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LM DECALS
ADDING ORIGINALITY TO YOUR MODELS

1-48
LM48003

Spitfire Mk V RHAf



335 "Greek" Sqn 336 "Greek" Sqn



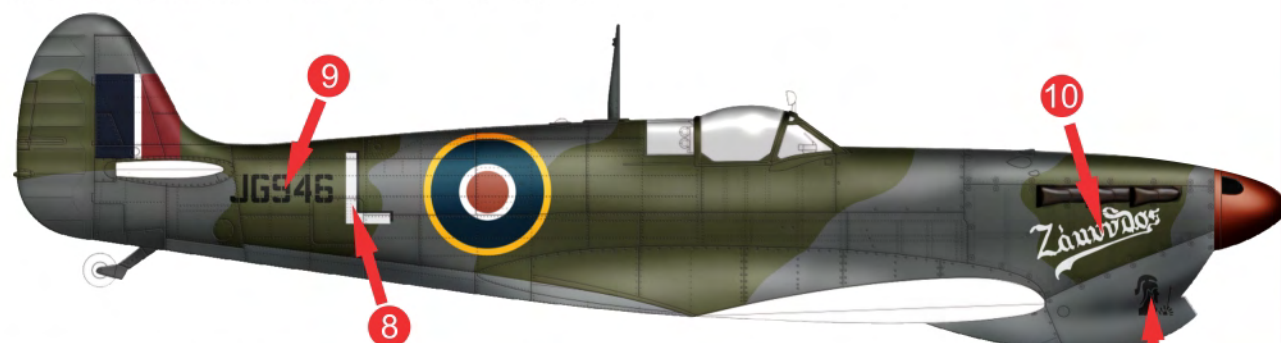
Spitfire MkVb Trop. ER 758 "S", 336Sqn, Bengazi February 1944.
Finished in type "A" Desert scheme with the upper surface colours transposed. Rotol propeller and spinner stripped blue-white-blue.

The Royal Hellenic Air Force (RHAf) received its first Spitfire MkV fighters during late 1943. These were issued to the RAF's two Greek squadrons fighting in N Africa, 335 sqn and 336 sqn. The two squadrons later moved to Italy from where missions over occupied Greece and the Balkans were also flown. The two squadrons returned to Greece in late 1944.

Most Spitfires used by the HAF were finished in the **"Day Fighter scheme"** with Dark Green and Ocean Grey for the top surfaces and Medium Sea Grey for the lower surfaces. A small number of aircraft seem to have been finished in the **"Desert scheme"** with Dark Earth and Mid Stone for the upper surfaces and Azure Blue for the lower surfaces. British national markings were carried according to RAF regulations. Greek national insignia did not begin to be used before the two squadrons' repatriation, but even then not universally as the aircraft were still officially property of the RAF. The aircraft were gradually handed over to Greece this process lasting well into 1946. The fuselage insignia were the first to be changed usually by over painting the red centre circle in blue. Wing roundels remained British for longer, and in many cases a complete set of Greek insignia was not applied before 1946, leading to many interesting variations and marking mixes!

After being handed over to the RHAf the aircraft were gradually repainted and remarked, although their finishes were still far from uniform. The aircraft continued to be used operationally during the 1945 -1949 Greek Civil War and also continued in service into the 1950s.

NOTE: This set does not contain British National insignia. Where needed the kits decals should be used.

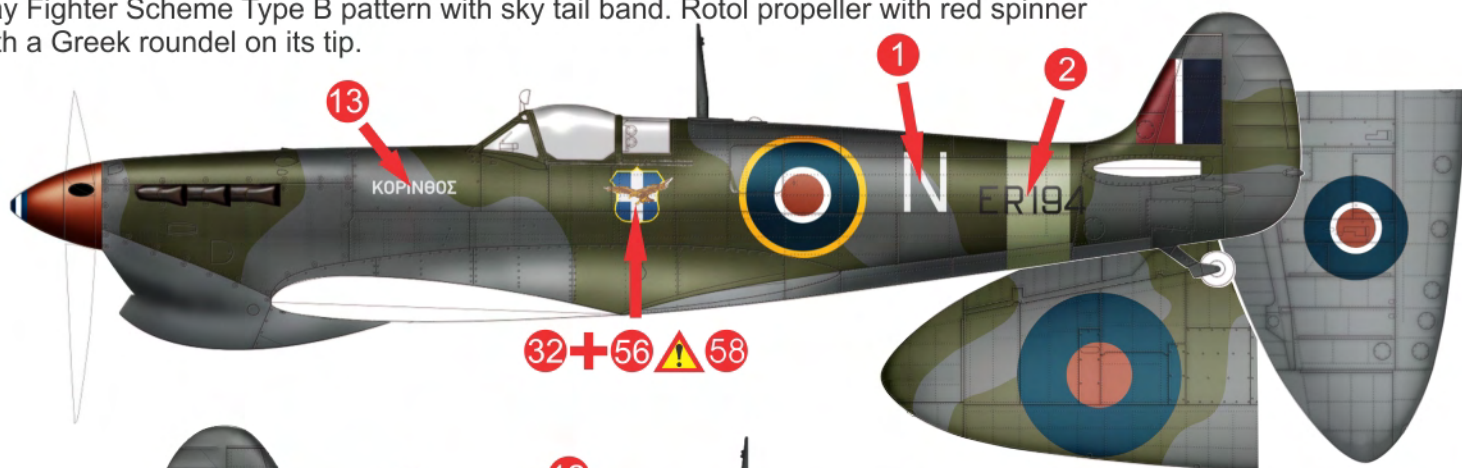


Spitfire Mk.Vc (Trop), JG946 "L", "Zakynthos" joined 335 Sqn on 8-3-1944. Shot down on 12-10-1944 over Jablanica in Yugoslavia. Finished in day fighter scheme type "B" with red De Havilland spinner. British insignia on wings.

NOTE: It is not known if the name and artwork also appeared on the port side of the aircraft, however decals **10** and **15** are provided if the modeller wishes to add these.

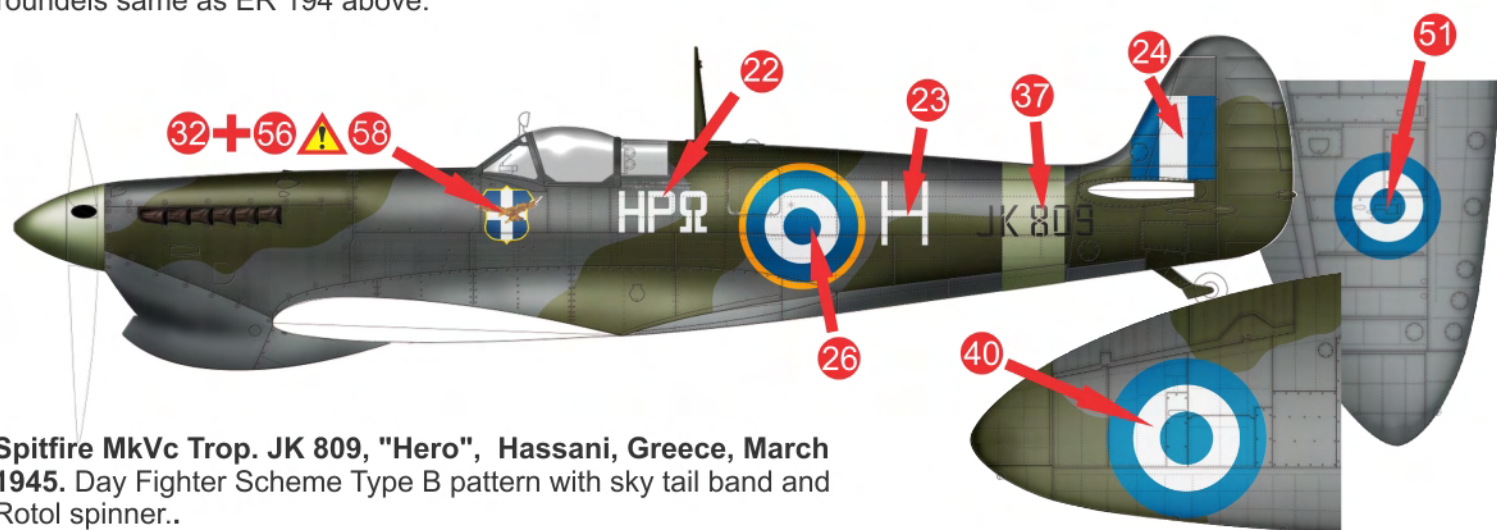
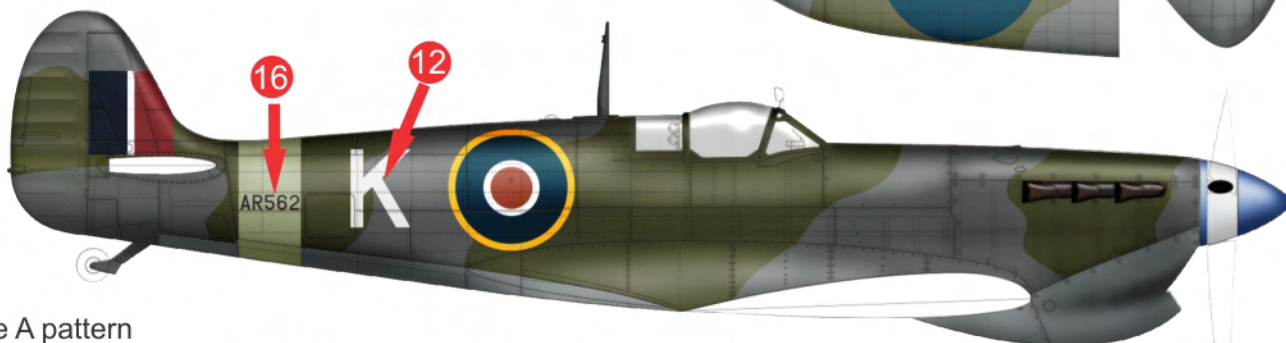
Spitfire MkVc Trop. ER 194 "KORINTHOS", 336Sqn, Hassani, Greece, October 1944.

Day Fighter Scheme Type B pattern with sky tail band. Rotol propeller with red spinner with a Greek roundel on its tip.

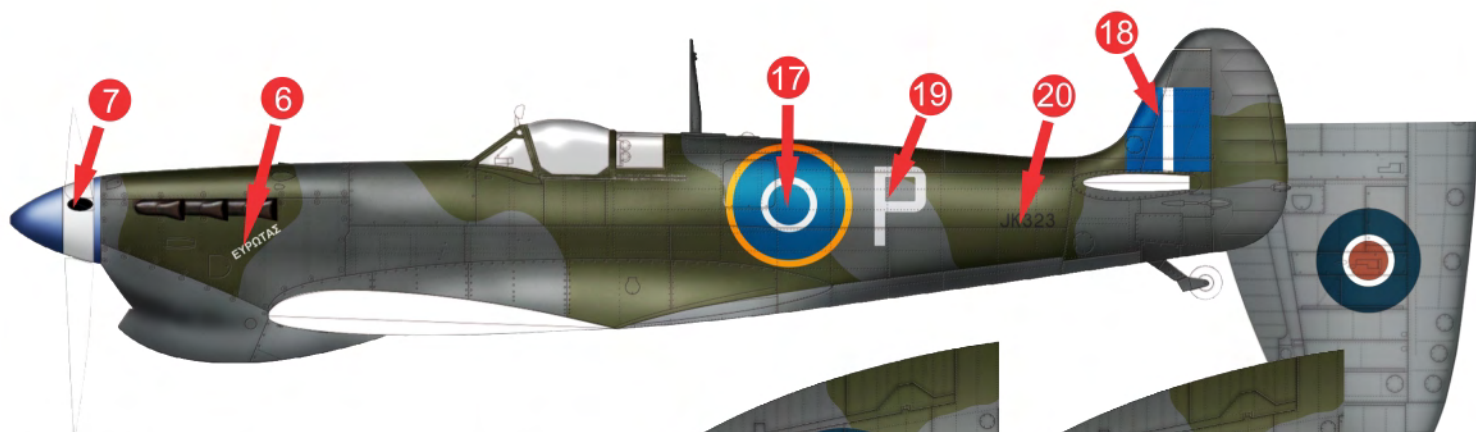


Spitfire MkVc Trop. AR 562, Hassani, Greece.

Day Fighter Scheme Type A pattern with sky tail band and blue and white Rotol spinner. Wing roundels same as ER 194 above.

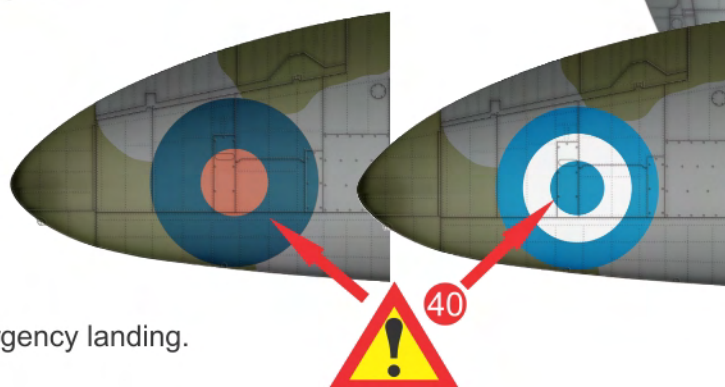


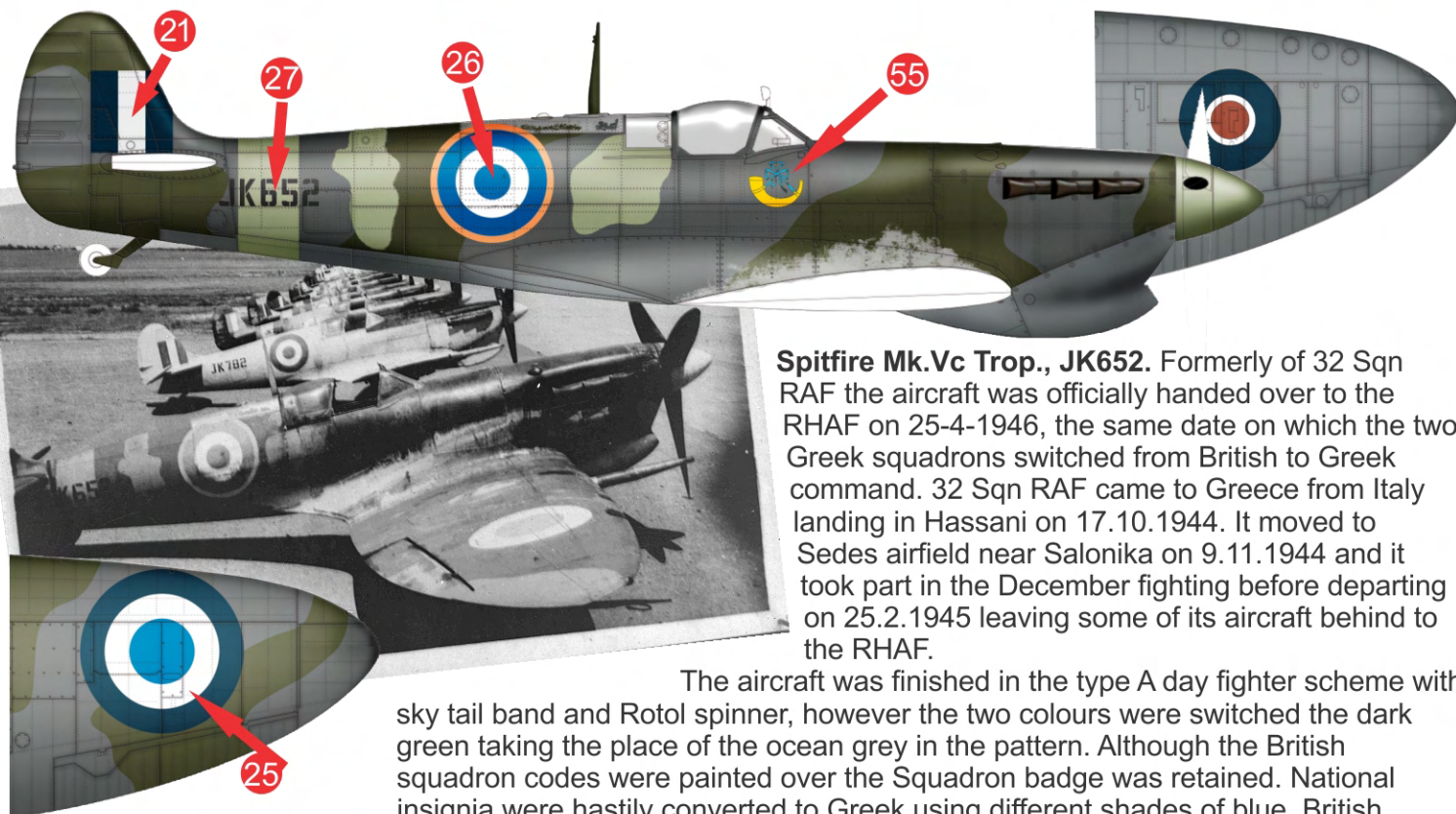
Spitfire MkVc Trop. JK 809, "Hero", Hassani, Greece, March 1945. Day Fighter Scheme Type B pattern with sky tail band and Rotol spinner..



Spitfire MkVc Trop. JK 323, "EVROTAS".

Rotol spinner and propeller. Finished in day fighter scheme Type B, the British insignia were converted to Greek ones although it is possible that the British roundels were retained on the wing top surfaces. The aircraft was destroyed on 20 April 1945 during an emergency landing.



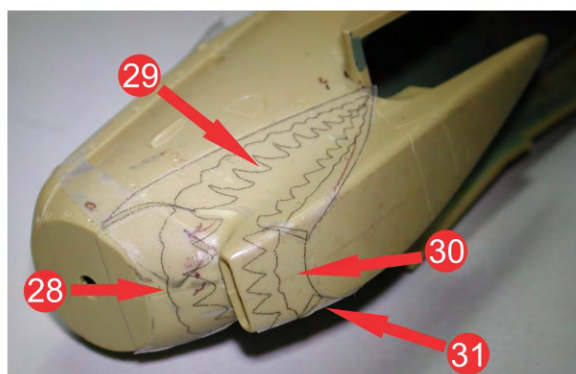


Spitfire Mk.Vc Trop., JK652. Formerly of 32 Sqn RAF the aircraft was officially handed over to the RHAF on 25-4-1946, the same date on which the two Greek squadrons switched from British to Greek command. 32 Sqn RAF came to Greece from Italy landing in Hassani on 17.10.1944. It moved to Sedes airfield near Salonika on 9.11.1944 and it took part in the December fighting before departing on 25.2.1945 leaving some of its aircraft behind to the RHAF.

The aircraft was finished in the type A day fighter scheme with sky tail band and Rotol spinner, however the two colours were switched the dark green taking the place of the ocean grey in the pattern. Although the British squadron codes were painted over the Squadron badge was retained. National insignia were hastily converted to Greek using different shades of blue. British underwing roundels are likely to have remained.

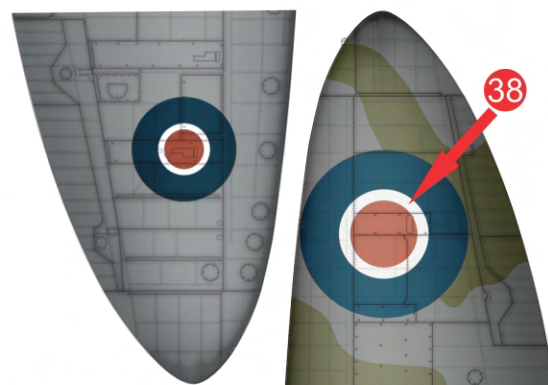


Spitfire Mk.Vc Trop., JK891, 335 Sqn. Arrived at Hassani from Italy on 16.11.1944 and was destroyed on 27.02.1945 during an emergency landing two miles southeast of the airfield. Finished in the type A day fighter scheme with sky tail band and a striped blue-white-blue Rotol Spinner. The camouflage colours were transposed, the dark green taking the place of the ocean grey in the pattern. National insignia were converted to Greek with the exception of the wing upper surface roundels which remained type IA as applied from January 1945. **NOTE:** Decal 35 is for the starboard side of the aircraft.



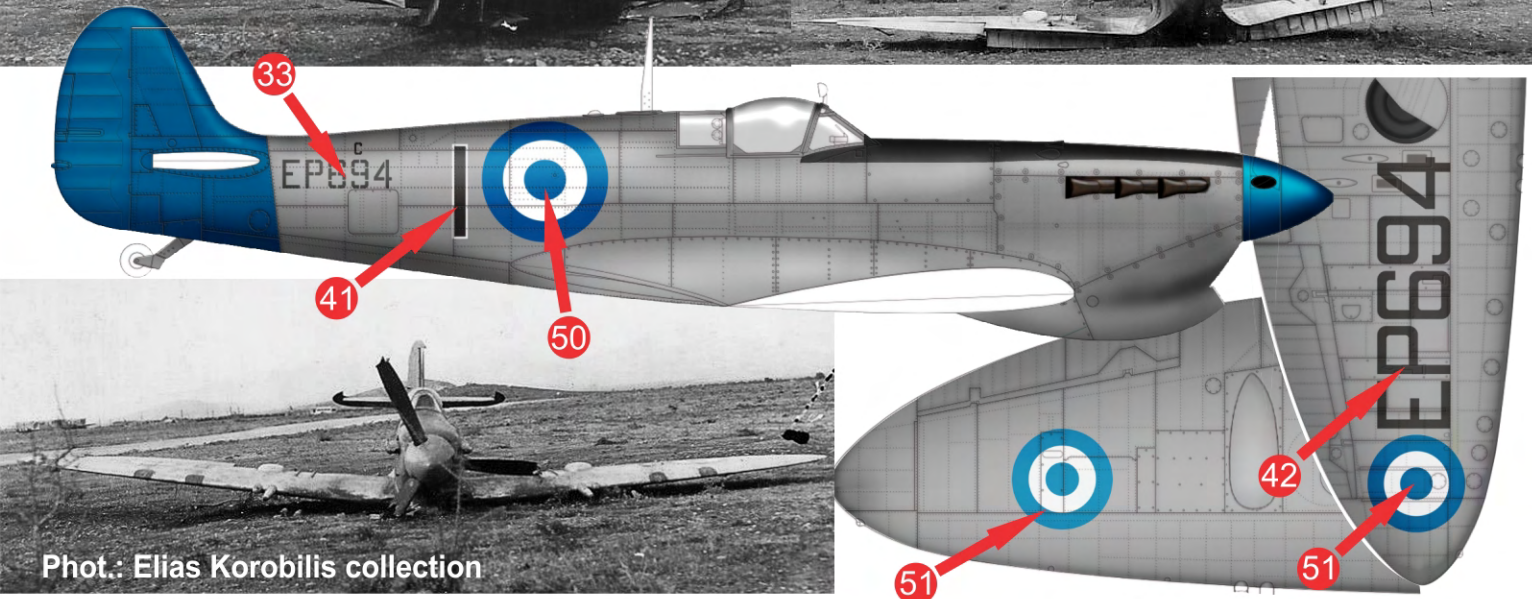
NOTE: The red background for the sharkmouth must be painted prior to the application of the sharkmouth decals. Decals 29 (port) and 31 (starboard) should be applied first. To correctly position these decals on the model, the top edge of the sharkmouth

marking should follow the panel line from the spinner to the wing root which is also the camouflage scheme's demarcation line between the upper surface and lower surface colours. After the application of the two side portions, markings 28 (top) and 30 (bottom) may be applied to complete the front of the sharkmouth. Decal 28 is applied under the spinner and decals 30 under the Tropical filter. Decals 28 and 30 may slightly overlap 29 and 31 as seen in the photograph showing the outlines of these markings applied to a model.



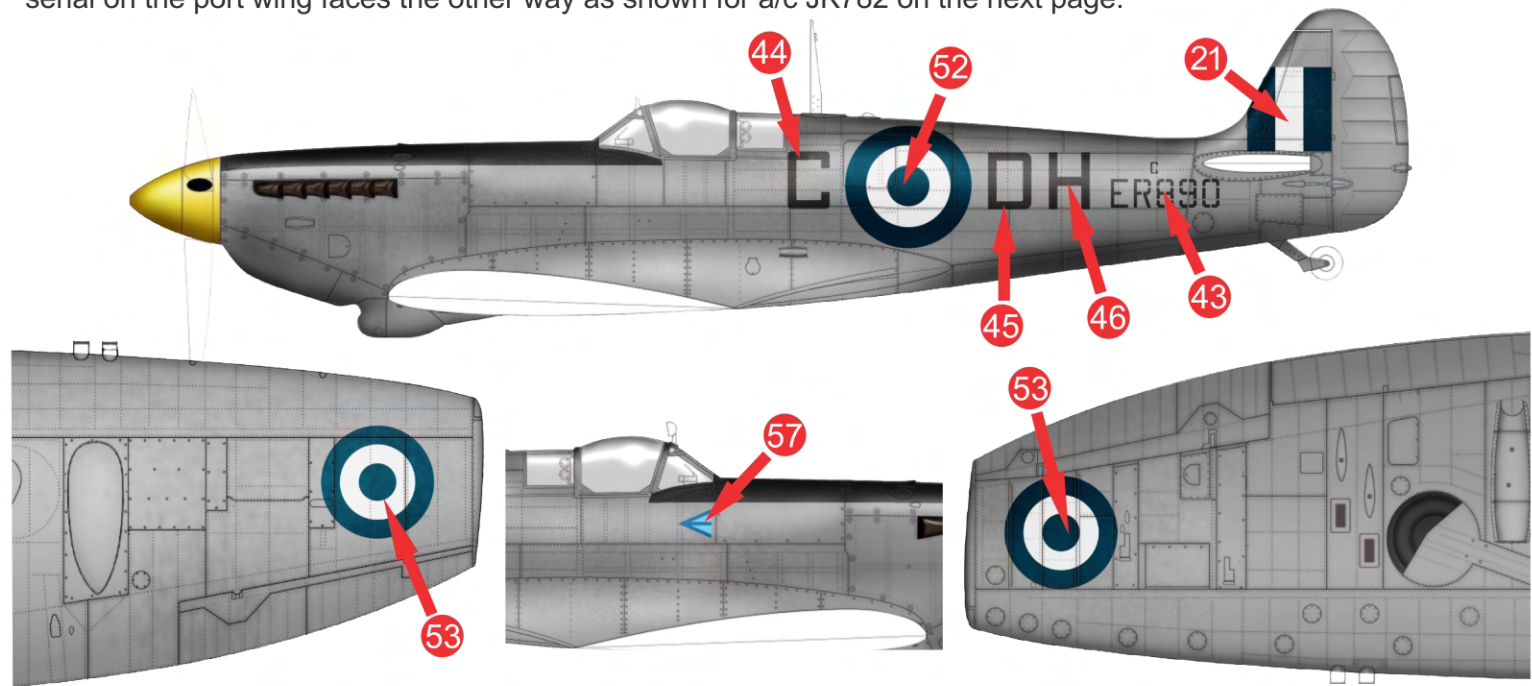
NOTE: The roundels on the upper surfaces of the wings were type IA as applied from January 1945. As these are not often included in kit decals the modeller can apply decal 38 over the kit's type I roundels. provided for the wing upper surfaces.





Phot.: Elias Korobilis collection

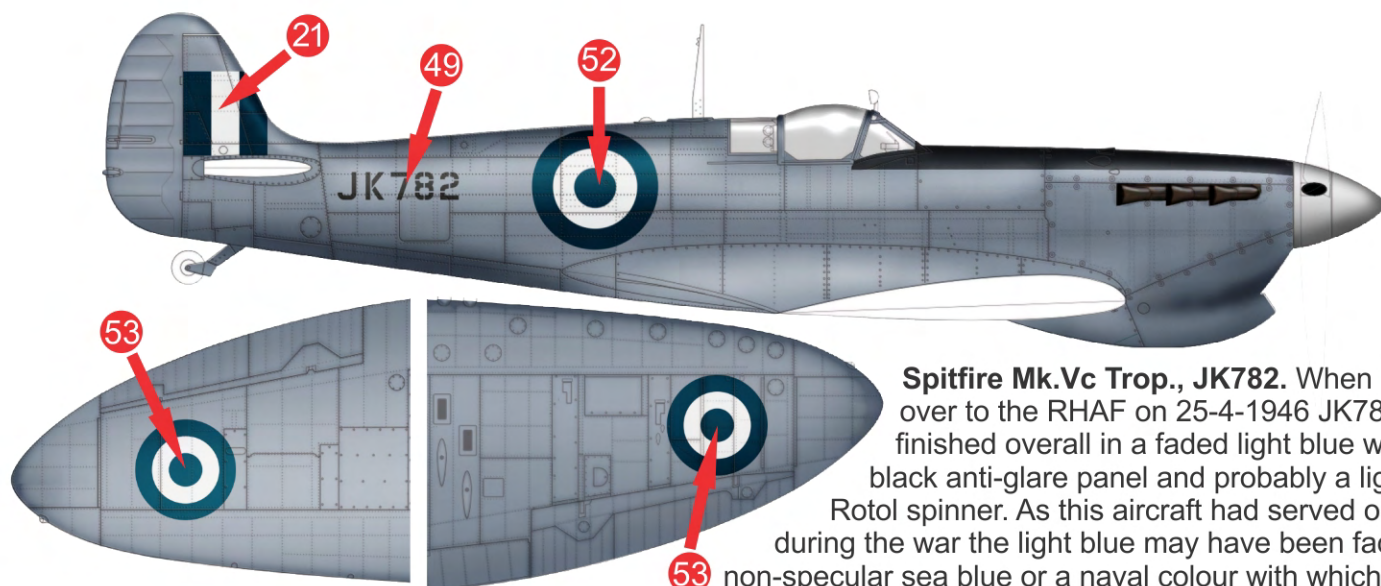
Spitfire Mk.Vc Trop., EP694. Originally built as a Mk.Vb and later converted to a Mk.Vc Trop. Rotol propeller and spinner. Photos of the aircraft after an emergency landing show a natural aluminium finish on the fuselage. The lower surfaces may have possibly been finished in Medium Sea Gray. The top surfaces of the tail planes were camouflaged with Dark Green and Ocean Grey. The top surfaces of the wings also show shading although this could be staining from earth thrown up during the landing over the natural aluminium finish. **NOTE:** The underwing serial on the port wing faces the other way as shown for a/c JK782 on the next page.



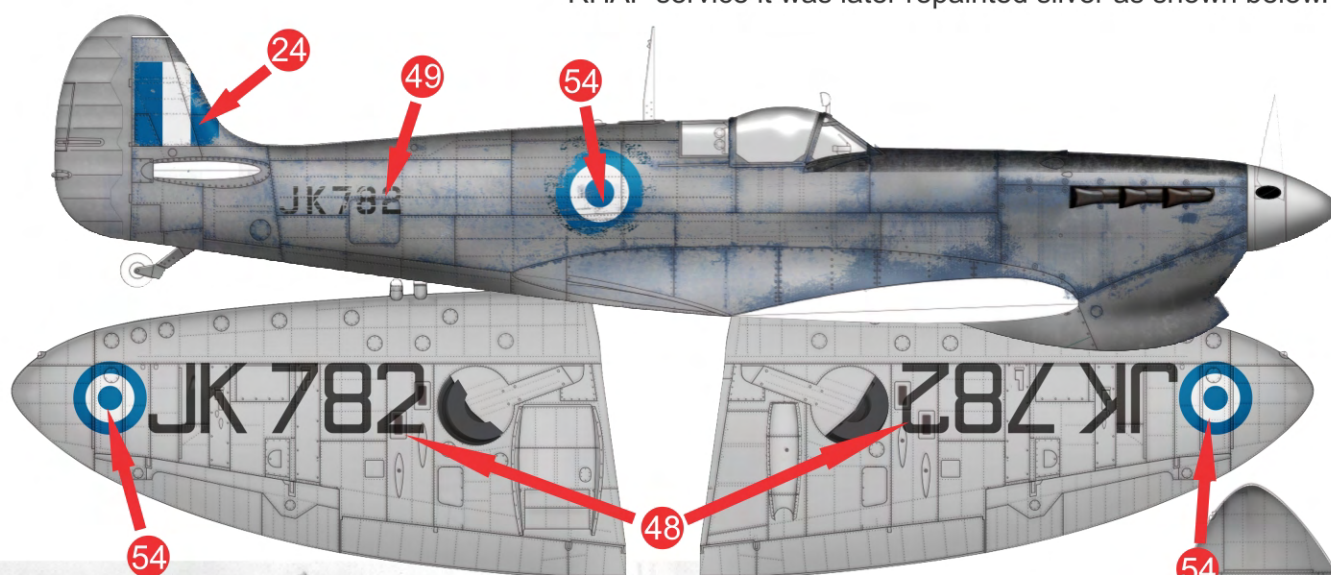
Spitfire Mk.Vc Trop., ER890. Originally built as a Mk.Vb and later converted to a Mk.Vc Trop. Silver overall finish with black anti-glare panel and yellow Rotol spinner. It was not a typical Mk.Vc as it had an Aboukir type filter, six stack exhausts, clipped wings and tail planes from a Spitfire Mk.IX. Also the outboard cannon had no fairing and the beam approach aerial was placed on the port wing-fuselage fairing.



Phot.:Peter Arnold collection via Tilemahos Panayiotides



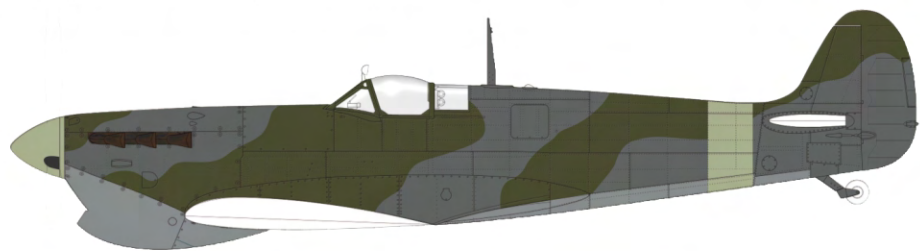
Spitfire Mk.Vc Trop., JK782. When handed over to the RHAf on 25-4-1946 JK782 was finished overall in a faded light blue with a black anti-glare panel and probably a light grey Rotol spinner. As this aircraft had served on Malta during the war the light blue may have been faded non-specular sea blue or a naval colour with which it had been painted on an aircraft carrier en route to Malta. In RHAf service it was later repainted silver as shown below.



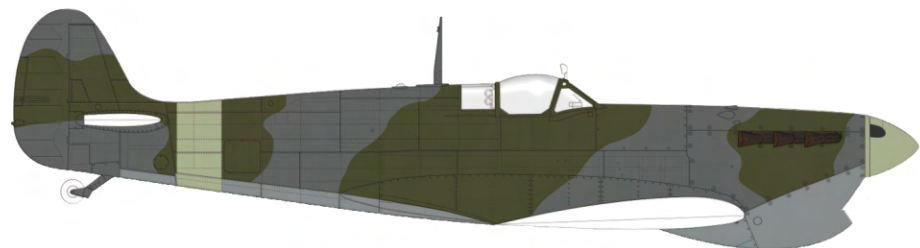
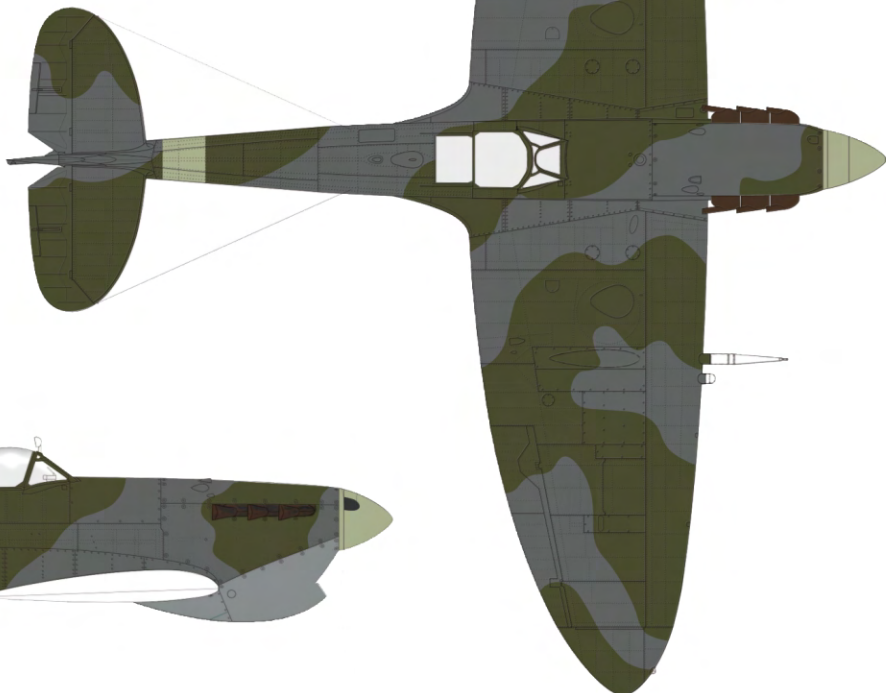
The photographs show JK782 near the end of its career, serving with the flight training school at Tatoi, near Athens in 1953. The overall silver finish is very worn, revealing the original colour as well as the original larger fuselage roundels. **Phot.: Yiannis Gritsis collection via Tilemahos Panayiotides**



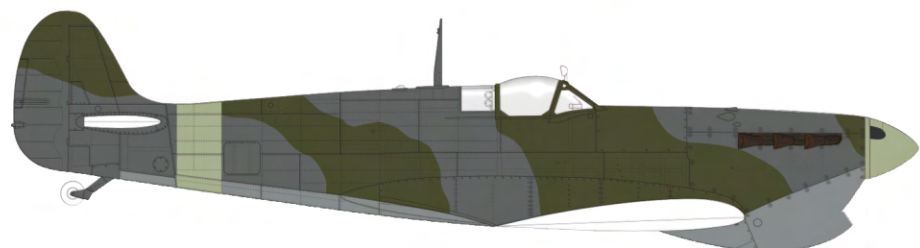
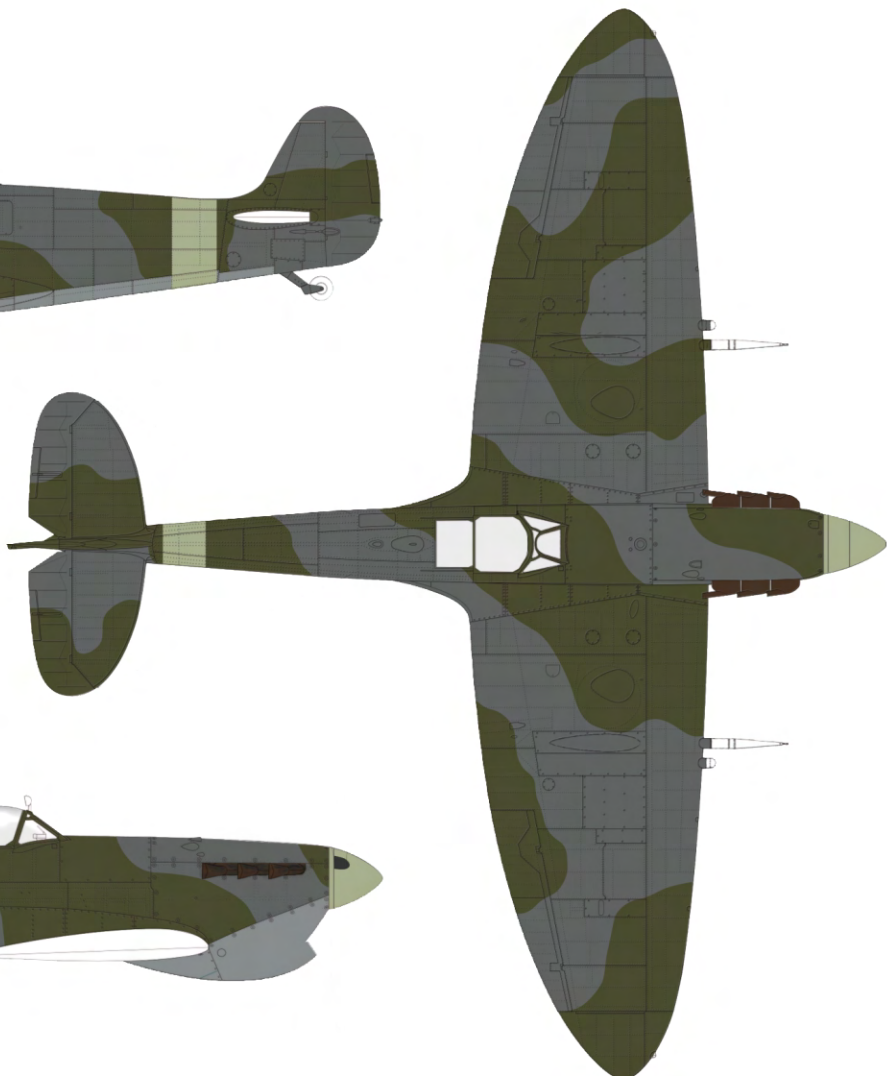
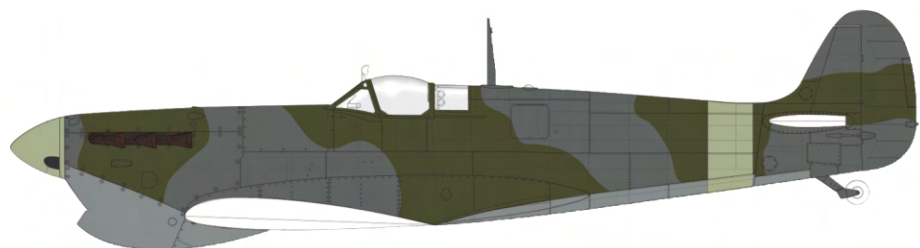
There were two patterns or the Day Fighter Scheme, Type A and Type B, one being a mirror image of the other.



Day Fighter Scheme Type A pattern

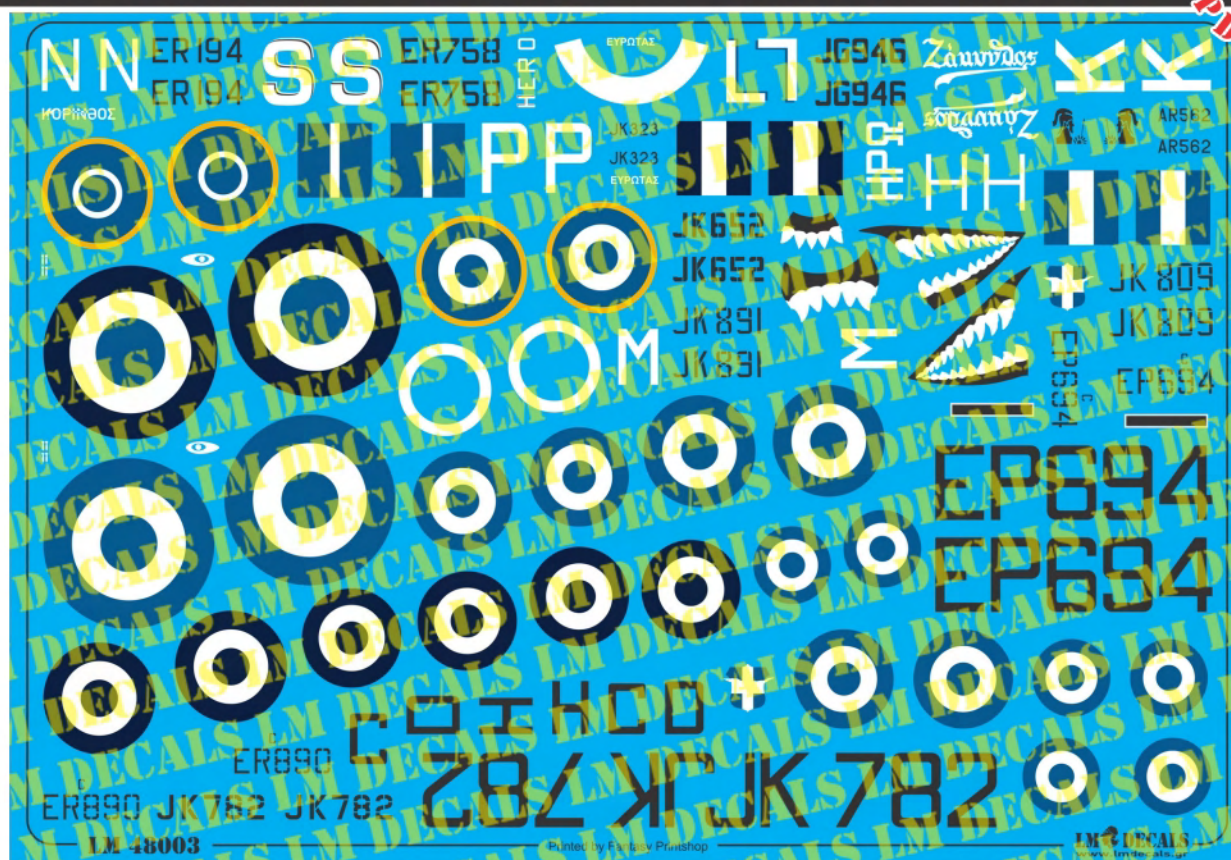


Day Fighter Scheme Type B pattern



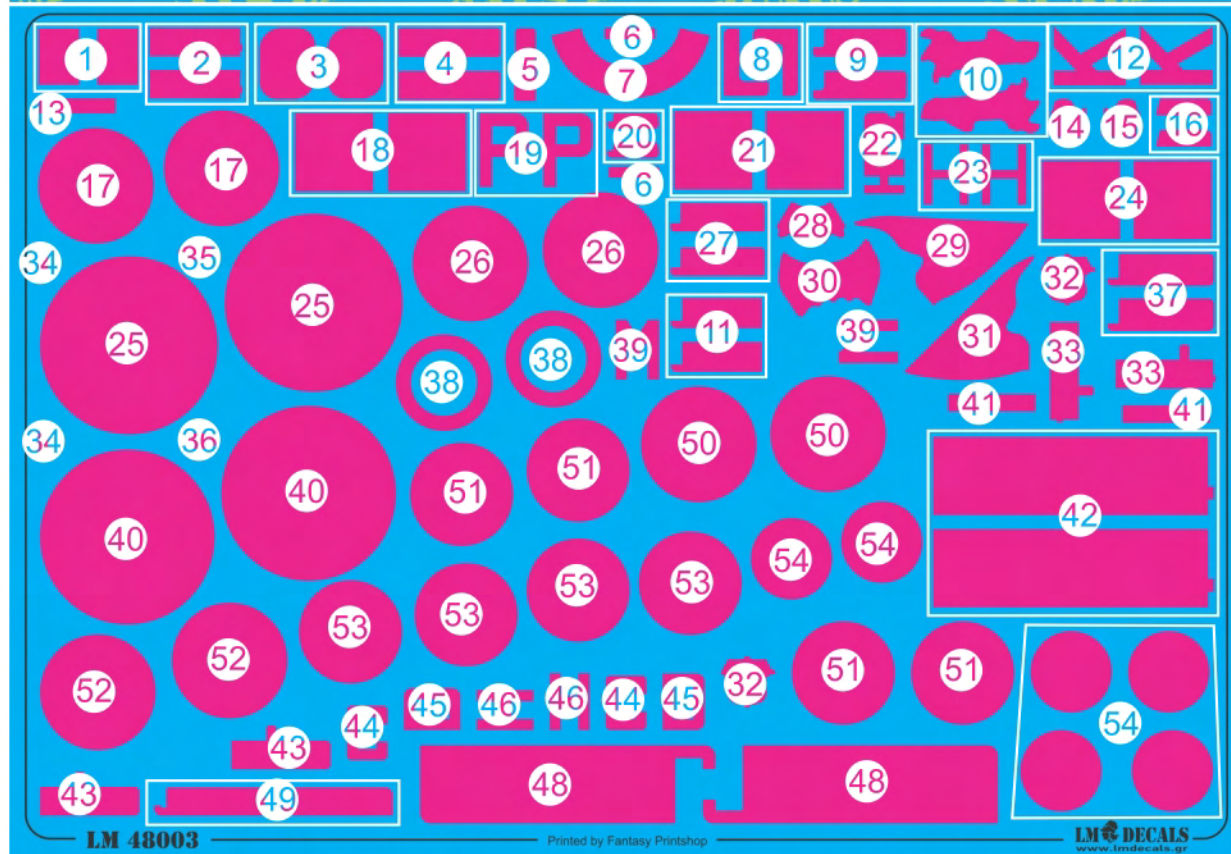
Spitfire Mk V RHA

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ATTENTION!

This symbol indicates that alternative markings are applicable in this position **OR** that the same marking applies to more than one colour scheme.



NOTE

The markings below have been printed on a digital Sol-Ink printer by DecalPrint.de. The modeller should treat these with extra care and cut as close as possible to the design because the carrier film extends over the complete decal paper.



Special thanks. This set of decals is based on many years of research by **Elias Korobillis**, **Stavros Verras**, **Tilemahos Panayiotides** and last but by no means least, **Yiannis Korellis**. These decals would not have been realised without all their tireless efforts, help and support during the production of the decals and this leaflet.

This instruction sheet may be downloaded and printed for your personal use.
 Decals printed by: Fantasy Printshop
www.lmdecals.gr