

# 神風特別攻撃隊



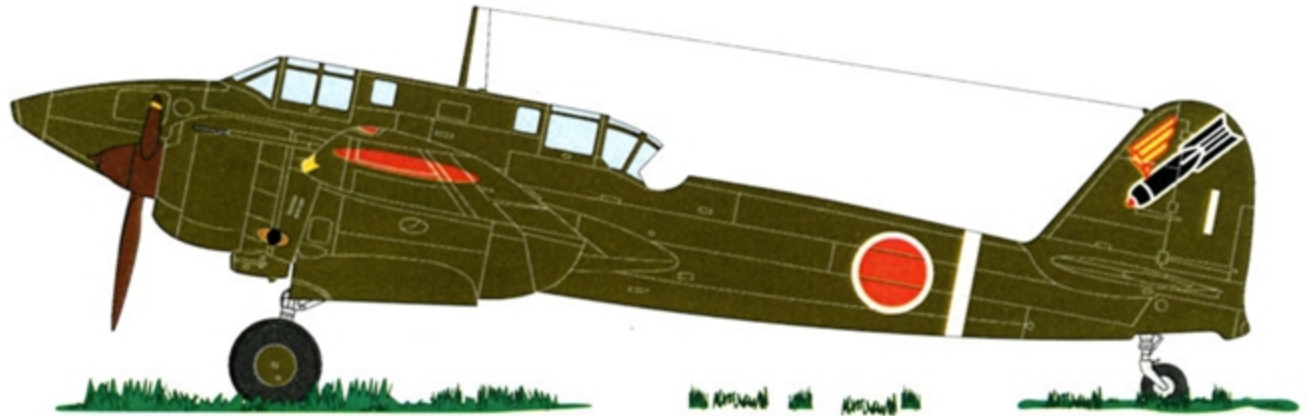
**SPECIAL ATTACK  
SQUADRONS**



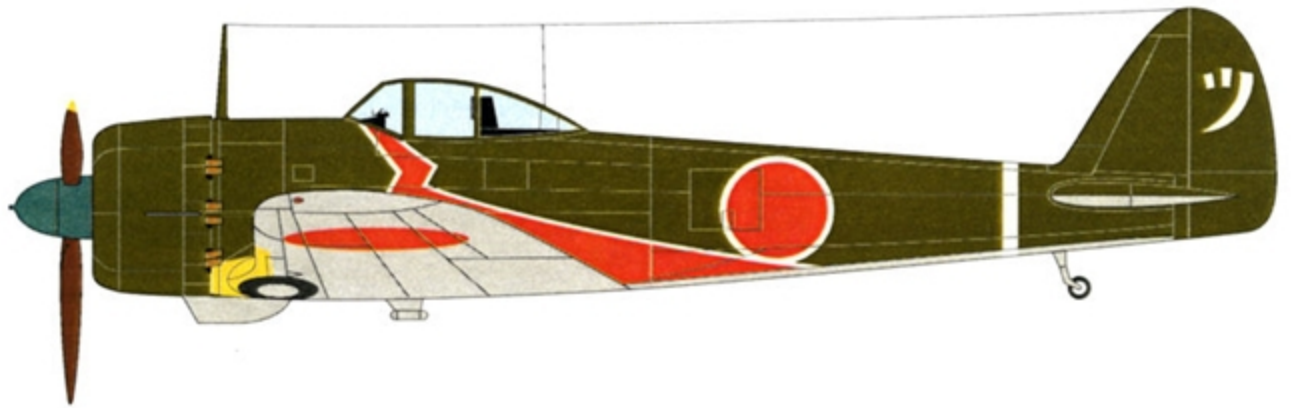
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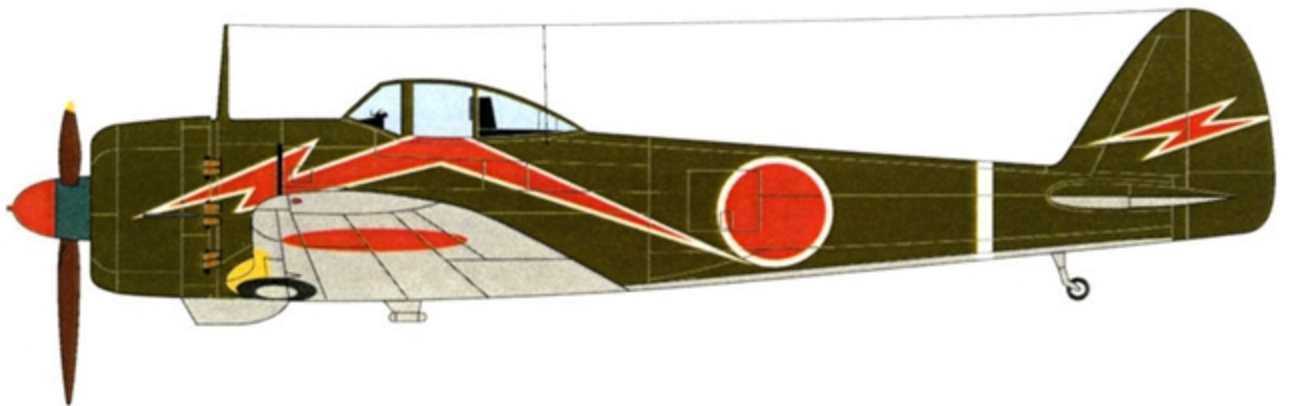
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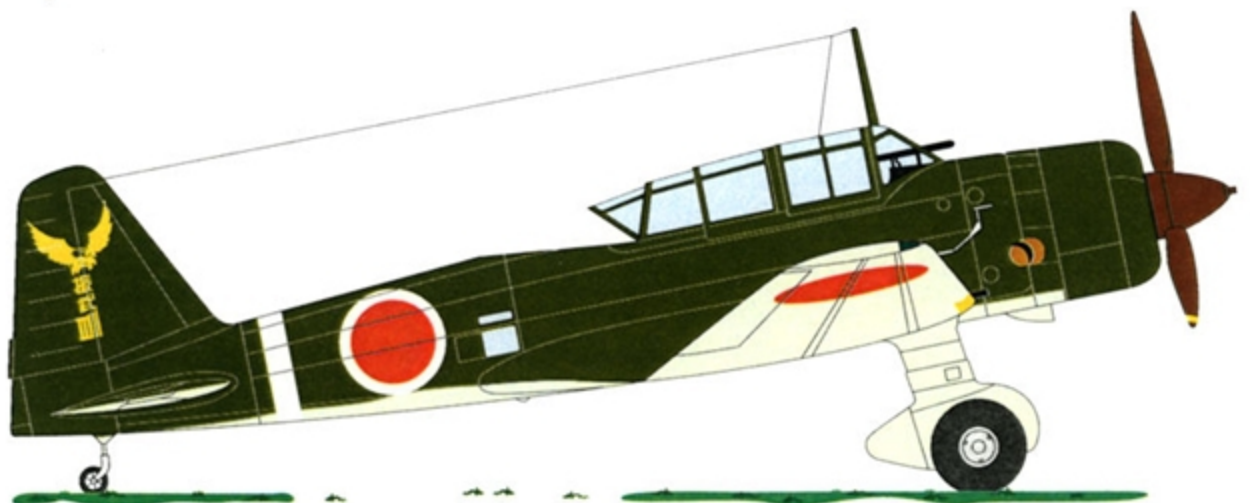
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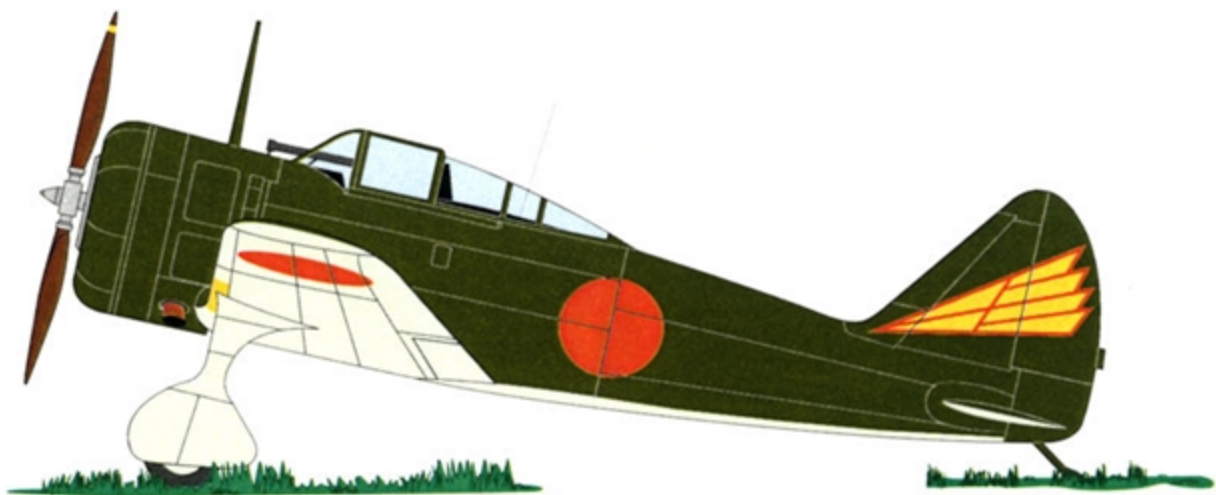
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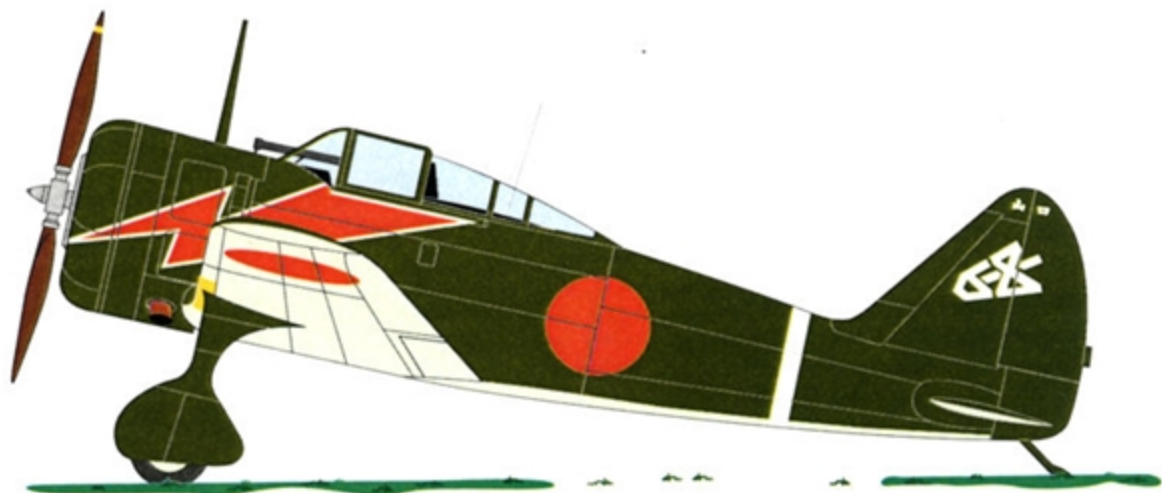
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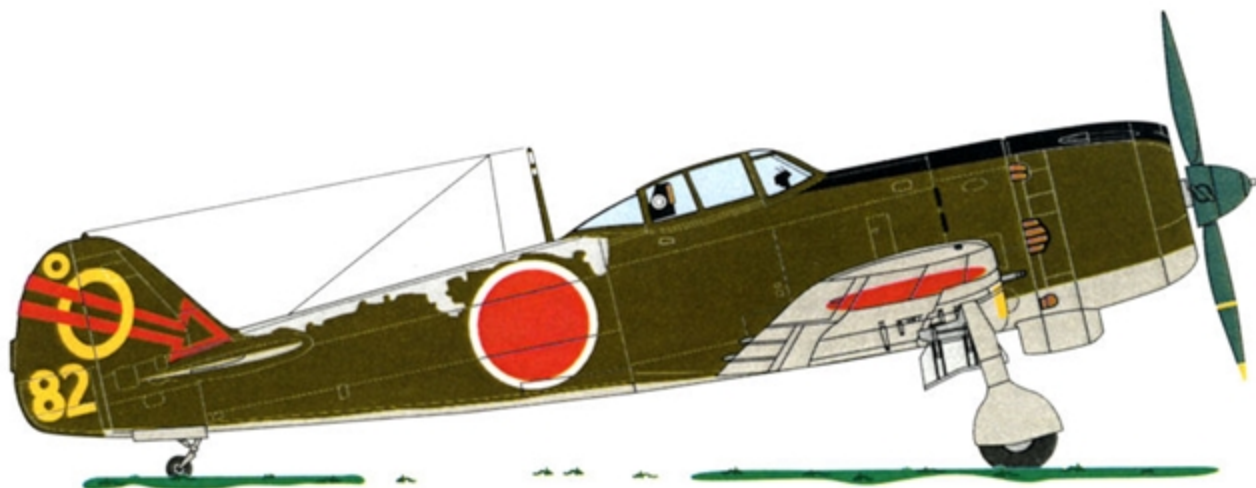
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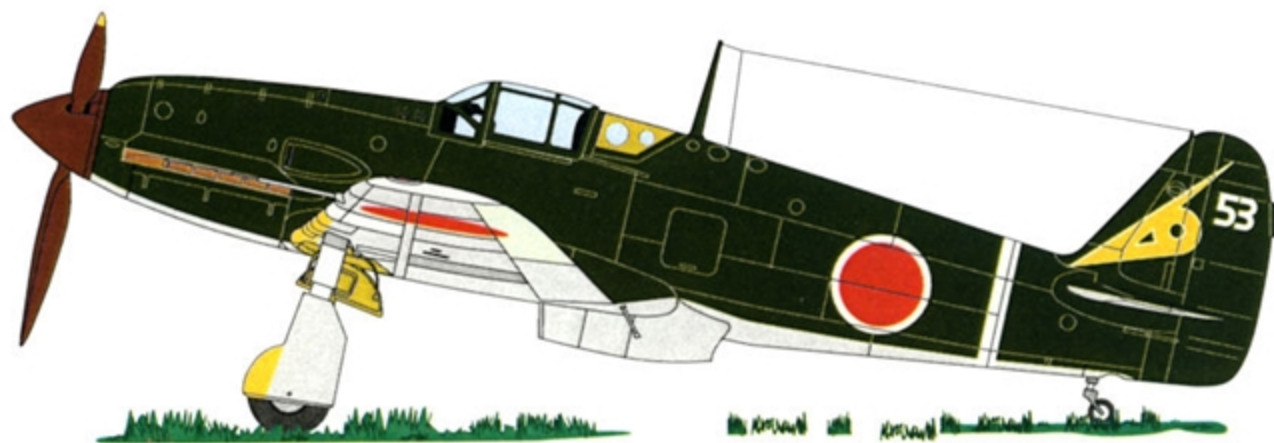
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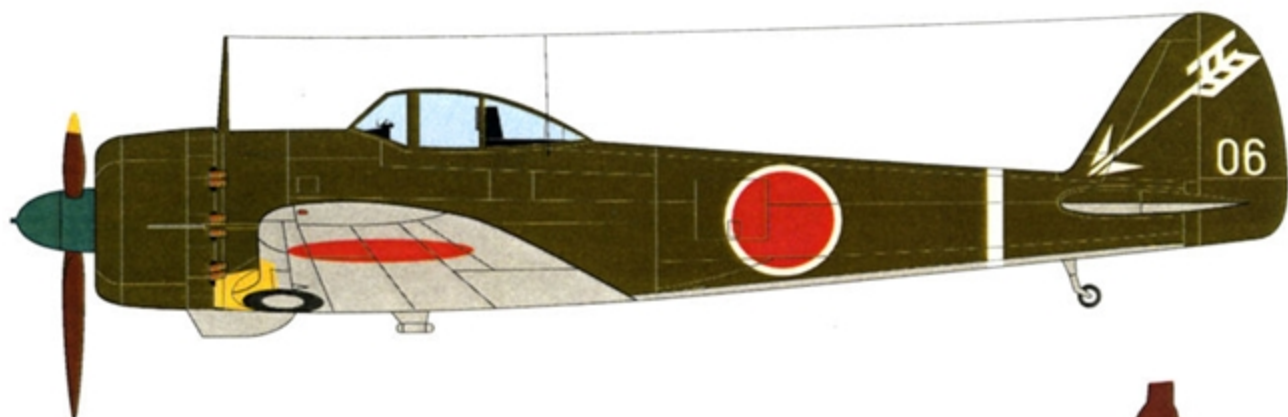




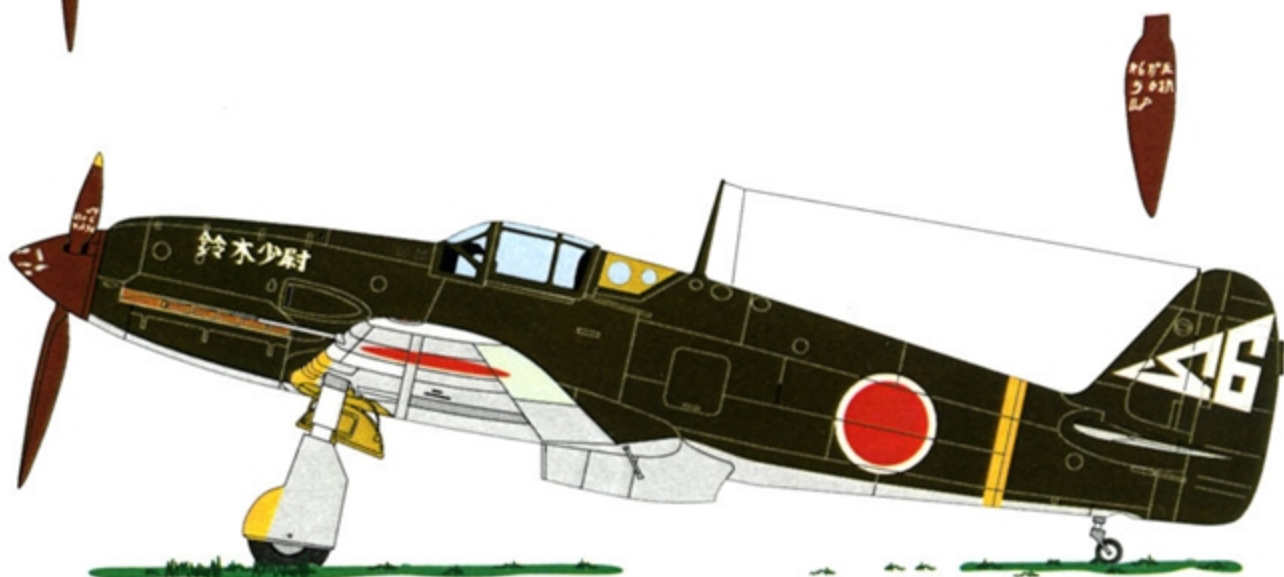
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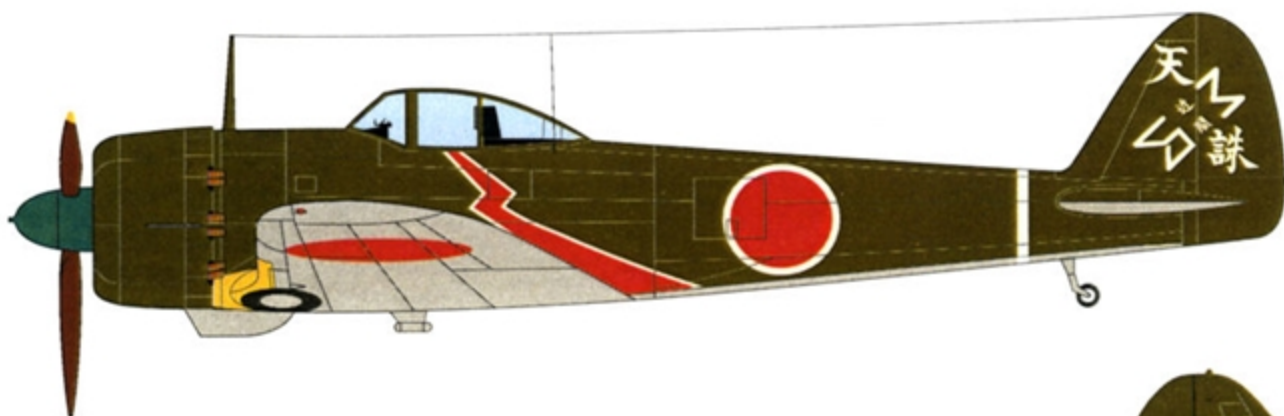
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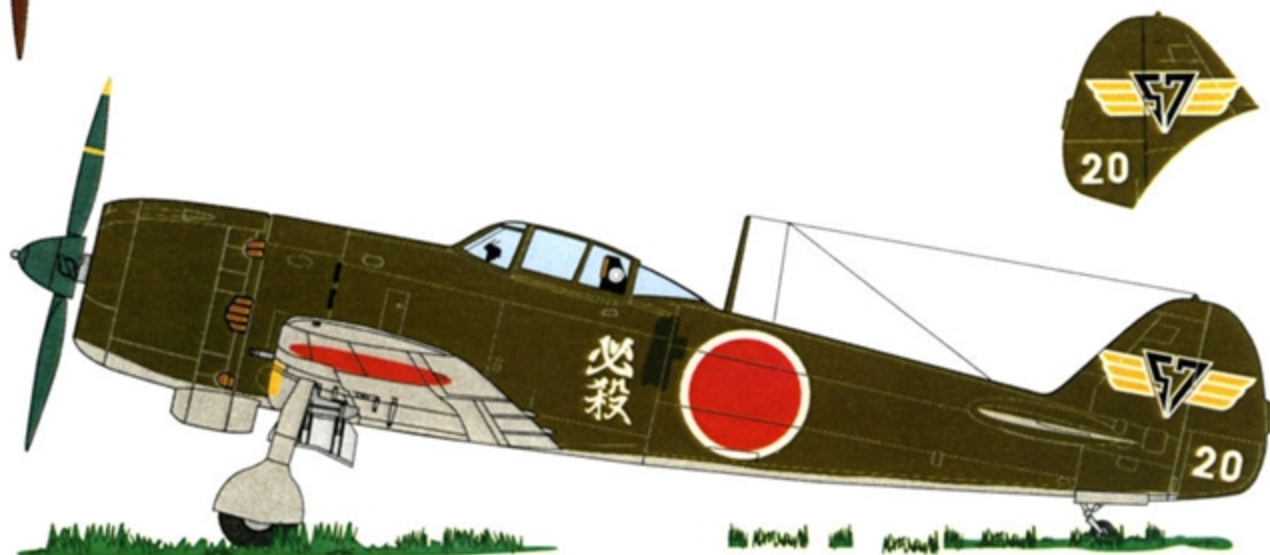
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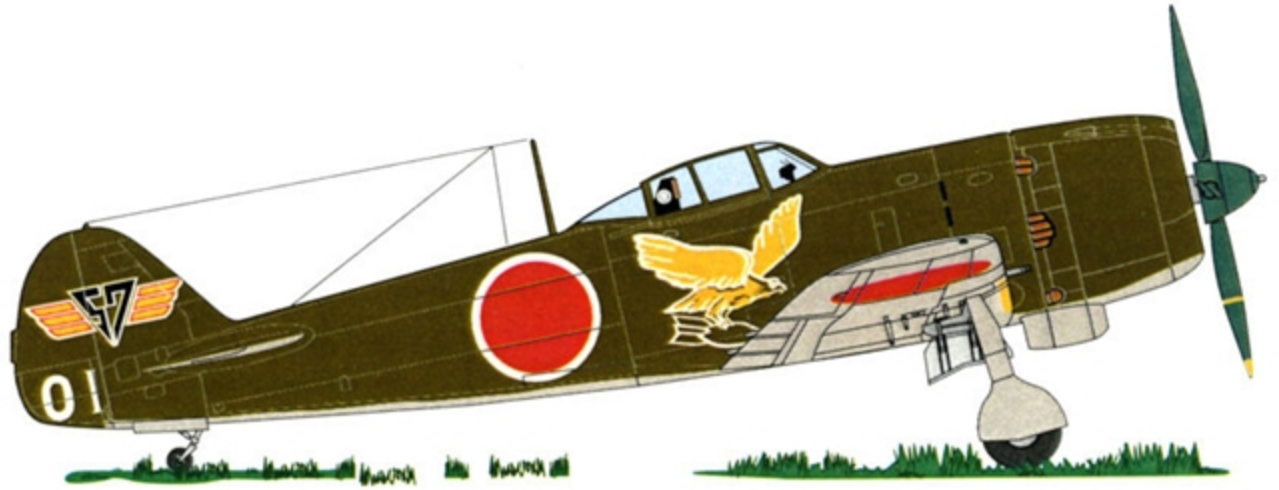




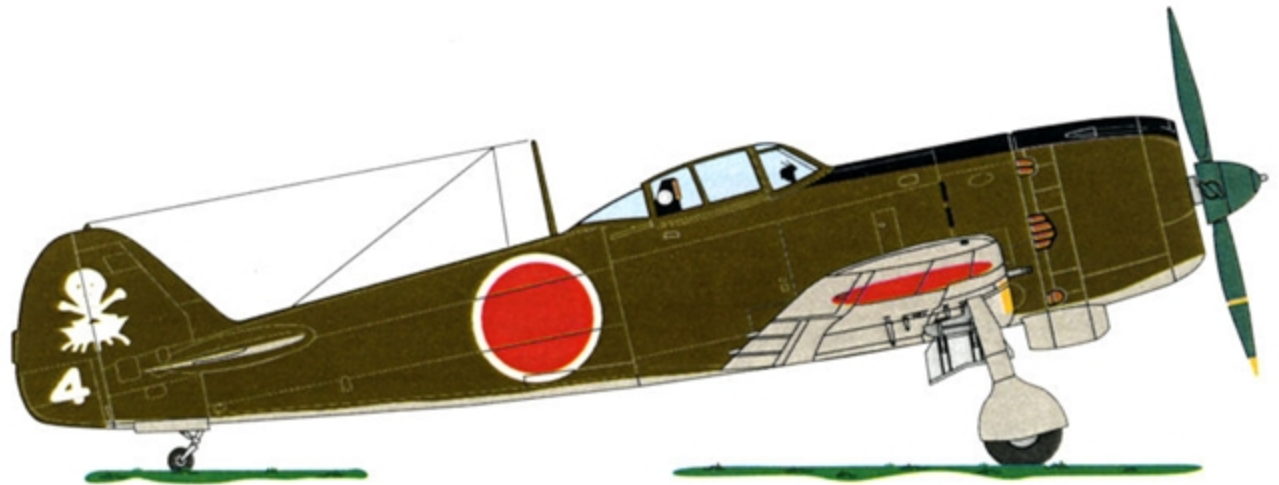
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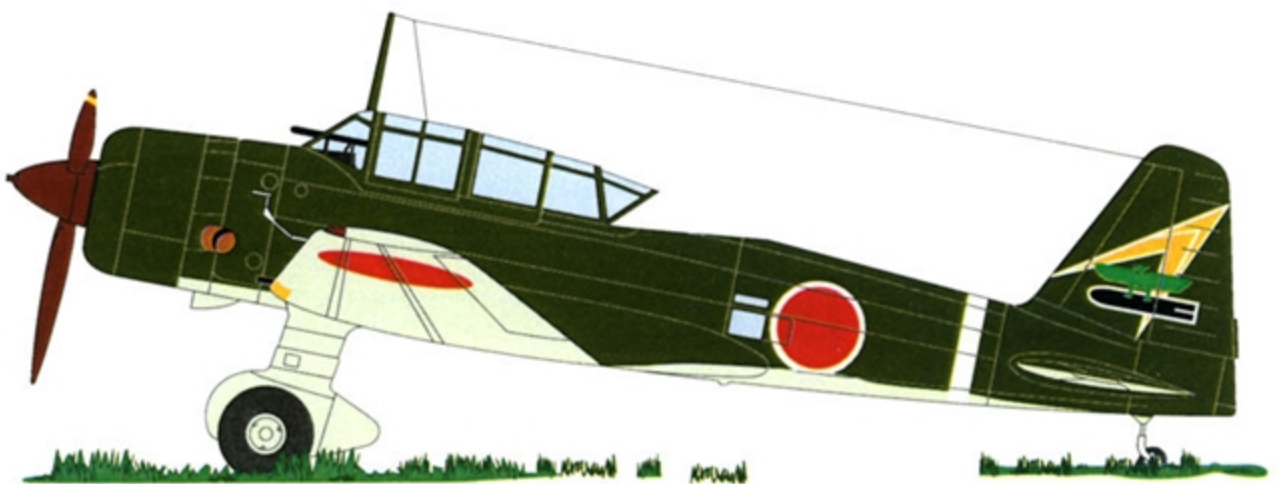
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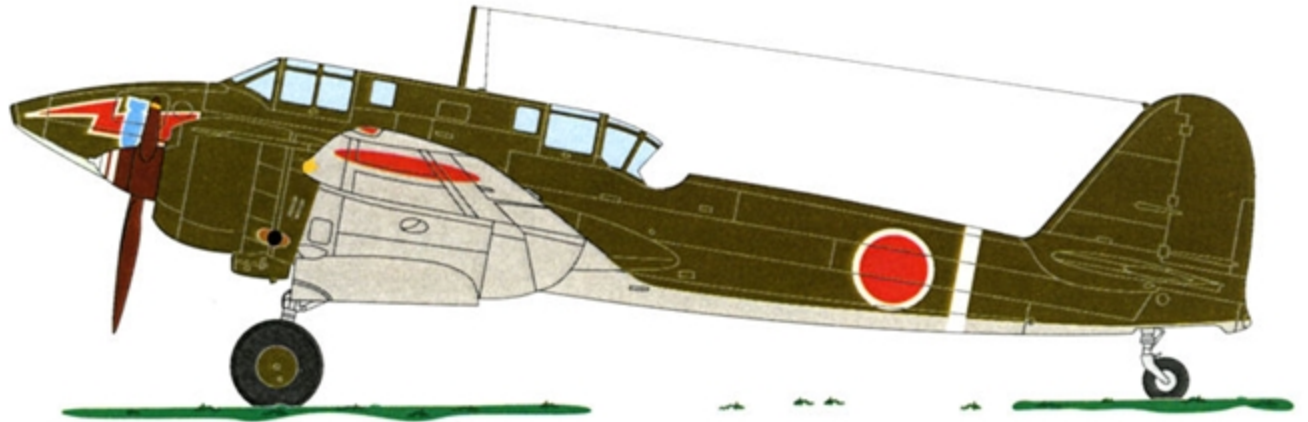




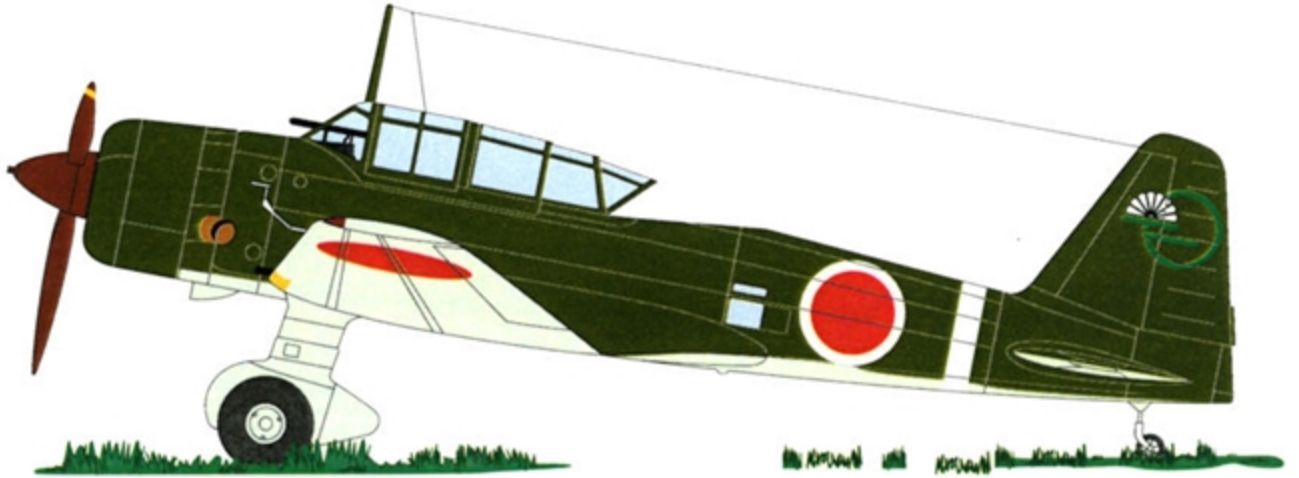
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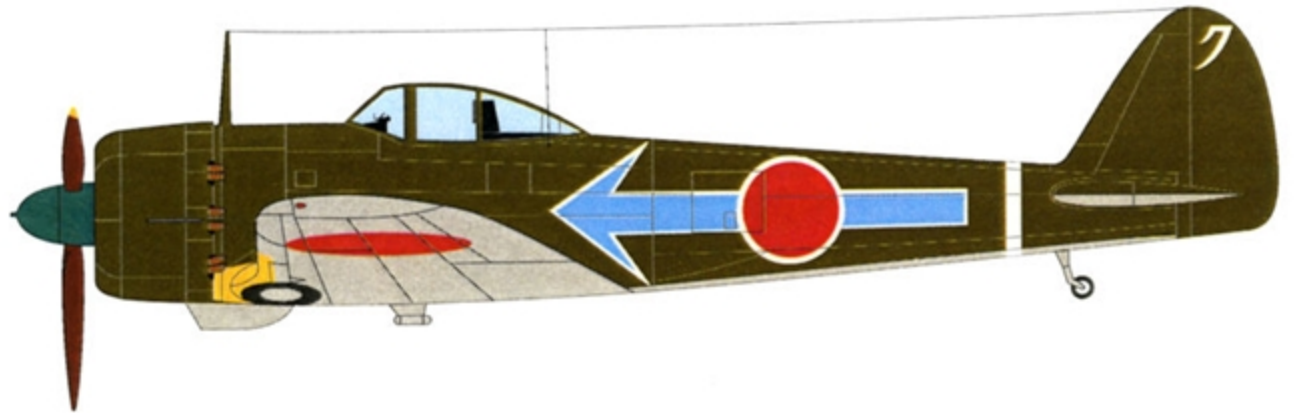
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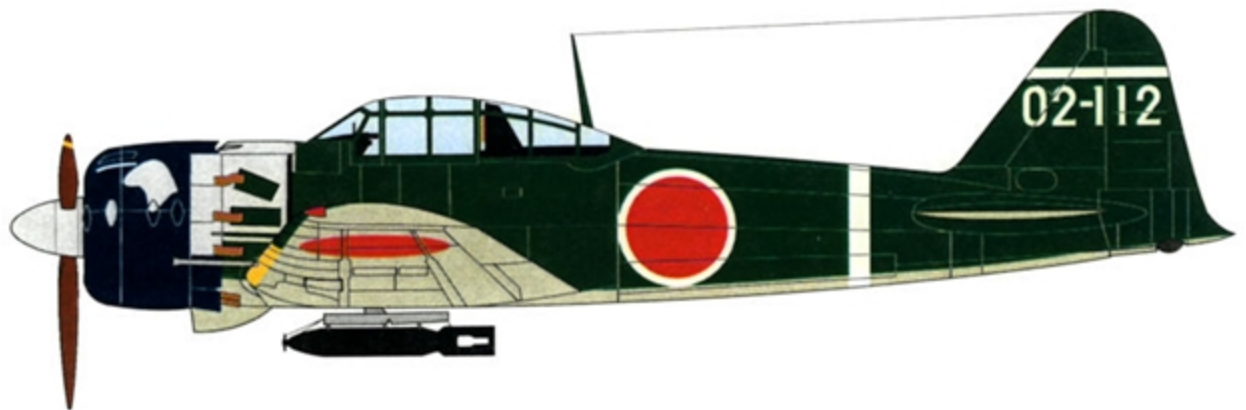
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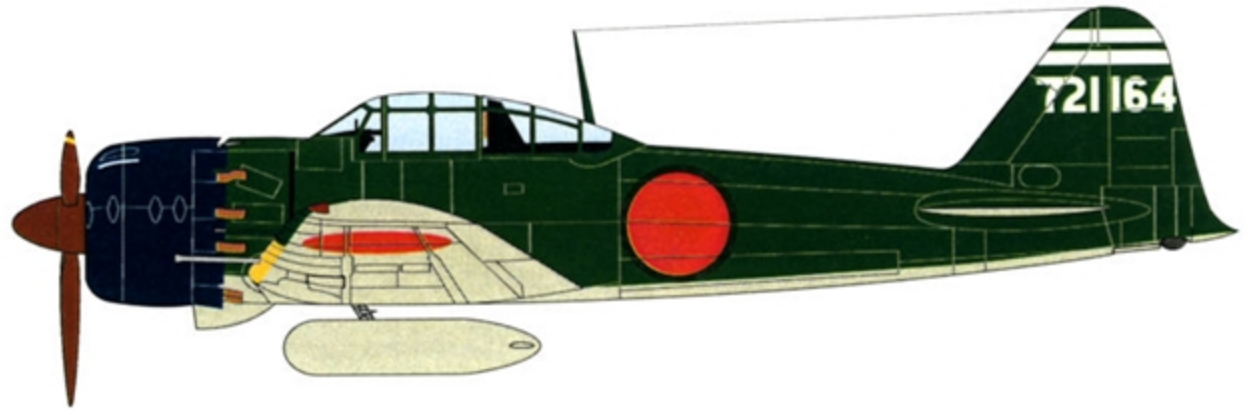
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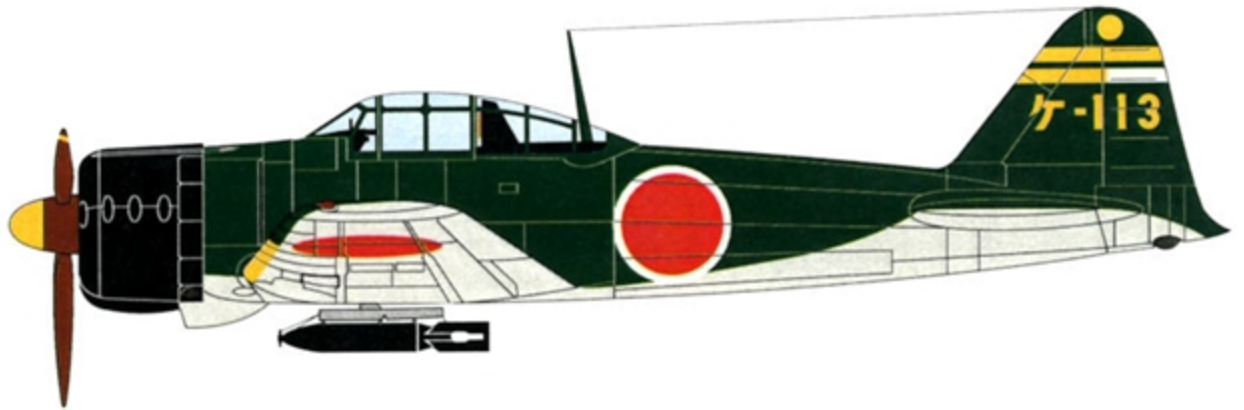
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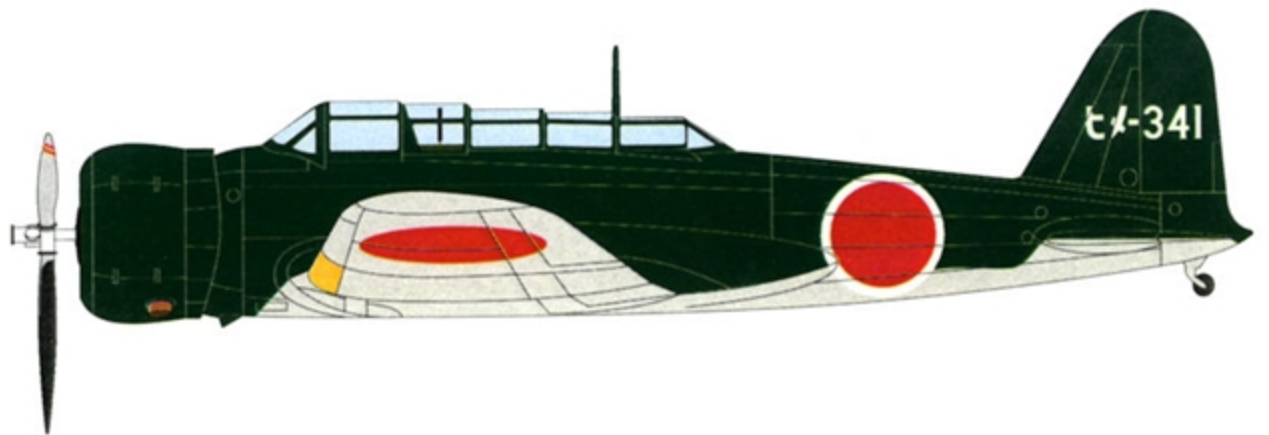
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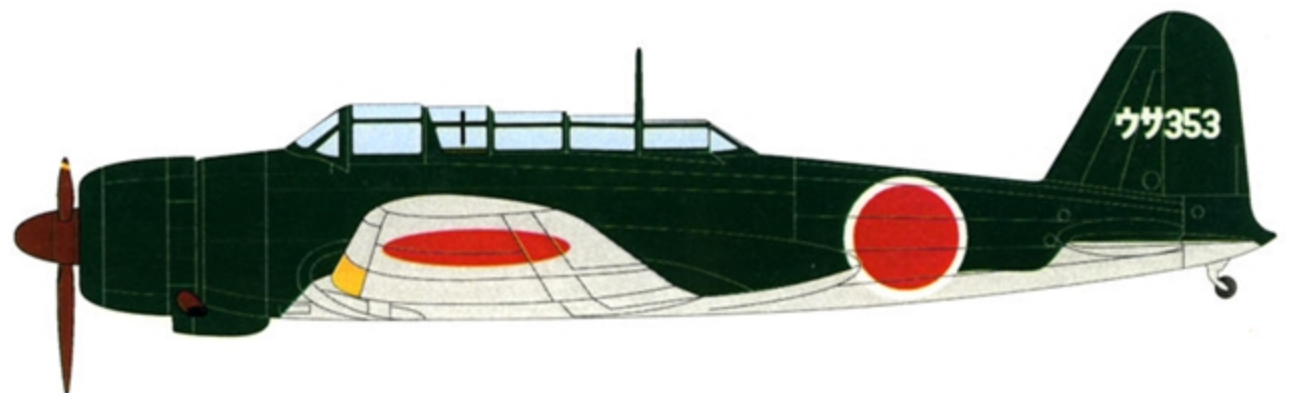
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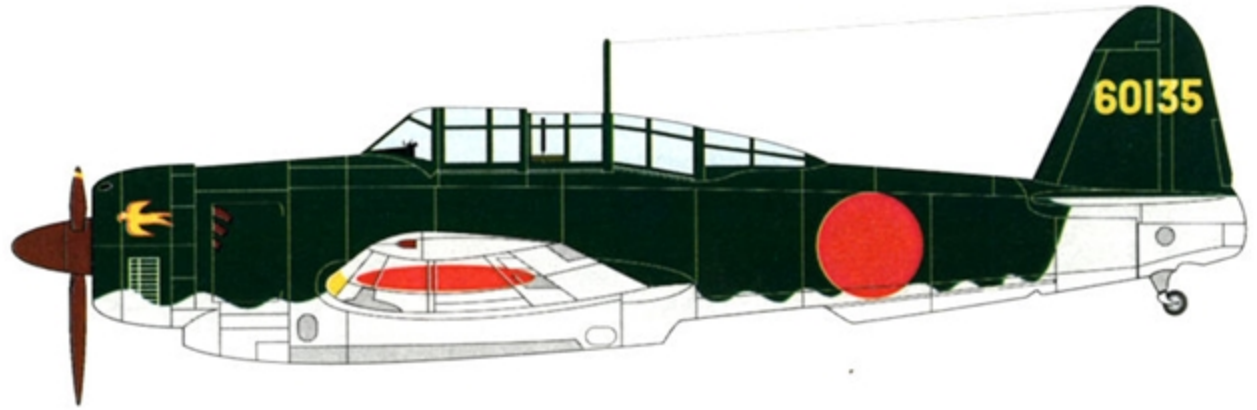




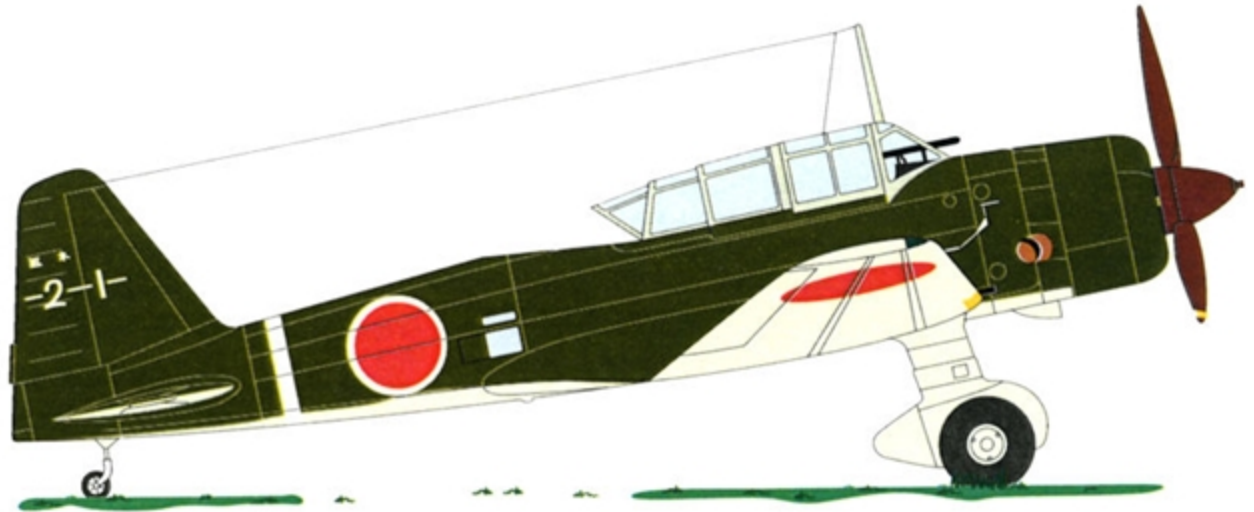
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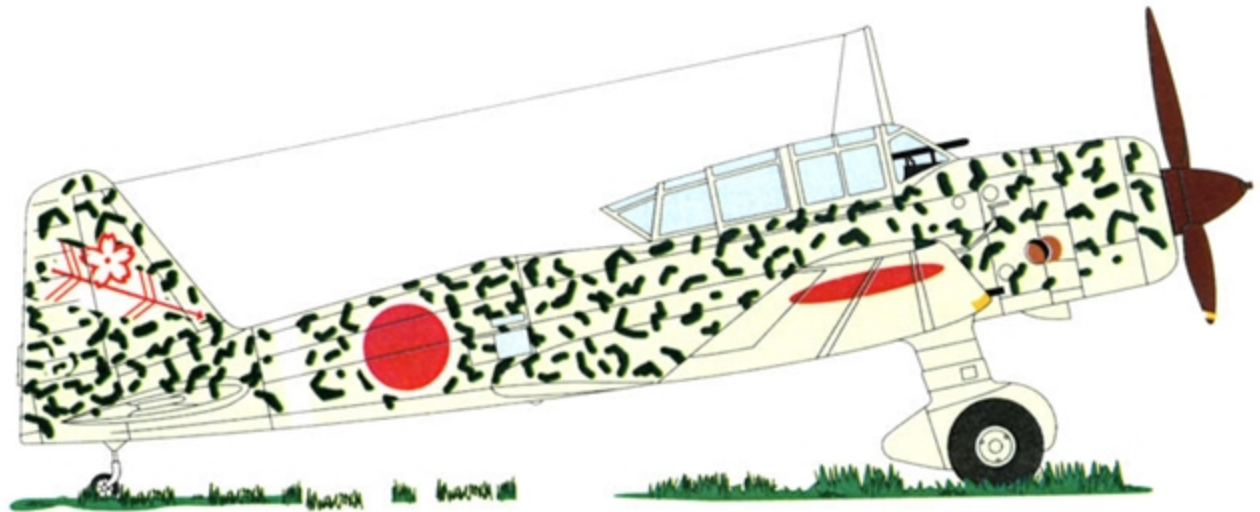
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26



27



## Propeller Markings Location

A/C #  
1  
16  
17  
18  
20  
21  
22  
24



A/C #  
2  
3  
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9  
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25  
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27



A/C #  
23

A/C #  
7  
12  
13  
14





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## Aircraft Description and Brief Pilot Biography

No. 1 -- Ki-45 Nick Kai, Type Hei, 8th Hakkou-tai, "Kinnou-tai", flown by leader 1st Lt. Takumi Yamamoto (from Tokyo), Dec. 7, 1944, Nielsen Air Base, the Philippines. This unit was established in November 1944 by the Hokota Training Air Division with 12 Nicks as one of the Special Attack Forces for the Philippines operation. It was officially named 8th Hakkou-tai, "Kinnou-tai" on Dec. 5, and on Dec. 7 attacked U.S. forces in Leyte Gulf. Nine Nicks, including Yamamoto's, were destroyed. The remaining three were lost on Dec. 10. Yamamoto designed the "bomb with wings" unit emblem.

No. 2 -- Ki-43 Oscar Type III Kou of the 10th Hakkou-tai, "Jungi-tai", flown by leader 1st Lt. Shinji Tsuruga (from Tokushima), Dec. 3, 1944, Mito-Higashi Air Base, Ibaraki Prefecture. Established on Nov. 16, 1944 by Hitachi Training Air Division with 12 Oscars, the unit reached Angeles West Air Base on Dec. 18. Officially named as the 10th Hakkou-tai, "Jungi-tai," the unit dispatched five planes on Dec. 21 to attack U.S. transports off Mindolo Island. Tsuruga's Oscar was among them. The rest perished between Dec. 22, 1944 and Jan. 7, 1945. The white katakana on the fin is the first letter of the pilot's name.

No. 3 -- Ki-43 Oscar Type III Kou, 21st Shinbu-tai, flown by 2nd Lt. Katsuhiko Ueda (from Gifu), April 1, 1945, Chiran Air Base, Kagoshima Prefecture. The unit was established on Dec. 8, 1944 with 12 Oscars by the command group of the 4th Sentai, Ozuki Air Base, Yamaguchi Prefecture, as one of the Home Defense Special Attack Forces. Originally designated 4th Shinbu-tai, it became 21st Shinbu-tai on Jan. 29, 1945. After training in Hohfu Air Base, the unit moved to Chiran Air Base on March 31 to join the Okinawa operation. After advancing to Kikai Island, the unit lost its planes to an American air raid. But the leader, 1st Lt. Sadasuke Mizukawa, died with 1st Lt. Harutaka Tamiya of the 78th Shinbu-tai in a Nate that attacked U.S. forces west of Okinawa.

No. 4 -- Ki-51 Sonia, 23rd Shinbu-tai, flown by Capt. Yoshio Itsui (from Tochigi), March 1945, Mibu Air Base, Utsunomiya, Tochigi Prefecture. Established on Feb. 14, 1945 by the Shimoshizu Training Air Division at Choshi Air Base with 12 modified Sonias. After training, the unit moved to Chiran Air Base, Kagoshima Prefecture and participated in the Okinawa operation. On April 1, five Sonias under Capt. Itsui attacked the U.S. forces south of Kerama Islands. Two days later another five Sonias attacked west of Okinawa, and the unit perished. The 23rd Shinbu-tai emblem was a "golden kite" with the Chinese character of Shinbu below.

No. 5 -- Ki-27 Nate, Type Otsu, 42nd Shinbu-tai, "Nekohashi-tai," April 8, 1945, Chiran Air Base, Kagoshima Prefecture. This unit was established on Jan. 19, 1945 by the Akeno Training Air Division with 12 Nates as one of the Special Attack Forces for the Tengo Operation. All the pilots under the leadership of 2nd Lt. Yoshiaki Nekohashi were officers. Operating from Kikai Island and Chiran Air base, nine of the 12 Nates were destroyed in operations between April 8 and May 4 west of Okinawa.

No. 6 -- Ki-27 Nate Type Otsu, 68th Shinbu-tai, flown by leader 2nd Lt. Iichi Yamaguchi (from Saga), March 30, 1945, Tenryu Air Base, Shizuoka Prefecture. This unit was established on March 23, 1945 by the Hitachi Training Air Division with 12 Nates. Moving to Chiran Air Base, the unit attacked enemy forces west of Okinawa beginning on April 8. Yamaguchi led the unit's last mission the next day. The large red lightning bolts from cockpit to nose were used on all lead aircraft of Special Attack Forces organized by the Hitachi Training Air Division. The numbers 6 and 8, stylized in the shape of a bomb, form the unit emblem.



Yamaguchi's name is atop the fin.

No. 7 -- Ki-84 Frank Type Kou, 101st Sentai, flown by Staff Sgt. Nobuo Saito (from Miyagi), as part of the 1st Special Shinbu-tai, April 12, 1945, Miyakonojo-Nishi Air Base, Miyazaki Prefecture. This unit was organized with 10 Franks from the 101st and 102nd Sentai of the 100th Air Division, under 6th Air Force command, as the Special Attack Force for the first kamikaze attack in the Okinawa operation. Officially named the 1st Special Attack Force, the unit on April 8 sent eight Franks to attack U.S. Navy forces west of Okinawa. On April 12, Franks flown by Saito and 2nd Lt. Jiro Ito were destroyed. The 101st Sentai unit emblem is on the tail of Saito's Frank, and 82 is the last two digits of the production number.

No. 8 -- Ki-61 Tony Type I Tei, 19th Sentai, 3rd Chutai, flown by 2nd Lt. Kuniomi Watanabe (from Akita), April 22, 1945, Yilan Air Base, Taiwan. Watanabe attacked U.S. forces in Kadena Bay with a 100-kilogram bomb attached to his Tony, No. 53. He hit a large ship near the Kerama Islands. The fin emblem represents 19th Sentai; yellow indicates 3rd Chutai.

No. 9 -- Ki-43 Oscar Type III Kou, 18th Shinbu-tai, flown by the leader, 1st Lt. Toshio Konishi (from Toyama), March 1945, Chofu Air Base, Tokyo. The unit was established Dec. 8, 1944 as the 1st Shinbu-tai, Special Attack Forces for Home Defense. Later renamed 18th Shinbu-tai with 12 Oscars, its pilots were from Sentais of 10th Air Division. After training at Hitachi Training Air Division, the unit eventually moved to Chiran Air Base on April 28. Six Oscars led by 1st Lt. Konishi perished against U.S. forces the next day. The unit emblem on the tail is a stylized combination of the leader's name.

No. 10 -- Ki-61 Tony Type I Tei, 56th Shinbu-tai, flown by 2nd Lt. Shigeyuki Suzuki (from Chiba), May 25, 1945, Chiran Air Base, Kagoshima Prefecture. This unit was formed on April 12, 1945 by the Hitachi Training Air Division. On May 6, three planes attacked near Okinawa, followed by three on May 11, two on May 25 and one on May 28. The unit emblem on the tail is a stylized 56, and Suzuki's name is on the nose in white.

No. 11 -- Ki-43 Oscar Type III Kou, 53rd Shinbu-tai, flown by leader 2nd Lt. Mitsuo Chikama (from Kagoshima), May 18, 1945, Chiran Air Base, Kagoshima Prefecture. This unit is one of 57 Special Attack Forces established in April 1945 by the Hitachi Training Air Division and was equipped with 12 Oscars. After training at Narimasu Air Base, the unit moved to Hohfu, then to Chiran on May 17. On the next day eight Oscars led by Chikama attacked navy units west of Okinawa. Chikama's machine carried red lightning bolts on the fuselage sides. The tail emblem is a combination of the pilot's name and a stylized 5 and 3.

No. 12 -- Ki-84 Frank Type Kou, 57th Shinbu-tai, flown by 2nd Lt. Tetsujiro Karasawa (from Shizuoka), May 17, 1945, Shimodate Air Base, Ibaraki Prefecture. One of 15 Special Attack Forces organized on March 20, 1945 by Akeno Training Air Division for the Okinawa operation, it was equipped with 12 Franks. After training at Shimodate AB, it moved to Hohfu, then to Miyakonojo-Higashi Air Base, Miyazaki Prefecture on May 24. On May 28th, 11 Franks led by 2nd Lt. Kitoku Ito attacked ships near Okinawa. The unit emblem on the fin is a 57, with wings on both sides. The emblem differed slightly on each plane. Pilot Karasawa applied his motto "Hissatsu" (sure to kill) on both sides of the fuselage behind the cockpit in white. For the marking of Ito's aircraft, refer to AeroMaster decal 48-174.

No. 13 -- Ki-84 Frank Type Kou, 57th Shinbu-tai, flown by Staff Sgt. Takayuki Yamashita (from Kumamoto), May 17, 1945, Shimodate AB/Ibaraki Prefecture. On Yamashita's aircraft, the unit emblem is more elaborate, with a red outline on yellow wings and the whole emblem outlined in white. An eagle grasping a bomb, his personal marking, is below the cockpit on both sides.



No. 14 -- Ki-84 Frank Type Kou, 58th Shinbu-tai (Skull Shinbu-tai), flown by 2nd Lt. Toku Ueda (from Fukuoka), May 25, 1945, Miyakonojo-Higashi Air Base/Miyazaki Prefecture. One of the Special Attack Forces organized on March 20, 1945 by Akeno Training Air Division for the Okinawa operation, this unit was equipped with 12 Franks. After training at Shimodate Air Base, it moved to its base on May 24. Next day, nine Franks led by 2nd Lt. Takayanagi -- including Lt. Ueda -- attacked the enemy near Okinawa. They were followed on May 28 by 2nd Lt. Hiroshi Konda. The 58th Shinbu-tai called themselves the "Skull Unit," and adopted white skulls on ships floating on waves as their unit emblem. Individual aircraft carried numbers 1 through 12 on the lower fin.

No. 15 -- Ki-61 Tony Type I Tei, 110th Shinbu-tai, "Keppu-tai," flown by leader 2nd Lt. Hayato Tanaka (from Fukuoka), May 26, 1945, Chiran Air Base/Kagoshima Prefecture. This unit, organized by the 5th Training Flying Unit as the first Special Attack Force under the command of the 5th Air Force (China Theater), was equipped with 12 Tonys. The unit was named "Keppuu-tai," and after training at Xijia (Beijing-West) Air Base, it moved to Chiran Air Base/Kagoshima Prefecture on May 25. On May 26, six Tonys led by 2nd Lt. Tanaka attacked U.S. transport ships off Okinawa. The emblem was applied on the center fuselage in white paint, and each pilot applied his name below the cockpit.

No. 16 -- Ki-51 Sonia, 72nd Shinbu-tai, pilot unknown, May 27, 1945, Manse Air Base/Kagoshima Prefecture. Organized on March 20, 1945 by the 23rd Training Flying Unit under the command of the 53rd Training Air Division, the unit was equipped with 12 Sonias (special version). On May 27, nine Sonias led by 1st Lt. Sato attacked U.S. forces west of Okinawa. The unit emblem on the fin is a yellow lightning bolt and green eagle with bomb.

No. 17 -- Ki-45 Nick Type Kai (Hei), 24th Shinbu-tai, "Shinbu-Nishiki-tai," pilot unknown, April 29, 1945, Chiran Air Base/Kagoshima Prefecture. This unit was organized on February 9, 1945 by the Hitachi Training Air Division, and was equipped with 12 Nicks. After training at Matsudo and Taisho air bases, the unit moved to Ozuki Air Base/Yamaguchi Prefecture on April 27th. On the following day, three Sonias led by Capt. Ozawa attacked west of Okinawa, followed by two Sonias on May 4. The unit emblem on the nose is a red lightning bolt and blue bomb, forming a stylized "24."

No. 18 -- Ki-45 Sonia, 3rd Training Flying Unit (Oka No. 15315 Unit), as the Shichishou-Shohdou-tai, July 25, 1945, Taiping Air Base/Malaysia. Established in July 1945 by the 3rd Training Flying Unit under command of 3rd Air Force (Southwest Region), the unit operated Sonias modified to carry bombs. It moved to Alor-Setar Air Base/Malay on July 25, and the following day three Sonias attacked British naval forces off Ko Phuket. The 3rd Training Flying Unit emblem is on the fin. The white chrysanthemum is the unit emblem; the green mark is the Chutai emblem.

No. 19 -- Ki-43 Oscar Type III Kou, 2nd Hakkou-tai, "Ichiu-tai," flown by leader 1st Lt. Kyoichi Kurihara (from Fukuoka), November 10, 1944, Mito-Higashi (Maewatari) Air Base/Ibaraki Prefecture. Established on November 5, 1944 as the first Special Attack Force of the Hitachi Training Air Division, the unit's 12 members were all officers led by 1st Lt. Kurihara. The unit, officially named "Ichiu-tai," lost five Oscars during a move to the Philippines. On December 5, two Oscars attacked U.S. ships in the Surigao Straits, followed by two Oscars on December 7 in Ormoc Bay, and another Oscar on December 13 off Mindanao island. The large blue arrow (with white outline) piercing the fuselage hinomaru is Kurihara's personal marking and the first katakana of his name is applied in white on the upper fin.

No. 20 -- Zero Type 52, 1st Kamikaze Special Attack Force, "Shikishima-tai," pilot unknown, October 25, 1944, Mabalacat/the Philippines. This unit was the first IJNAF Special Attack Force, established on October 19, 1944 by the 201st Kokutai under 1st Air Fleet. The Zeros carried 250-kilogram bombs. Five "Shikishima-tai" Zeros led by Lt. Yukio Seki took off on October 5th from Mabalacat Air Base. Three



protecting Zeros of 303rd Hikoutai included W.O. Nishizawa, officially the IJNAF's top ace. The unit attacked U.S. Navy forces off Tacloban. Lt. Seki, his Zero burning from anti-aircraft hits, hit the flight deck of the carrier Kalinin Bay. The number 2 aircraft flown by NAP First Class Tani hit the port side of Kalinin Bay, and the ship sank. Another Zero hit the flight deck of St. Lo, and yet another crashed near the White Plains' port side. (Note: Ace Nishizawa shot down two F6F Hellcats during this mission and reported on the "Shikishima-tai" successes. He died the following day while flying aboard a Type 1 transport plane that was shot down. Detailed research by Mr. Osuo indicates Nishizawa scored 147 victories.) The tail code "02-112" indicates this plane was brought to The Philippines by the 381st Kokutai, 602nd Hikoutai and later assigned to "Shikishima-tai." 02 is the code for the 602nd Hikoutai.

No. 21 -- Zero Type 52 Otsu, 721st Kokutai (Jinrai Fighter Unit), pilot unknown, March 1945, Miyakonojo Air Base/Miyazaki Prefecture. The 721st Kokutai, organized in February 1944 at Kohnnoike Air Base/Ibaraki Prefecture and officially named the "Jinrai Unit," was the first IJNAF Kokutai devoted to Special Attack Forces equipped with Ohka bombs carried by Betty bomber mother ships. Fighters of the 305th, 306th and 307th Hikoutai were assigned to protect them. On March 21, 1945, 18 Betty bombers carrying Ohka bombs departed Kanoya Air Base with 30 protecting fighters to attack U.S. forces south of Toi Peninsula. F6F's intercepted and shot down all of the bombers before they could release the Ohkas. Ten Zeroes did not return, including one flown by Lt. Urushiyama of the 307th Hikoutai. The IJNAF lost 160 airmen, the worst record for one combat mission. The fighter units became part of the fighter-bomber Special Attack Force "Kenbu-tai" during the Okinawa battle and lost 48 aircraft. Its upper wing tips are painted white, as shown in AeroMaster decal sheet 48-159.

No. 22 -- Zero Type 21, Genzan Kokutai (2nd generation), as the 1st "Shichisho-tai," flown by Lt. Nobuo Miyatake (from Kagawa), April 6, 1945, Kanoya Air Base/Kagoshima Prefecture. Organized in April 1945 from the Genzan Kokutai under the command of the 10th Air Fleet, this Zero-equipped unit was officially named 1st "Shichisho-tai." On April 6, Lt. Miyatake led 11 Zeros from Kanoya Air Base to attack U.S. transport ships near Okinawa. A total of 43 Zeros from the 1st to the 8th Shichisho-tai participated in this operation. The katakana "ke" on the fin is the Genzan Kokutai code.

No. 23 -- Type 97 Kate Type I, 2nd "Gokou-Shirasagi-tai" (from Himeji Kokutai), No. 1 aircraft of the 6th Division, flown by RS Jun Nomoto (from Nagasaki), with crew members RS Mikio Sugata (from Iwate), and NAP 2/c Hisao Sawada (from Osaka), April 12, 1945, Kushira Air Base/Kagoshima Prefecture. This unit was organized by the Himeji Kokutai under 10th Air Fleet command for the Okinawa operation and officially named "Gokou-Shirasagi-tai." On April 6, 12 Kates led by Lt. Sato departed Kushira Air Base/Kagoshima Prefecture and attacked U.S. forces.

No. 24 -- Type 97 Kate Type III, "Hachiman-Shinchuu-tai," from Usa Kokutai, flown by Ensign Masanori Oishi (from Shiga), with crew members Ensign Yoshikazu Shimizu (from Tokyo) and NAP 2/C Kentaro Inudo (from Kagoshima), April 18, 1945, Kushira Air Base/Kagoshima Prefecture. This unit was organized in March 1945 by the carrier attack units of the Usa Kokutai under 10th Air Fleet command. Officially named "Hachiman-Gokou-tai," the unit moved to Kushira Air Base/Kagoshima Prefecture on April 1. On April 6, 13 Kates led by Lt. Yamamoto of the 1st Gokou-Shirasagi-tai attacked U.S. Navy forces near Okinawa. On April 18, the 10th Air Fleet was separated from the command of the 5th Air Fleet to form the "Hachiman-tai." Ensign Oishi piloted one of two Kates that attacked ships near Naha, Okinawa on April 28.

No. 25 -- Carrier Bomber Suisei, Judy Type 43, 4th "Mitate-tai," from the 601st Kokutai, flown by NAP 1/C Yasuo Itabashi (from Fukushima), with crew member Lt. (j.g.) Hisayoshi Kitamura (from Mie), August 9, 1945, Hyakuribara Air Base/Ibaraki Prefecture. This unit was organized from the 601st Kokutai, 1st Hikotai under 3rd Air Fleet. Seven Judy bombers from the 4th Mitate-tai took off from Hyakuri Air Base and attacked U.S. forces east of Inubouzaki Cape on August 9.



No. 26 -- Ki-51 Sonia, 6th Hakkou-tai, "Sekichou-tai", pilot unknown, December 1944, The Philippines. Organized November 6, 1944 by the Shimoshizu Training Air Division for Philippines operations, the unit was led by Capt. Takaishi, an instructor. All members of the 3rd Training Flying Unit joined this Special Attack Unit, bringing its complement to 18. The unit moved to Delcaremen Air Base on November 16 and was officially named "Sekichou-tai." On December 5, seven Sonias led by Capt. Takaishi attacked enemy forces in Surigao Straits. By January 8, 1945, 17 Sonias -- with their crew -- had perished in attacks.

No. 27 -- Ki-51 Sonia, 64th Shinbu-tai, "Kokka-tai," pilot unknown, May 28, 1945, Haranomachi Air Base/Fukushima Prefecture. Hokota Training Air Division organized this unit on March 20, 1945. After training at Haranomachi Air Base, the unit moved to Taisho and Metabaru air bases. On June 9, the unit advanced to Manse Air Base/Kagoshima Prefecture. On June 11, nine Sonias led by Capt. Shibuya attacked west of Okinawa. The Kokka-tai emblem on the tail is a cherry blossom and an arrow.

Kazuhiko Osuo  
(translated by K. Nagao)

## Modeling Notes

Hinomaru sizes are matched to those supplied by Hasegawa, Tamiya, and Nichimo. At least one set of hinomaru per aircraft type is supplied. Stenciling and flap area markings were not supplied due to space and price constraints. We suggest using the kit supplied stenciling decals. The stripes on decal sheet "C" are for propeller markings, as shown on the last color instruction sheet. Propeller tips must be painted.

Sometimes for registration purposes, we separated the badges into two or more pieces. Always apply and align the white piece first. When it is dry (better if left overnight) apply and align the second colored part. It is very important that you properly align the white part. For wing hinomaru and ID yellow band placement, follow the kit instructions.

### Suggested kits:

Hasegawa:

Ki-27 Nate, Ki-61 Tony, Zero 21, Zero 52

Nichimo:

Ki-45 Nick, Ki-51 Sonia, Type 97 Kate

Tamiya:

Zero 21, Zero 52, Ki-84 Frank

Arii:

Ki-43 Oscars (properly modified), Ki-61 Tony, Ki-84 Frank

Fine Molds:

Ki-43 Oscar, D4Y Judy

A/C #21  
White Upper Wing Tip Location  
(must paint)

