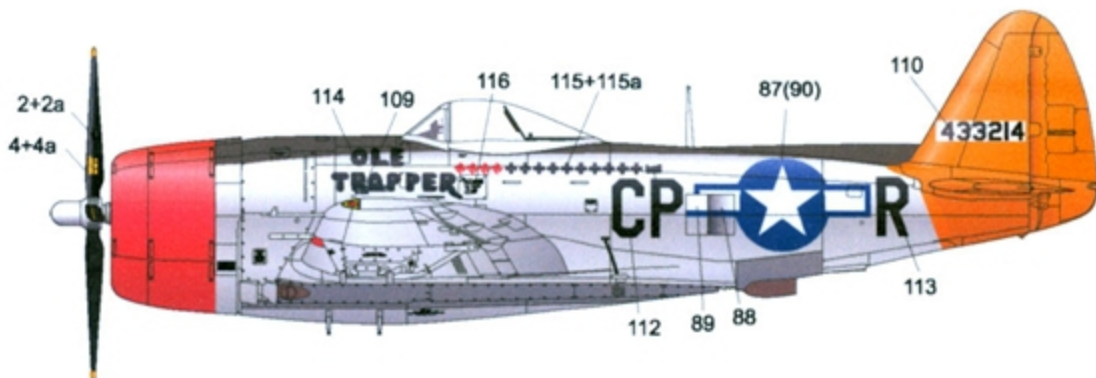
ber 2003.

Special thanks to Mr. Dennis Kielgass and Mr. Tim Grace for their information.

**A/C#2**

P-47D-30-RA, 44-33250, flown by Lt. Robert Ward, 367FS, 358FG, Toul/France, March 1945.

This is an example of colorful A/C from the "Orange Tail" outfit, and its color profile is shown in ref. 3. But this illustration has several mistakes when compared with the photo of this A/C in ref. 4. From this photo it is obvious that "OLE TRAPPER IV" and iron crosses are black, while reverse Swastikas are of the same color as the wing gun cover, which is red. It should be noted that slide canopy frame and antenna are painted in white. In the photo the crew is painting an-



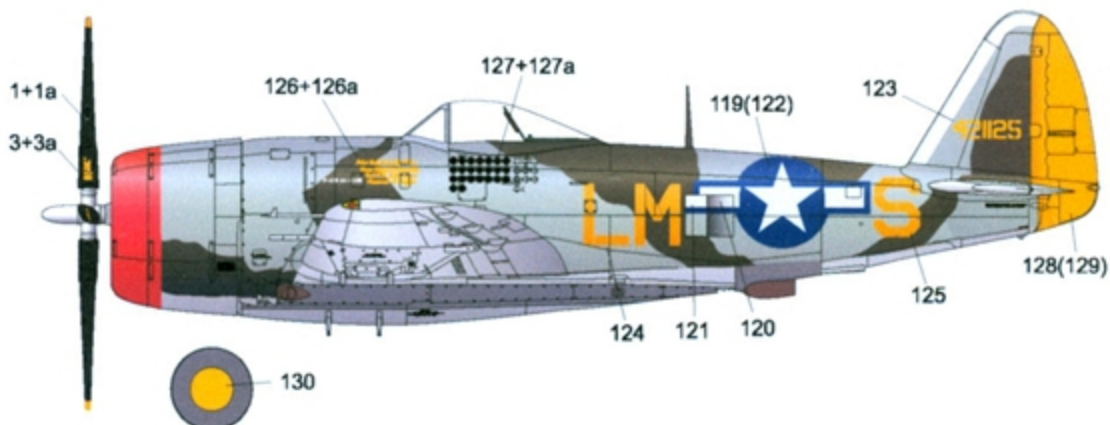
other kill mark, but this is not iron cross. It seems he is painting a motif of locomotive. Another noteworthy feature of this A/C is that the antiglare painting is not straight but going down towards the nose. No photo is

known to show the right side marking. Though ten iron crosses and 4 reverse Swastika are painted on the fuselage, Lt. Ward is not shown in the ace list, and his victory tally is not known.

**A/C#3**

P-47M, 44-21125, flown by Col. David Schilling, CO of the 56FG, January 1945, Boxted.

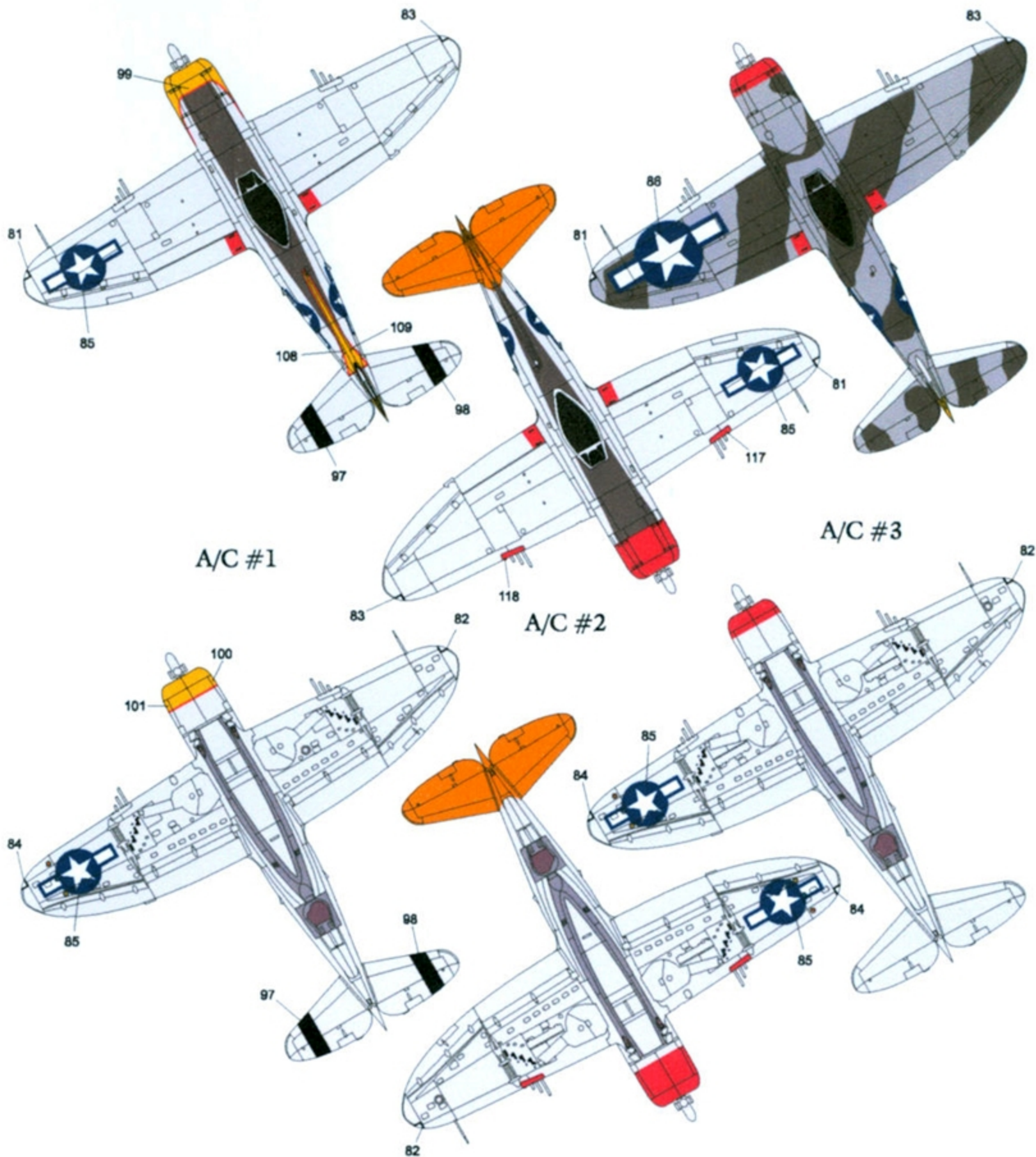
This A/C is the last mount of the ace, Col. David Schilling, during WWII. Though he was the Commander of the 56FG, this A/C was camouflaged in the disruptive pattern of dark green and gray, typical of the 62FS. Two color photos are known for this A/C, as shown in ref. 5-7. The 23 iron crosses and 10.5 reverse iron crosses correspond to his victories in the air and on the ground. The name of the crews (in yellow)



is not clearly visible, and what is shown here is our best guess. Wheel covers are painted in yellow. Probably wing national insignia is applied on the lower right and upper left

side, and the photo shows a large one on upper left wing. All the leading edges of wings and tail planes as well as lower surfaces are NMF. The upper camouflage pattern on the right side is unknown.





#### References;

- 1) War paint (J and D. Campbell, Motorbooks International)
- 2) Talisman (J. and D. Campbell, Schiffer Military History)
- 3) Osprey Aircraft of the Aces 30 (J. Scutts, Osprey Publishing)
- 4) Orange Tails-The story of the 358FG and Ancillary Units (privately published by Mr. L.D. Volkmer, 1996)
- 5) Zemke's Wolfpack (W. Hess, Motorbooks International)
- 6) Aces & Wingmen II Vol. 2 (W. Hess, Aviation USK)
- 7) American Eagles 3, P-47Thunderbolt Units of the Eighth Air Force (R. Freeman, Classic Publications)