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B-17 Flying Fortress Part 1



Stingy

- This ship was named at the request of Maj Gen Frederick L. Anderson, then commander of VIII Bomber Command, in honor of his young son.
- This plane was eventually lost in a midair collision while on a training flight on 11 October 1944. The plot, Lt Nickolas Jorgenson and his six-man crew was killed.
- At least one published black and white photo makes it appear the bomb mission markings were painted in two
 different colors. However, the available color photo proves the mission markings were painted yellow.

Mary Alice

- This aircraft was named by pilot Knight after his mother, Mary Alice Knight. His crew completed their tour on 25 June 1944. The plane was badly damaged many times, reportedly suffering more repairable battle damage than any other 8th AF B-17. The plane eventually flew 98 missions and was scrapped at Kingman, AZ.
- Other crews that regularly flew Mary Alice were piloted by 2nd Lt Harry Haskett, Lt R. W. Callaway, and 2nd Lt George Cracraft.
- The B-17G on display at the Imperial War Museum, Duxford, is painted to represent Mary Alice. Note there are numerous differences in the way the Duxford B-17G is painted and the way she actually appeared in service!
 There are significant differences in the name on the nose, the code letters, etc. Our decal sheet provides the WW II markings, NOT the Duxford version.

Carolina Boomerang

- Since no photos of the tail of this bird have been found, it's not clear whether the individual code letter "U" on
 the fin was yellow or gray. The colors were in transition at the time the ship was lost, and it is unknown
 whether the new gray code letter had been applied, or whether the original yellow letter was still painted on.
 We've provided both options.
- This plane originally had the red outlined national insignia, and you have the choice of applying the star and bar with the fresh (darker) blue paint or the red outlined version.

National insignia (stars and bars) are available on Cutting Edge decal sheets for this set:

CED48262 B-17 Standard Insignia #3: June 1943 to September 1943 and later. This set includes 50" fuselage and 70" wing stars & bars with RED outline for use until late September 1943 (Freeman "Type 3"), AS WELL AS the same size insignia with lighter blue (faded) cocardes with darker blue surrounds to represent Type 3 insignia converted to "Type 4" insignia. The set also includes prop logos and Orange Yellow 15" individual numbers for the fin serial. \$6.99

CED48263 B-17 Standard Insignia #4: September 1943 to the 1950s. This set has the 50" fuselage and 70" wing stars & bars in Insignia Blue and Insignia White, and includes separate red bars for post-1947 B-17s. In addition, the set has optional separate light gray stars and bars to replace the white for "grayed out" insignia, which was often seen on B-17s, including Forts that left the factory in the natural metal scheme! Prop logos and 15" black individual numbers for the fin serial. \$6.99

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.