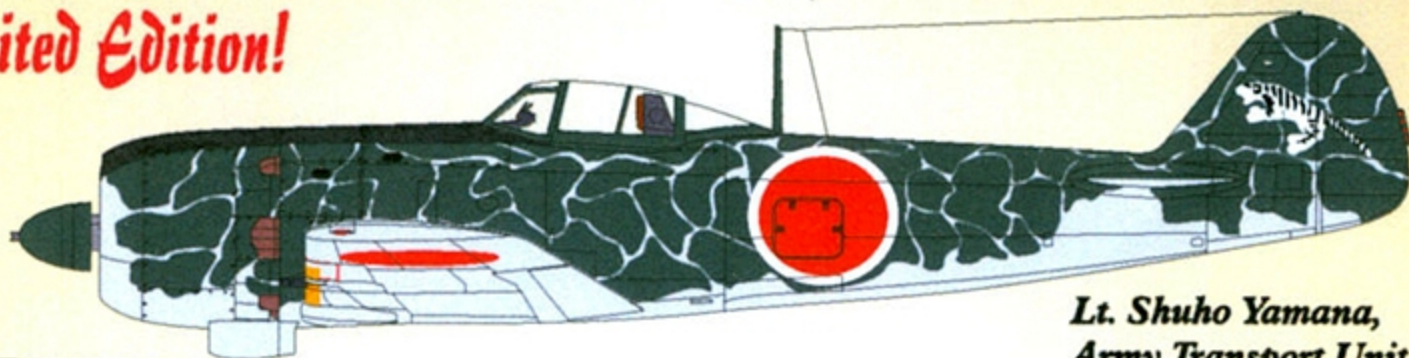


**Lifelike Decals**

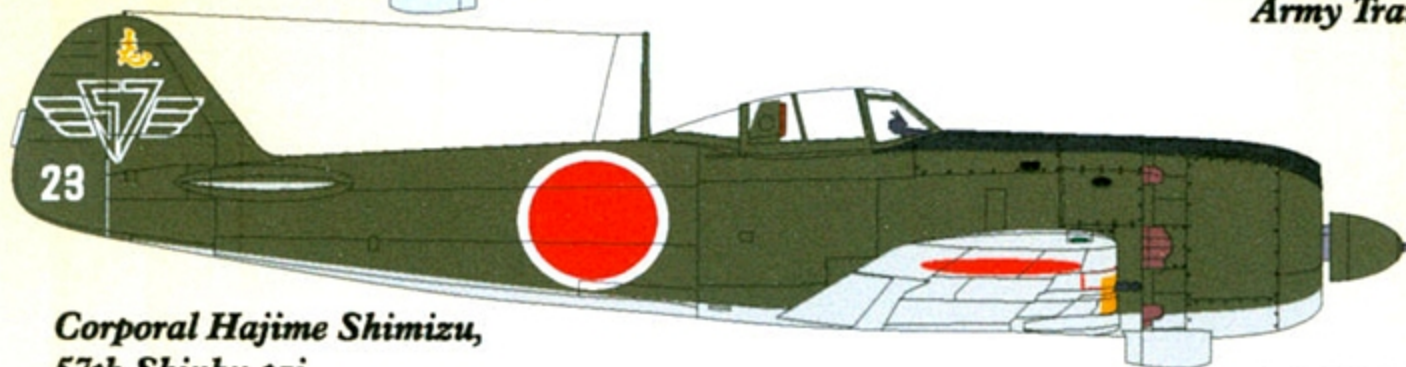
48-031

# Ki-84 Hayate Part 2

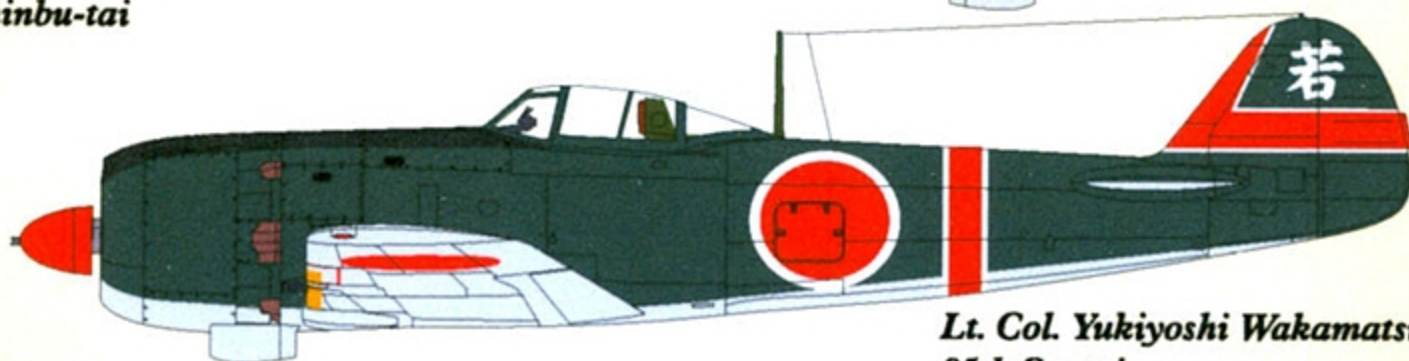
*Limited Edition!*



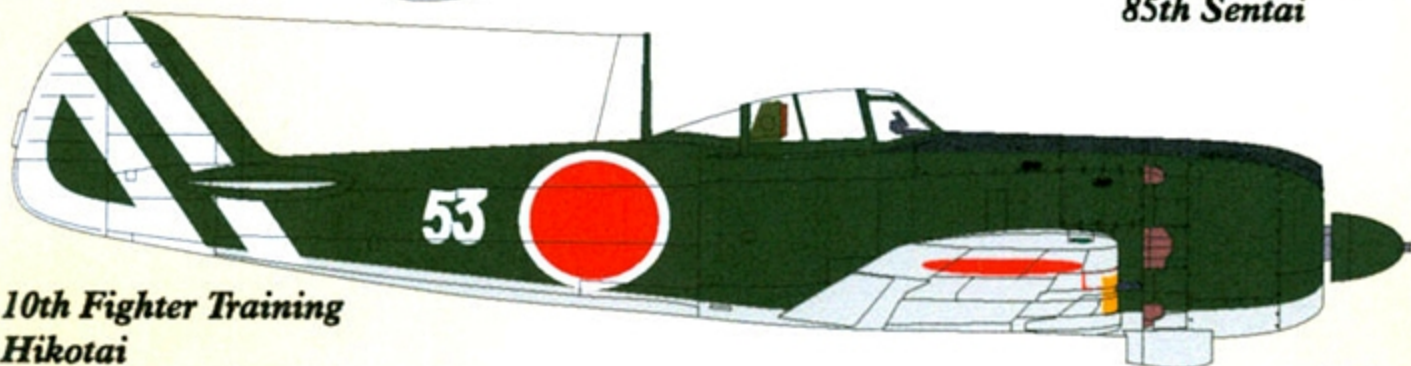
*Lt. Shuho Yamana,  
Army Transport Unit*



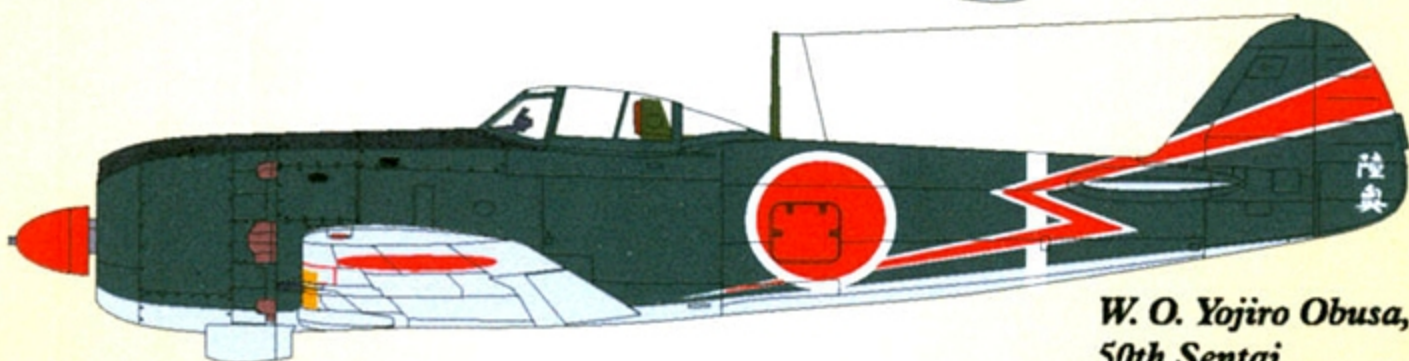
*Corporal Hajime Shimizu,  
57th Shinbu-tai*



*Lt. Col. Yukiyoishi Wakamatsu,  
85th Sentai*



*10th Fighter Training  
Hikotai*



*W. O. Yojiro Obusa,  
50th Sentai*

Recommended kits: Hasegawa Ki-84 Hayate  
Tamiya Ki-84 Hayate

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## 48-031 Ki-84 Hayate Part 2

**A/C #1** Hayate Kou flown by Lt. Shuho Yamana of Army Transportation Unit, 2nd Hikotai, Ohta AB/Gunma Pref., fall 1944.

Probably this unique marking has never been published in the literature or in decals before. This marking was kindly introduced to us by Mr. Kolin Campbell, who, as a pilot of Fighter Squadron 21 at Atsugi in mid-90's, got contact with the pilot himself, and got copies of the photos of this A/C. Through his introduction, we could also meet the pilot himself, and got further information on this A/C from Mr. Toshiyuki Matsuura, the younger brother of the pilot's very close friend, who was killed in action in Malaysia.

According to Mr. Matsuura's information, this "white tiger" marked Hayate, piloted by Lt. Yamana, was one of the 6 Hayates ferried from Ohta AB to Air Depot in Saigon in the fall of 1944, and the "white-tiger" mark was applied by his crew chief Lt. Terao as a symbol of military good luck after the old Chinese saying that tiger runs a long distance and gets back home.



The two photos we got from Mr. Campbell shows only the tail section with hand-painted "white tiger" on both sides (slightly different style), and the existence of fuselage band could not be confirmed, but maybe no band or unit emblem was applied on it. (These should be applied in the delivered unit.) In spite of the Army Directive issued in the summer of 1944 to paint the

fresh A/C in yellow-green #7, this A/C was not painted in one color nor unpainted, but has many large blotches of dark color (probably dark green) over NMF (sunlight is reflected strongly at one point). The camouflage pattern shown in the illustration is our best guess.

After the war Lt. Yamana changed his family name to Kurita, and is living his calm days in the suburb of Tokyo now (November 2009).

**A/C #2** Hayate Kou flown by Corporal Hajime Shimizu of 57th Shinbu-tai, Shimodate AB/Ibaraki Pref., May 17 1945.

The only photo of this A/C (ref. 2) shows only its tail section, and the existence of any marking on its fuselage/nose is not known. But this A/C is the only known example among 57th Shinbu-tai to carry the first Kanji character of the pilot's family name (志水) painted on the top of its fin. Closer look of the photo reveals dark and light area on the tail, indicating that this is a rather old A/C transferred from another unit, and heavily retouched. The dark and light colored area is observed through the "57" and "wing" area as well as near "23", which indicates that only the white outline of Unit mark and "23" are applied over the tail directly, and no color is added yet. "志" is apparently yellow with white outline. Our illustration depicts this photo



graphed stage, but we cannot know whether full unit mark (black 57 and yellow wing outlined in white) was applied by the time it departed Shimodate AB on May 17, 1945 or its fi-

nal Special attack, so we also included decals for full Unit mark. None of this Unit's Hayate had white fuselage band.

**A/C #3** Hayate Kou flown by Lt. Col. Yukiyoishi Wakamatsu, leader of 2nd Chutai, 85th Sentai, Hankou AB/China, December 18, 1944.

This marking is NOT evidenced by any photos or illustrations, but is based on the following:

(1) According to Mr. Izawa's research shown in ref. 3, 85th Sentai Hayate often had one Kanji character on its tail and a fuselage band in Chutai color (like Okubo's Hayate). In Wakamatsu case it should be "若", as his Shoki.

(2) Same reference says that half-headed arrow mark was in most cases not applied on Hayate's tail, but commented that last combat A/C of Wakamatsu had such mark.

(3) Ref. 4 shows an illustration of a Hayate tail with white "加" and red half-headed arrow. (We haven't seen its photo, and do not know its pilot name.)

(4) Ref. 5 shows a color photo of 85th Sentai Hayate (taken after the war at Kimpoo AB/Korea) with white spinner and white half-headed arrow with thin red outline on its tail. It also had



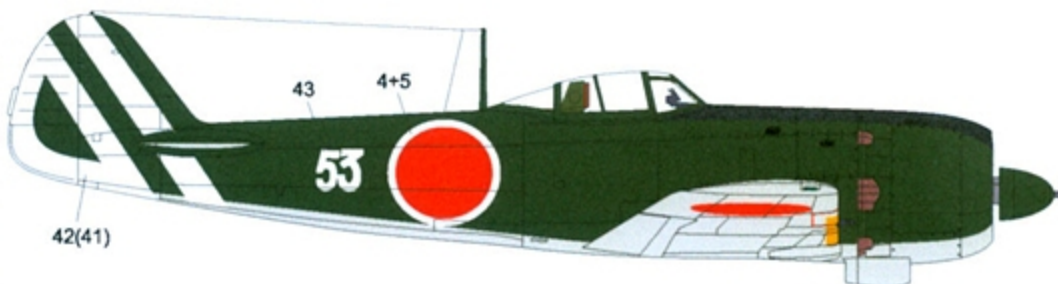
white 68 on its lower rudder.

With these references we think this marking is highly PROBABLE, but are not sure whether it carried both "若" and arrow mark at the same time, Wakamatsu was known as the leader of "red nose bustards", and it is said his A/C had red spinner.

During WWII Lt. Col. Wakamatsu fought with only 85th Sentai in China, and due to his skilled combat tactics and kills US Forces offered 20000-50000 Yuan to the pilot who could down him. But he was killed in action against 10 P-51s on December 18, 1944 near Wuchang. His total score is more than 18, all of which are fighters including P-51.

**A/C #4** Hayate Kou of 10th Fighter Training Hikoutai, Kita-Ise AB, August 1945.

The only photo of this A/C is shown in ref. 2, and is adorned with a unique Group marking on its tail. Regrettably the forward fuselage section is out of photo, thus it is not clear whether there was any other marking there, but judging from the nature of the Group as training unit, probably no other marking was applied. The photo shows the fuselage in a rather dark color, and its caption says it might be black green, but judging from the time of the photo it should be rather fresh yellow-green #7. Aircraft code "53" has much broader line than illustrated in ref. 2.



**A/C #5** Hayate Kou flown by W. O. Yojiro Obusa of 50th Sentai 1st Chutai, PhnomPenh AB/Indo-China, April 1945.

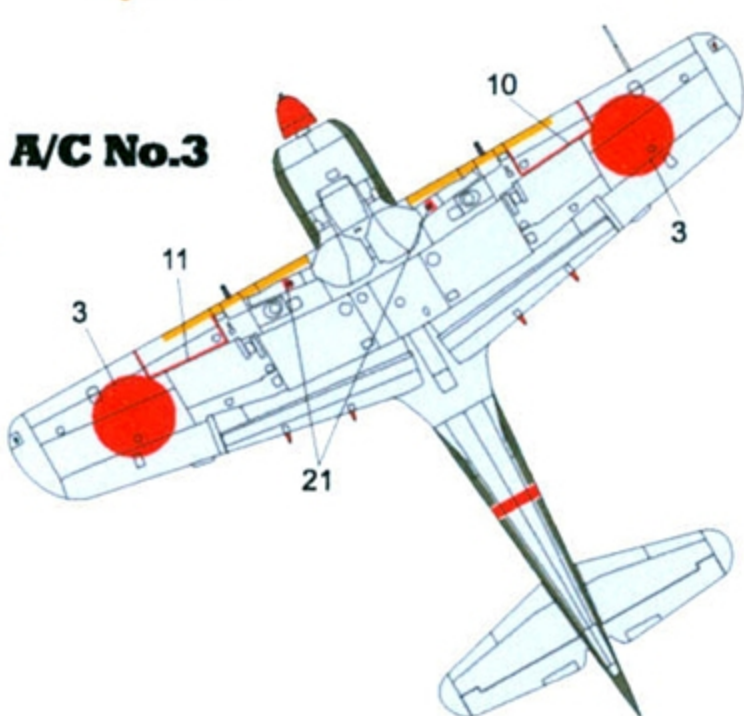
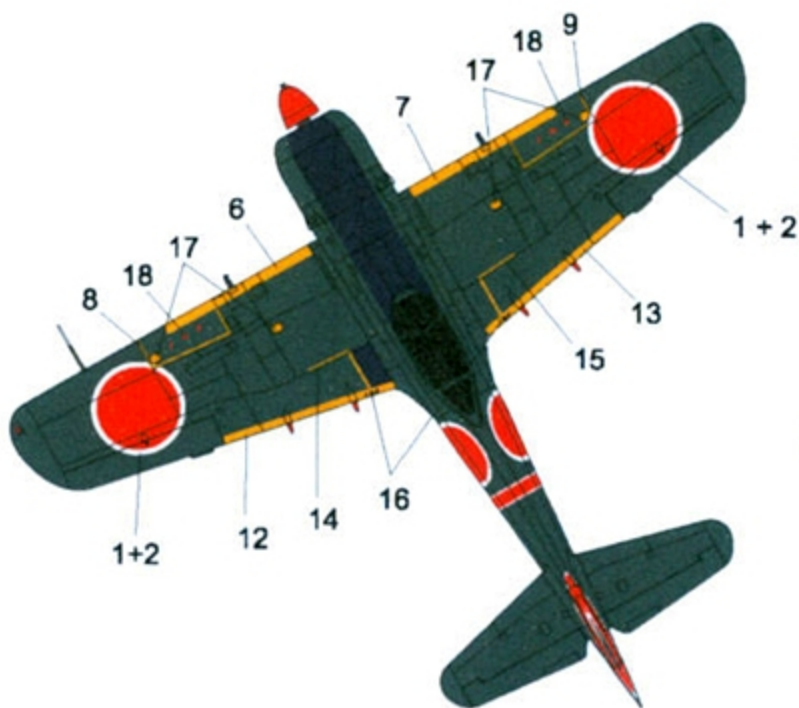
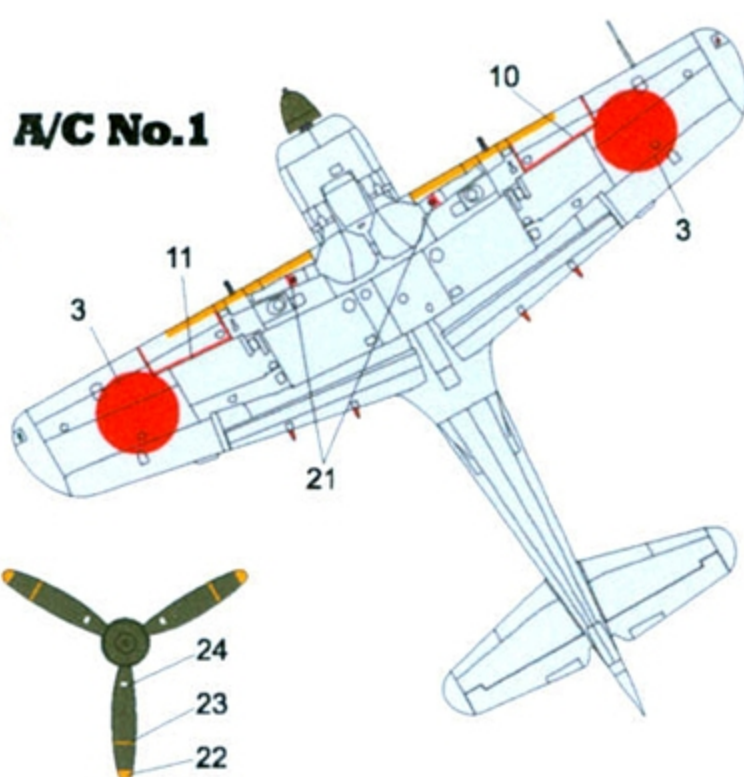
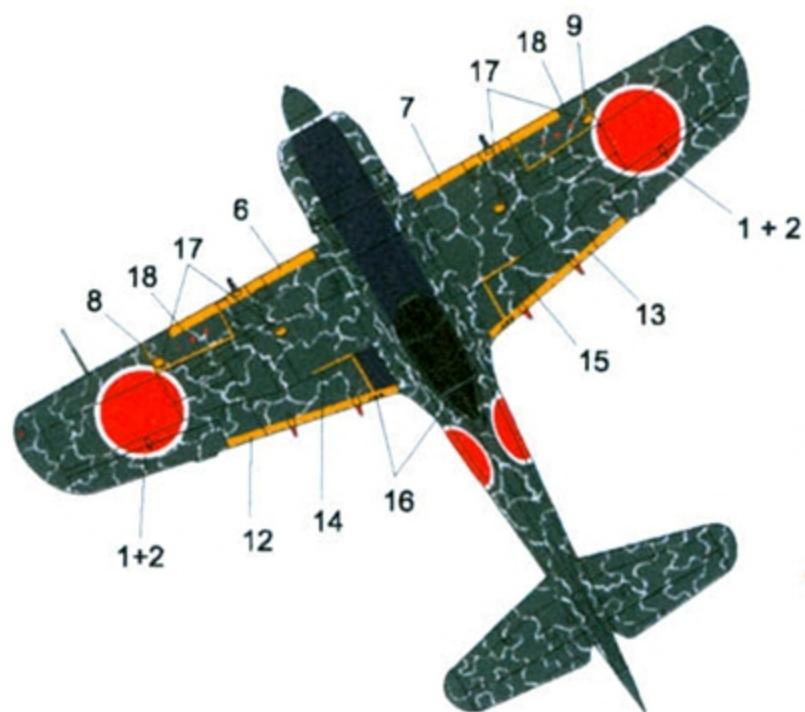
Regrettably no photo of this A/C is published so far, but it is illustrated in ref. 6 based on Mr. Osuo's research that it carried the word "陸奥 (Mutsu)" on lower tail. As W.O. Obusa belonged to 1st Chutai, the Sentai mark on the fuselage should be red (with white outline). But the photo on p58 of ref. 6 (should be that of 3rd Chutai, not 1st Chutai) indicates much broader size at the end of the rudder than illustrated in ref. 6.

As there is no photo of this A/C, we could not be 100% sure whether it was camouflaged in dark green or yellow-green #7. It is modeler's choice, but we think dark green is more probable



in the Southwest Pacific theatre. W.O. Obusa was the top ace of the 50th Sentai with 19 victo-

ries, including 5 P-51s, 2 P-47s, one each of B-24 and B-29. He was awarded with Buko-sho medal on June 10, 1945 for his achievement in the air war over Burma. He further sank one British destroyer off Burma on January 9, 1945.



Through the recent research by Mr. Katabuchi (ref. 1) it was found that Hayate produced after summer 1944 (fall of Marianas) was finished in yellow-green #7 following the Army directive to paint all the A/C in the production line in this color. This color was also applied on fuselage inner surfaces, propeller, wheel wells, both sides of landing gear cover and drop tanks, while the landing gear itself remained unpainted. The lower

surface of the A/C was usually painted in greenish grey. Yellow-green #7, when fresh, is a rather dark color, very close to American OD (darker than Hinomaru), but easily faded to light brown (lighter than Hinomaru). This is a nitro-cellulose paint, and was more flammable than benzoin-cellulose paint. To make this difference clear "迷彩塗料" mark was painted on lower tail, but with Hayate this caution mark is rarely seen.

Special thanks to Mr. Kolin Campbell for the photos of Lt. Yamana's A/C, and to Mr. Matsuura for the detailed background information of the photos.

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