

LIMITED EDITION!

CED48113

CED72113

P-51D Mustang



Maj. Pierce McKennon, 335th FS



Capt. Charles E. Weaver, 362nd FS



Lt. Col. Glenn Eagleston, CO 353rd FS



Maj. William Shomo, 82nd TRS



Recommended kits:

1/48: Tamiya P-51D

1/72: Hasegawa P-51D

**Cutting
Edge**
MODELWORKS

P.O. Box 3956
Merrifield, VA 22116
USA

Capt. Charles E. Weaver, 362nd FS



RIDGE RUNNER III
Maj. Pierce McKennon, 335th FS



Lt. Col. Glenn Eagleston, CO 353rd FS



The FLYING UNDERTAKER
Maj. William Shomo, 82nd TRS



Notes on Specific Aircraft



G40A

- Color Scheme: Natural metal with ANA 613 Olive Drab (FS 34087/34088) anti-glare panel. Insignia red & yellow spinner and nose checks. The inside of the oil cooler opening under the spinner did not have the checks painted inside it, but does appear to have been painted yellow.
- It is not possible to conclusively determine the color of the background swirl for the nose art. We believe the most likely color was the medium blue shown as it was not a precise match to either the red checks or the black markings. It seems to us that red is the second most likely color, so we've provided both swirl colors.
- Earlier, Weaver carried a different style of kill markings, but since we like these better, these are the ones we put on the decal sheet!

WD0A

- Color Scheme: Natural metal with ANA 613 (FS 34087/34088) Olive Drab anti-glare panel. Insignia red spinner, forward fuselage, and canopy frame. White rudder with red outline denoting 335th FS.
- This aircraft had two red-painted "Spitfire type" mirrors added to the forward windscreen.
- Note that the exhaust stack shroud is missing.
- Please note that Ridge Runner II was VERY similar to this aircraft. It had wing dive stripes and the codes were of different proportions. Ridgerunner II will be featured on a future Cutting Edge decal sheet.

FT0L

- Color Scheme: Natural metal with ANA 613 Olive Drab (FS 34087/34088) anti-glare panel. Insignia yellow spinner and forward fuselage.
- Numerous color paintings have shown a yellow base for the eagle. This is EXTREMELY unlikely. We are confident that yellow is incorrect as the base color is not even close in gray value to the yellow spinner. This was most likely a gray primer applied as an undercoat for the beautifully elaborate nose art.

"The FLYING UNDERTAKER"

- Color Scheme: Natural metal with ANA 613 Olive Drab (FS 34087/34088) anti-glare panel. Insignia yellow spinner and black theater stripes. These markings and colors are based on photos obtained from Shomo's widow and the widow of his crew chief.
- For years this P-51 has been incorrectly referred to as 'Snook's 5th'. Shomo's F-6 (recon version of the P-51) was 'Snook's 5th', and his next aircraft, 'The FLYING UNDERTAKER', was 'Snook's 6th'. The art for 'Snook's 6th' is based on the art for 'Snook's 5th' as his crew chief reported the artwork was the same except for the number (we could not find any photos showing this marking). It reportedly appeared on the starboard cowling under the exhaust stacks.
- Some researchers do not believe that on Shomo's aircraft the large black theater stripes had yellow pin stripes and claim it is an optical illusion due to masking tape & overspray from when the black stripes were painted. Upon extensive review of the photos received from the pilot's and crew chief's widows, there is no question that the yellow pin stripes were applied to both fuselage and wings.

This said, it IS true that many (or most) of the other aircraft in the 82d TRS did NOT have the yellow pinstripes!

- Some researchers think that the border color for the kill markings is blue instead of black. While we believe black is correct, duplicate decals are provided for each color.

Applying the Decals

You probably already know all this stuff, so feel free to use your regular process; however, if you're new to aftermarket decals, here goes:

- Generally, use the Microscale Finishing System. We don't recommend extremely strong decal solvents such as Solvaset.
- Your model must have a smooth, glossy surface, as decals won't adhere well to matte surfaces. Use gloss paints or your favorite clear gloss overspray over matte or semigloss paint.
- Cut each subject out without trimming off the slight excess film (this helps the decal film disappear when dry).
- Put the decal in warm water that has a drop or two of liquid dishwashing soap or photo-flo for 10 seconds.
- When the decal will slide off the backing paper without forcing it, apply it to the proper position on your model. Slide the backing paper out from underneath.
- Gently blot off excess water and smooth out bubbles under the decal surface. If you wish, carefully brush on a mild decal softener such as Micro-Sol.
- When all decals are completely dry, gently wash off all excess decal adhesive.
- Finally, overcoat your model with a good quality gloss coat, followed by your choice of matte or eggshell clear topcoat.

Bibliography

Original photographs

Airfoil #5 by Steve Sheflin, Airfoil Publications, 1987.

Flying Scoreboards by E. McDowell, Squadron Signal Publications, 1993.

Aces of the Eighth by G. Stafford, Squadron Signal Publications, 1973.

P-51 Mustang by Larry Davis, Squadron Signal Publications, 1995.

Fighters of the Mighty Eighth by William Hess, Motorbooks, 1990.

Air Classics June 1986 Challenge Publications.

Information provided by Del Miller.

Note: While many of our reference photos are available in existing publications, Cutting Edge prefers to track down original copies of the photos whenever possible to make our marking and camouflage interpretations as accurate as possible.