

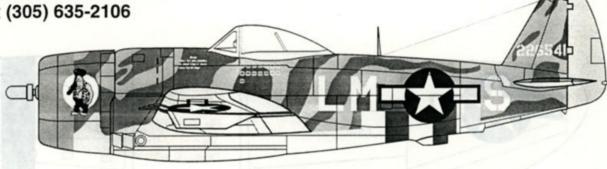
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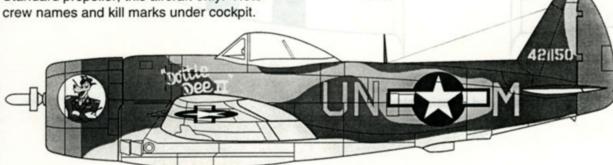
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P-47D-25-RE, 42-26541, flown by 56th FG Commander, Col. David Schilling, Boxted, England, 1945. Dark green and medium grey camouflage with light grey lower surfaces. Forward cowling red, rudder yellow. Black and white invasion stripes on lower wings and fuselage. Canopy frames natural metal. National insignia under both lower wing panels (all aircraft). Hamilton Standard propeller, this aircraft only. Note crew names and kill marks under cockpit.





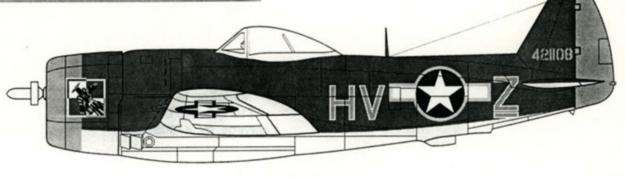
P-47M-1-RE, 44-21150, "Dottie Dee II", 63rd FS, 1945. Flown by Capt. Charles McBath. Dark and light blue camouflage with natural metal lower surfaces and canopy frames. Forward cowling red, rudder medium blue (match to blue of serial number).

NOTE

The unique camouflage colors used by the 56th Fighter Group were field applied. The exact shades are not known, but likely came from both USAAF and RAF stocks and many were probably custom mixed from the colors available. Likewise, camouflage patterns for these aircraft are not known with any certainty other than as shown. Please see references for more information on specific aircraft.

Extra bars for the fuselage national insignias are provided to allow placement over the intercooler doors

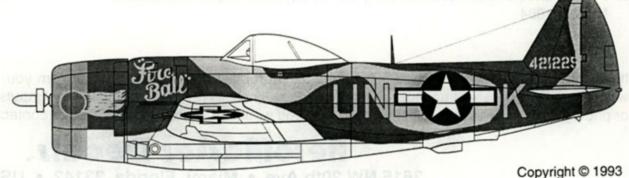
P-47M-1-RE, 42-21108, 63rd FS,1945. Flown by Free Polish Air Force Flt. Lt. Witold Lanowski. Semi-gloss black upper surfaces with natural metal lower surfaces and canopy frames. Forward cowling and rudder red. Fuselage and upper wing national insignias have light blue borders. Lanowski's aircraft was the first production P-47M model.



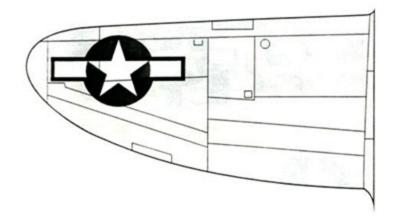


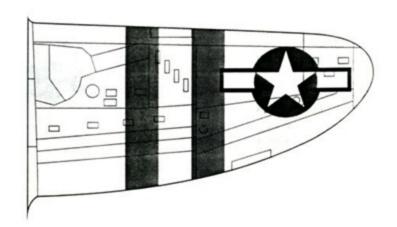
P-47D-25-RA, 42-28382, "Ole' Cock III", 61st FS, 1945. Flown by Capt. Don Smith. Dark green and medium grey camouflage with natural metal lower surfaces. Black and white invasion stripes on lower wings and fuselage. Forward cowling and rudder red.

P-47M-1-RE, 44-21225, "Fire Ball", 63rd FS, 1945. Flown by Lt. Philip G. Kuhn. Dark and light blue camouflage with natural metal lower surfaces and canopy frames. Forward cowling red, rudder medium blue (match to blue of serial number). Note single kill mark under cockpit.



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National insignia and invasion stripe placement

Notes on 56th Fighter Group Aircraft

Three of the aircraft featured on this sheet are P-47Ms. The P-47M was a specially built version of the standard P-47D with an uprated R-2800'C' engine, lightened airframe, and other changes. Externally it differed very little from a standard D model except for the dorsal fillet at the tail, a lack of underwing pylons, and the fitting of a 13' diameter Curtiss Electric paddle bladed propeller. The wing pylons were sometimes retrofitted to aircraft in the field, though none of those on the sheet were so modified. The paddle bladed propeller gave the M and N models of the Thunderbolt a unique appearance, and fortunately this particular item has now been accurately molded by Medallion Models. If Medallion Models are not available in your area, contact them at:

Medallion Models 710 Cardinal Drive Lafayette, IN 47905-9036

References:

- 56th Fighter Group, by Larry Davis, Squadron Signal Publications, 1991.
- Zemke's Wolfpack, the 56th Fighter Group in WWII, by William N. Hess, Motorbooks International, 1992.
- Aces and Wingmen II, Volume 1, by Danny Morris, Aviation Usk, 1989.
- Fighter Command, American Fighters in Original WWII Color, by Jeffrey Ethell and Robert Sand, Motorbooks International, 1991.
- P-47 Thunderbolt In Action, by Larry Davis, Squadron Signal Publications No. 67, 1984.

Suggested Kits:

Monogram P-47D Bubble Top Medallion Models P-47D/M Conversion Medallion Models P-47 Detail Set

If you have suggestions for future subject matter, AeroMaster would like to hear from you. Our goal is to provide high quality, well researched decals of unusual and interesting subjects. We value our customers' inputs, so if you have specific suggestions or photographs of unusual subject matter which you would be willing to share, please contact: