

ZTZ 72017
ZTZ 48017



Heavenly Bodies

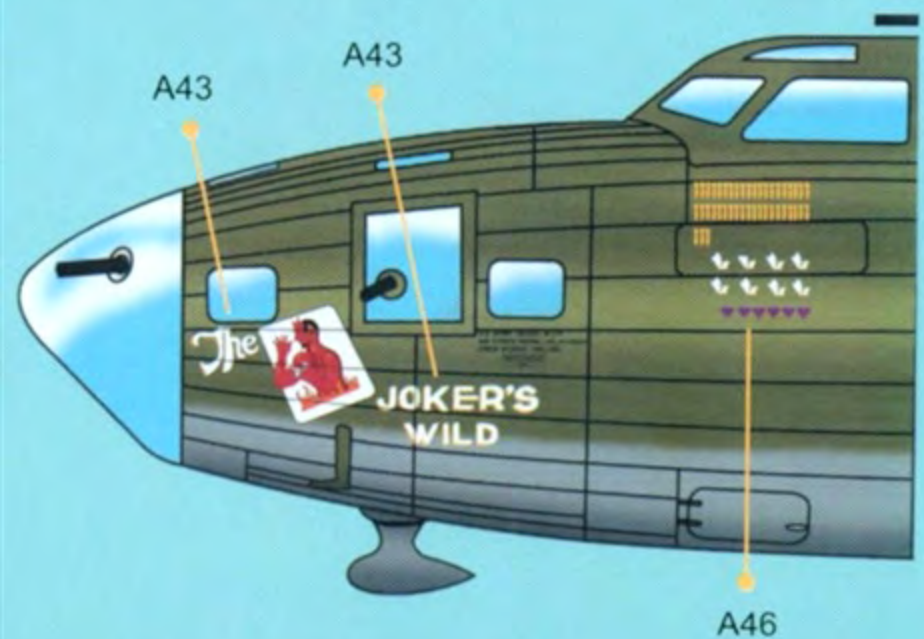
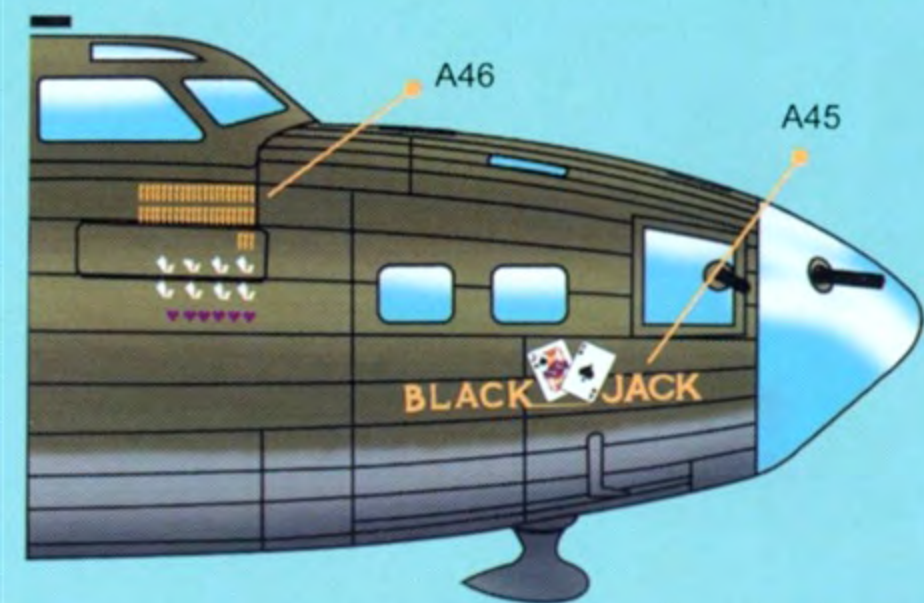


B-17F at war



BLACK JACK / THE JOKER'S WILD B-17F-20-BO 41-24521

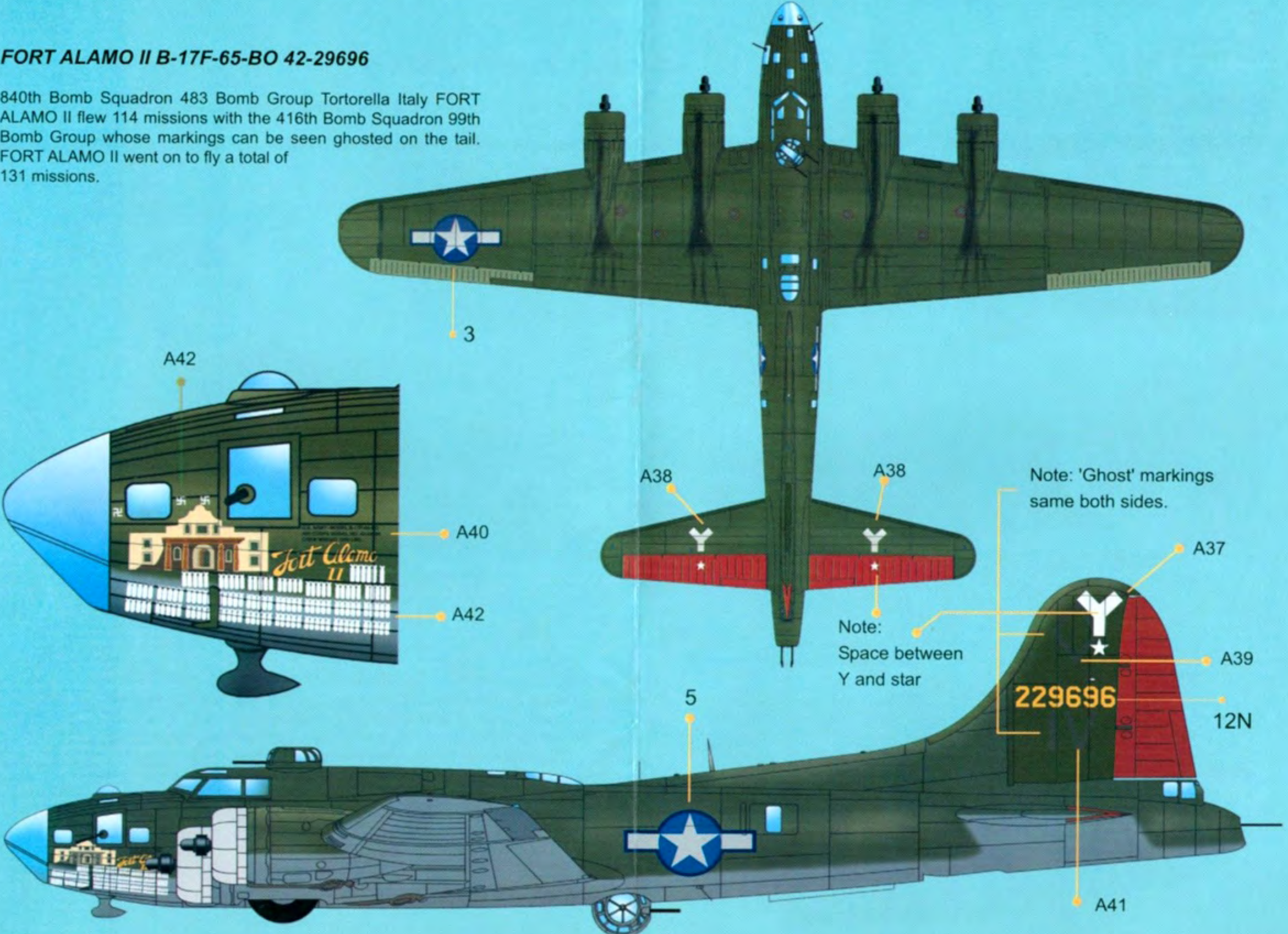
Flying with the 63rd Bomb Squadron 43rd Bomb Group this B-17F had a colorful history. One of her pilots, Capt. Kenneth D. McCullar had a fixed 50 cal. fitted to the nose controlled by the pilot for machine gunning ships and deterring frontal attacks. BLACK JACK claims a number of Japanese ships including the IJN destroyer HAYASHIO which was sunk on the 24th of November 1942. This feat required 5 low altitude bombing runs and caused



heavy damage to BLACK JACK. Repaired, she was once again shot up on a mission to Rabaul on the 14th of February 1943. Her last mission was on the 10th of July 1943, a night attack on Rabaul through a severe thunderstorm left her with no compass or radio homing device and three injured crew. Running on 2 1/2 engines they made it through the night but were low on fuel. BLACK JACK was ditched successfully 11th of July off the coast of New Guinea and the crew were rescued. BLACK JACK was discovered by scuba divers 27th of December 1986. Noseart was painted by Sgt. Ernie Vandal who also painted PANAMA HATTIE also featured in this set.

FORT ALAMO II B-17F-65-BO 42-29696

840th Bomb Squadron 483 Bomb Group Tortorella Italy FORT ALAMO II flew 114 missions with the 416th Bomb Squadron 99th Bomb Group whose markings can be seen ghosted on the tail. FORT ALAMO II went on to fly a total of 131 missions.



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A42

A40

A42

A38

A38

Note: 'Ghost' markings same both sides.

A37

Note: Space between Y and star

A39

229696

12N

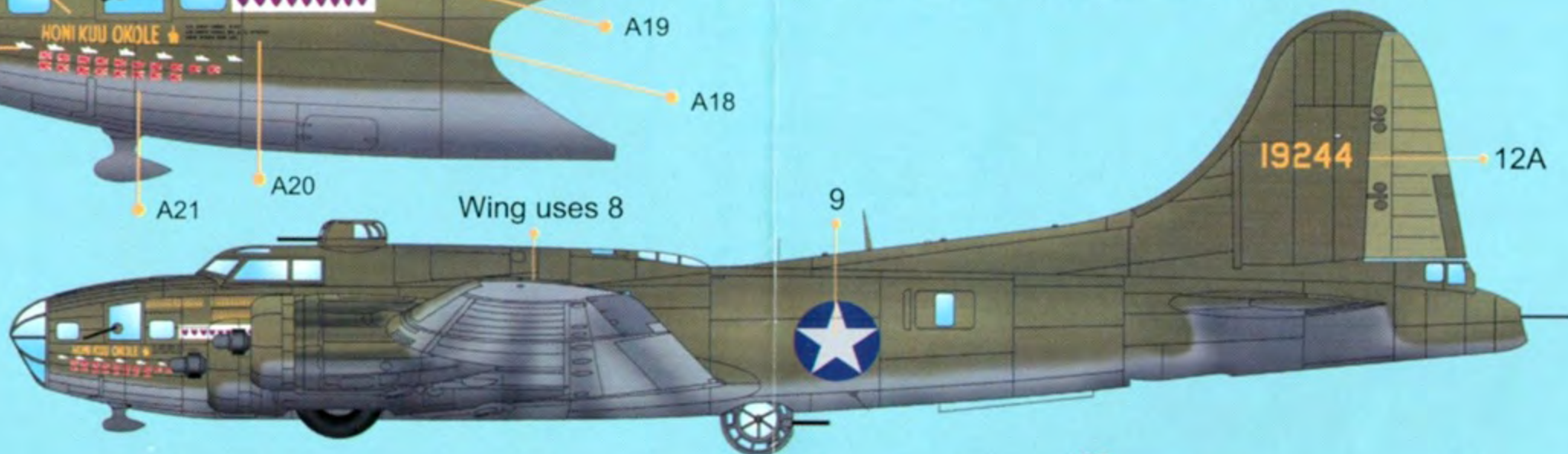
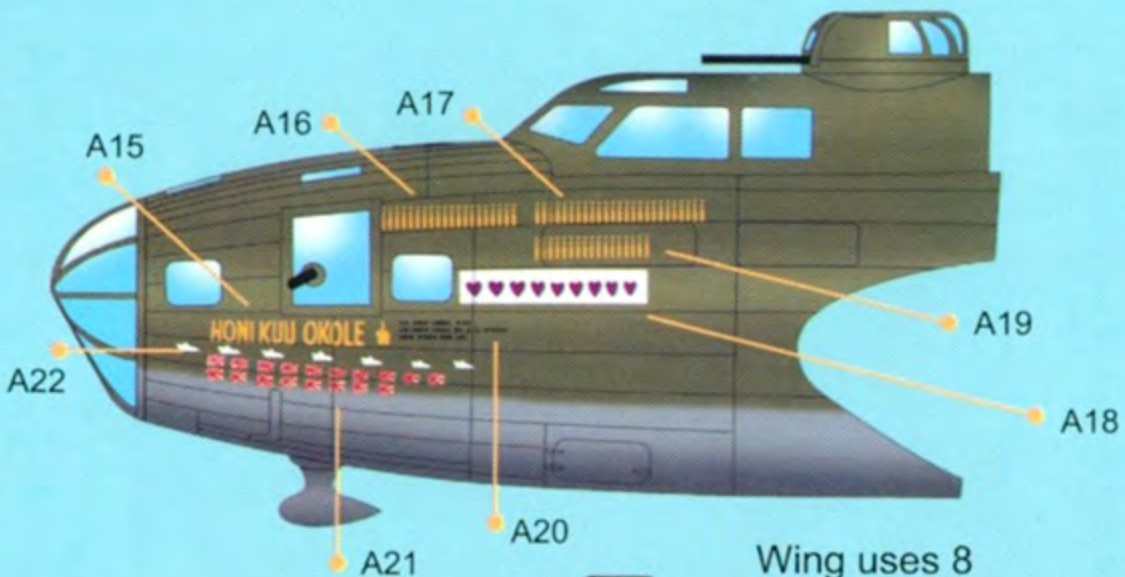
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A41

HONI KUU OKOLE B-17 E 41-9244

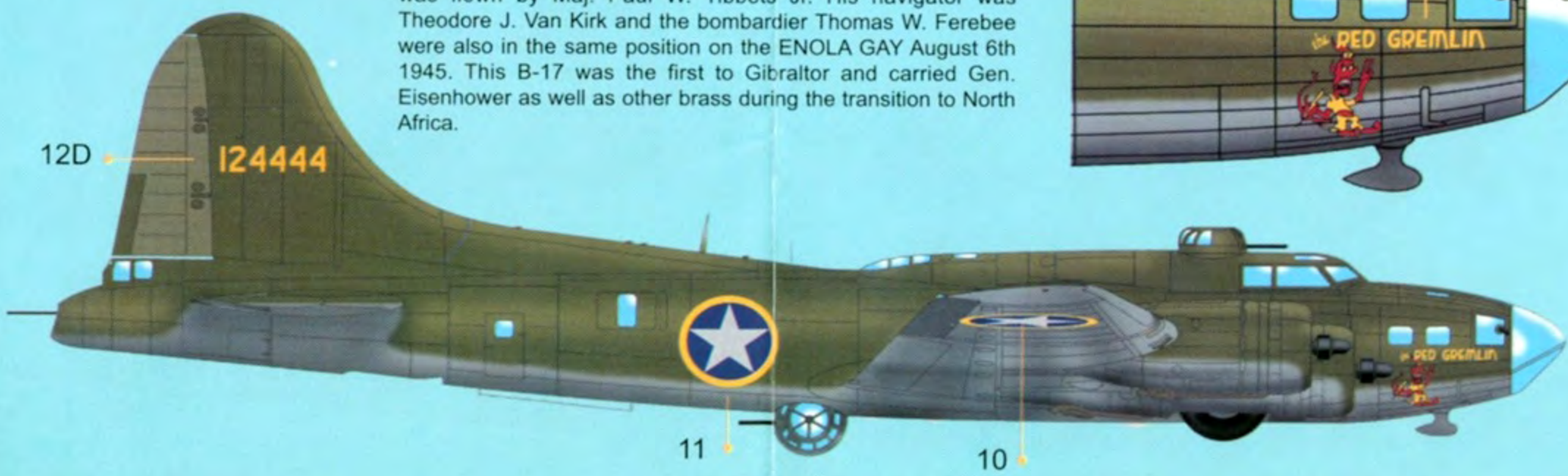
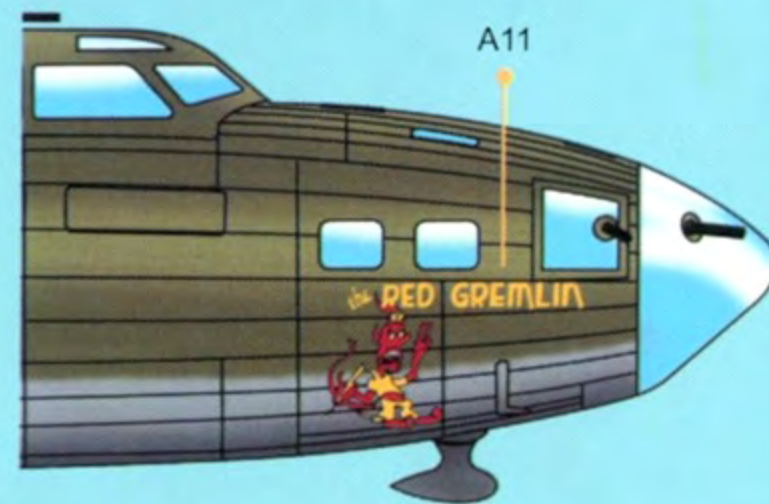
64th Bomb Squadron 43rd Bomb Group Originally assigned to 19th Bomb Group in Hawaii and named for the Hawaiian 'KISS MY ASS' She transferred to the 43rd and was shot down over Rabaul 23rd of May 1943 by a Japanese Night Fighter.

Reference Osprey B-17 Flying Fortress Units of the Pacific War



THE RED GREMLIN B-17F-10-BO 41-24444

340th Bomb Squadron 97th Bomb Group THE RED GREMLIN was flown by Maj. Paul W. Tibbets Jr. His navigator was Theodore J. Van Kirk and the bombardier Thomas W. Ferebee were also in the same position on the ENOLA GAY August 6th 1945. This B-17 was the first to Gibraltar and carried Gen. Eisenhower as well as other brass during the transition to North Africa.

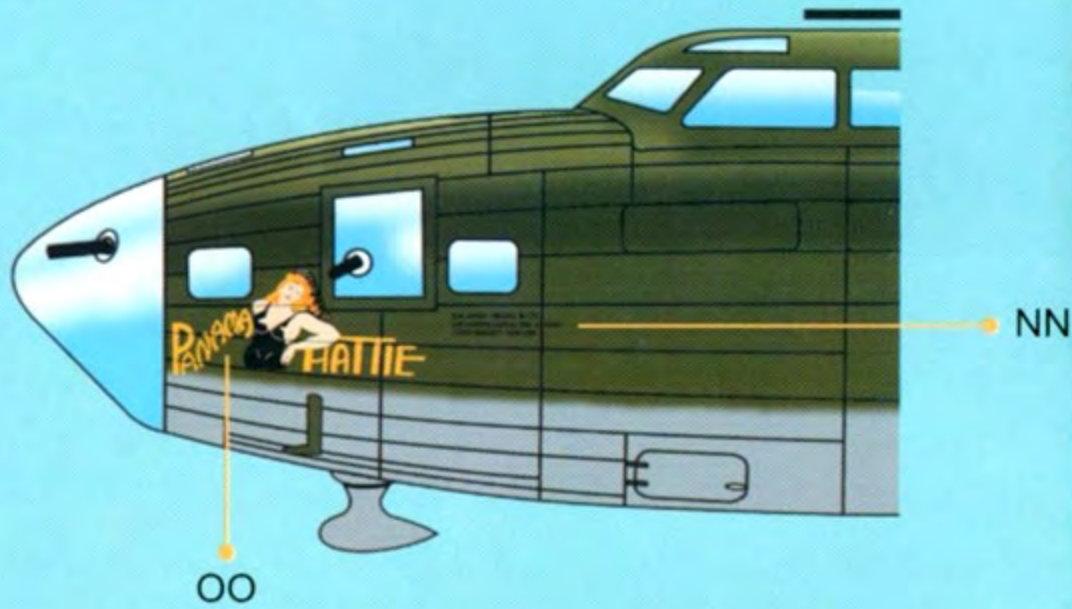
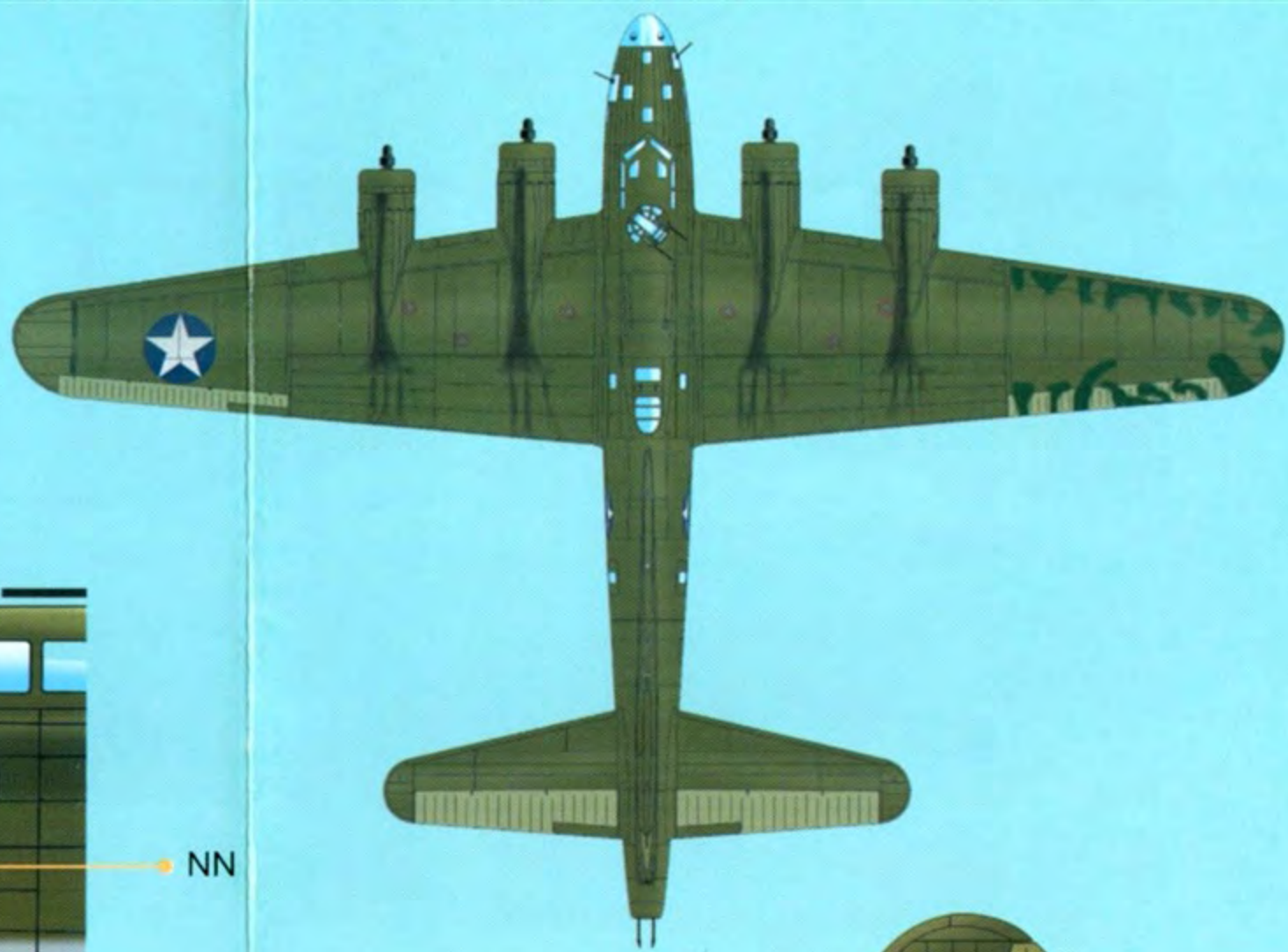


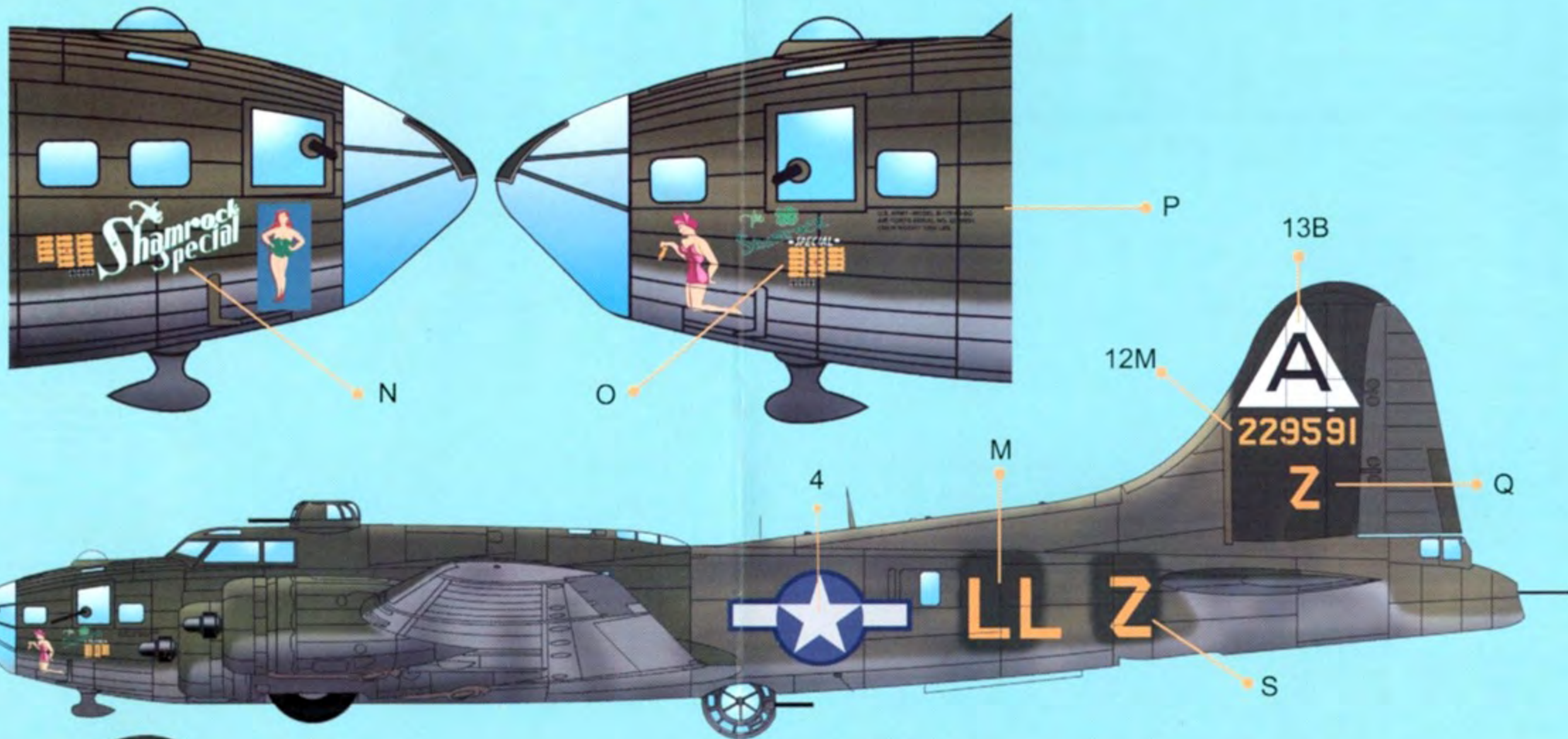
PANAMA HATTIE B-17F-1-BO 41-24381

SUPERMAN'S sister (note the serial) was assigned to the 63rd Bomb Squadron 43rd Bomb Group.

She was transferred to the 54th Transport Combat Group in November 1943, she was last located at Clark Field Phillipines in July of 1948.

Her nose art is based on the 1942 MGM comedy/musical Panama Hattie starring Ann Sothern as Hattie Maloney and Red Skelton.

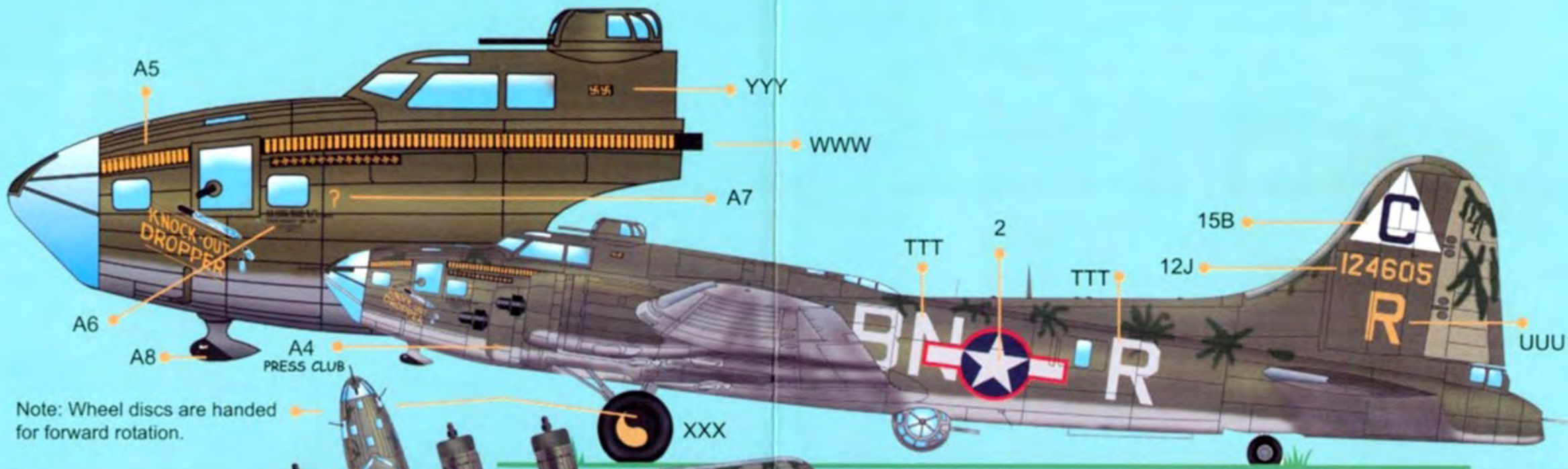




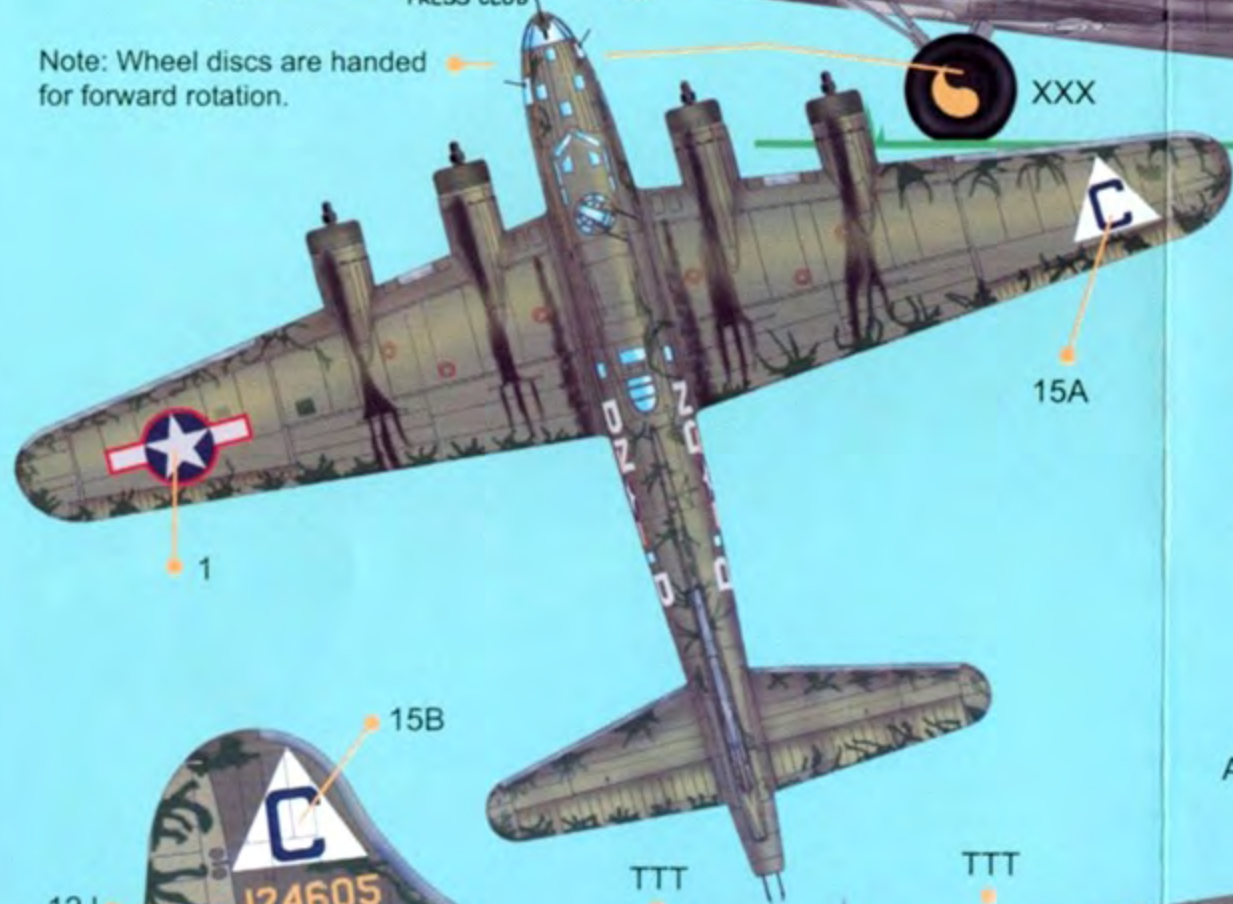
THE SHAMROCK SPECIAL B-17F-60-BO 42-29591

Delivered to the 336th Bomb Squadron 95th Bomb Group she only flew two missions with that group before transferring to the 401st Bomb Squadron 91st Bomb Group at Bassingbourn. She had her rear fuselage replaced with one from another B-17 after THE CAREFUL VIRGIN ran into her with no brakes. THE SHAMROCK SPECIAL features three different pinups the tail 'Hollywood 337' being painted by Jack Gaffney. She completed 14 missions before returning stateside 22nd of June 1944.



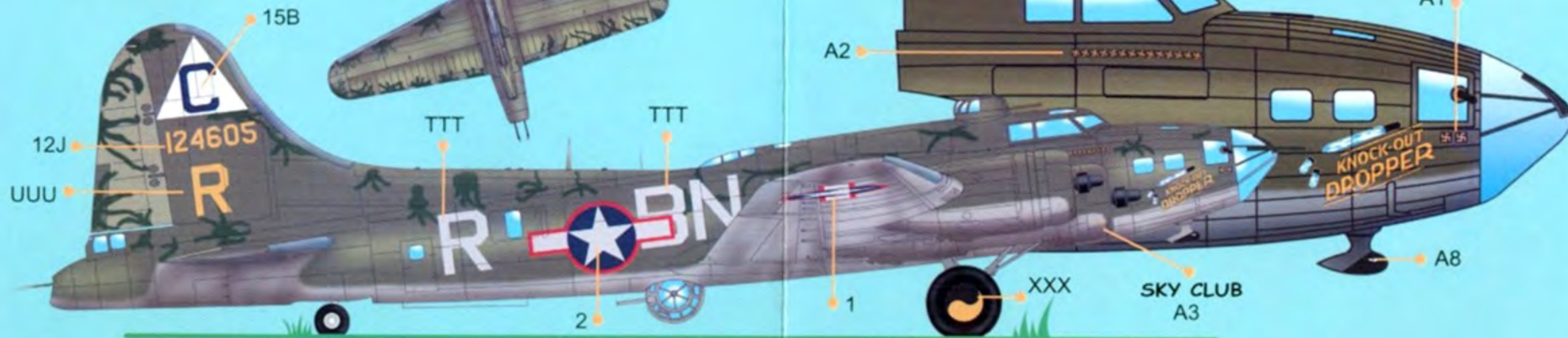


Note: Wheel discs are handed for forward rotation.



KNOCKOUT DROPPER B-17F-27-BO 41-24605

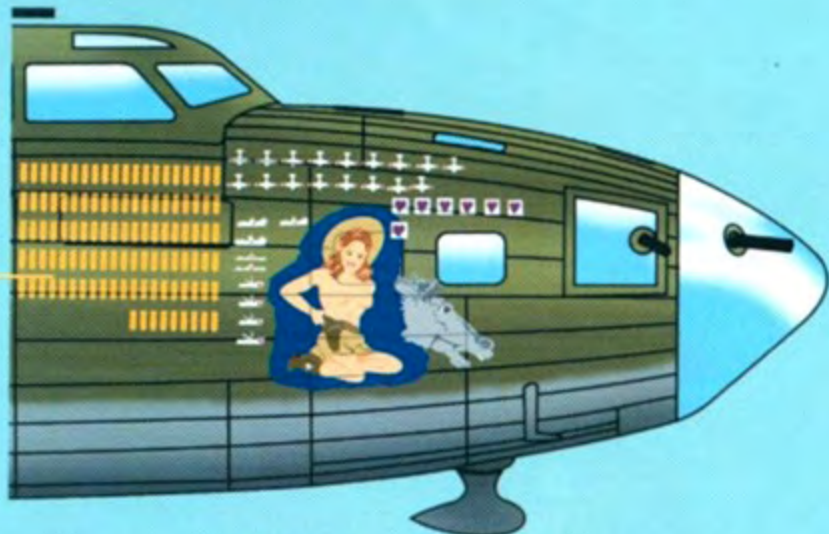
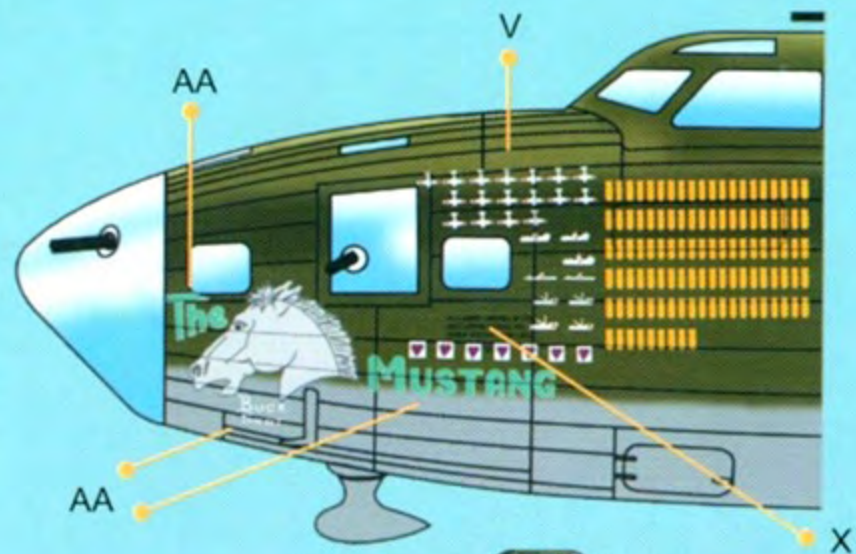
359th Bomb Squadron 303rd Bomb Group Molesworth England. KNOCKOUT DROPPER was the first 8th AAF B-17 to complete both 50 and then 75 missions. This B-17 was also given the same treatment as HELL'S ANGELS by being signed by all the 303rd personnel before returning stateside for a war bond tour. KNOCKOUT DROPPER features a very elaborate camouflage splotching and we are fortunate to have clear photo's from the top and both sides to produce this very accurate paint guide. At some point early in her career there was a shark mouth on the ADF 'football' but only the eyes remained later on as featured on this scheme. Her olive paint has faded to a khaki color and her deicer boots have been removed exposing bare metal. The nose perspex has been replaced with the modified single 50 cal. mount.



Note: Wheel discs are handed for forward rotation.

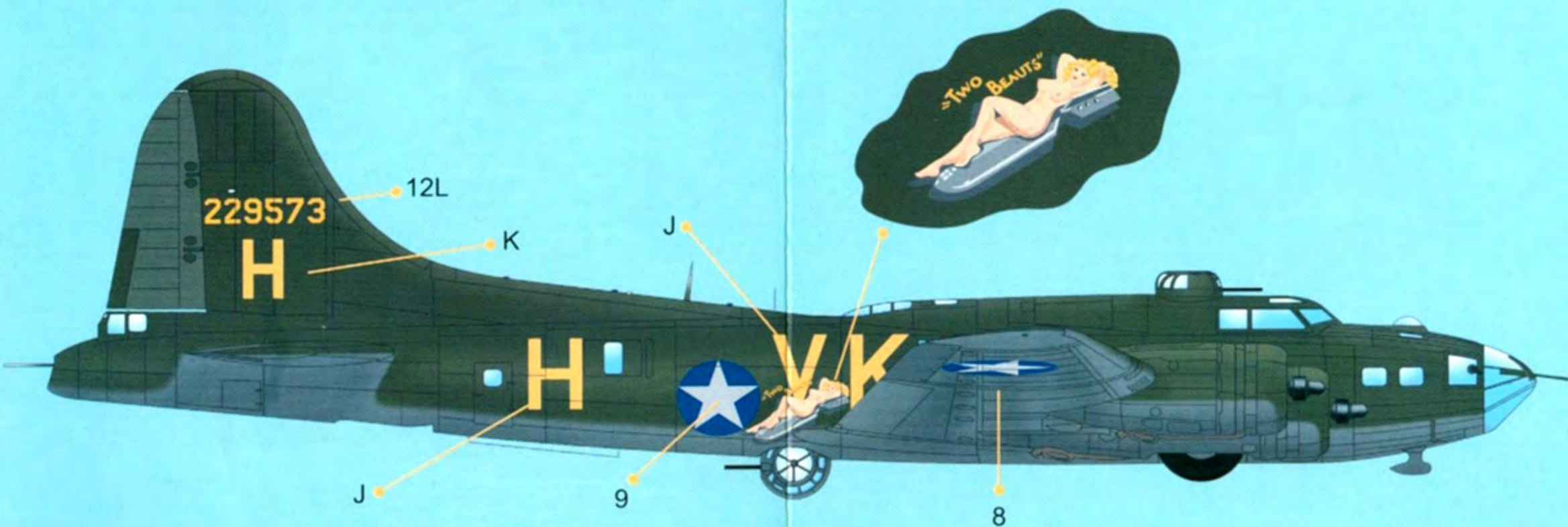
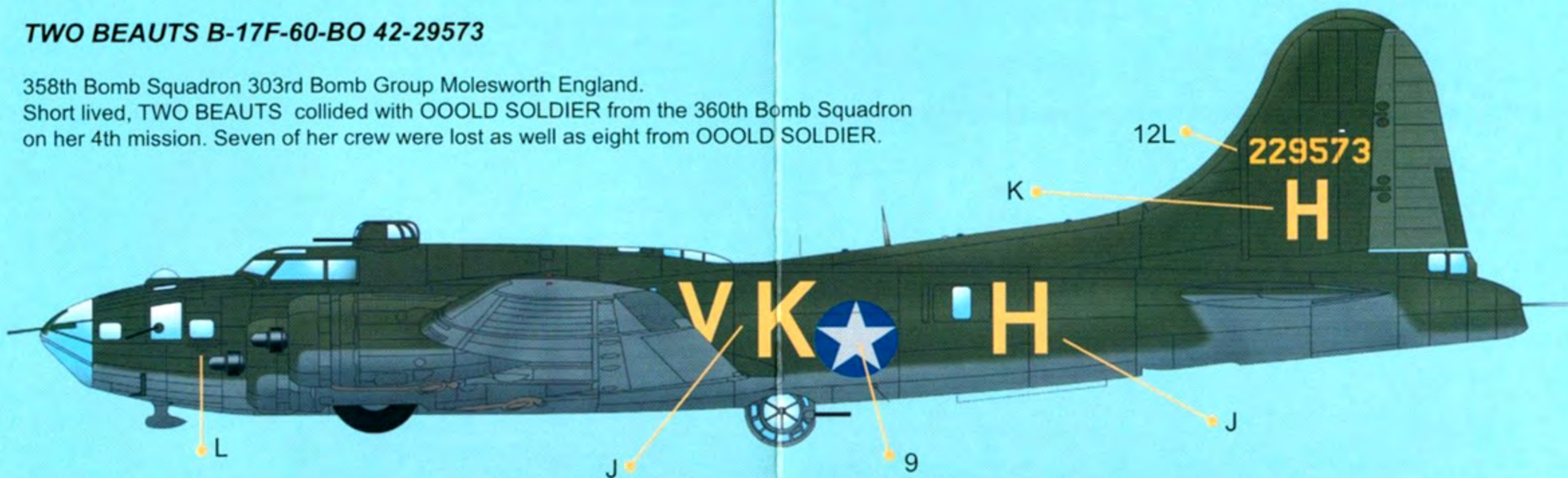
THE MUSTANG B-17F 25-BO 41-24554

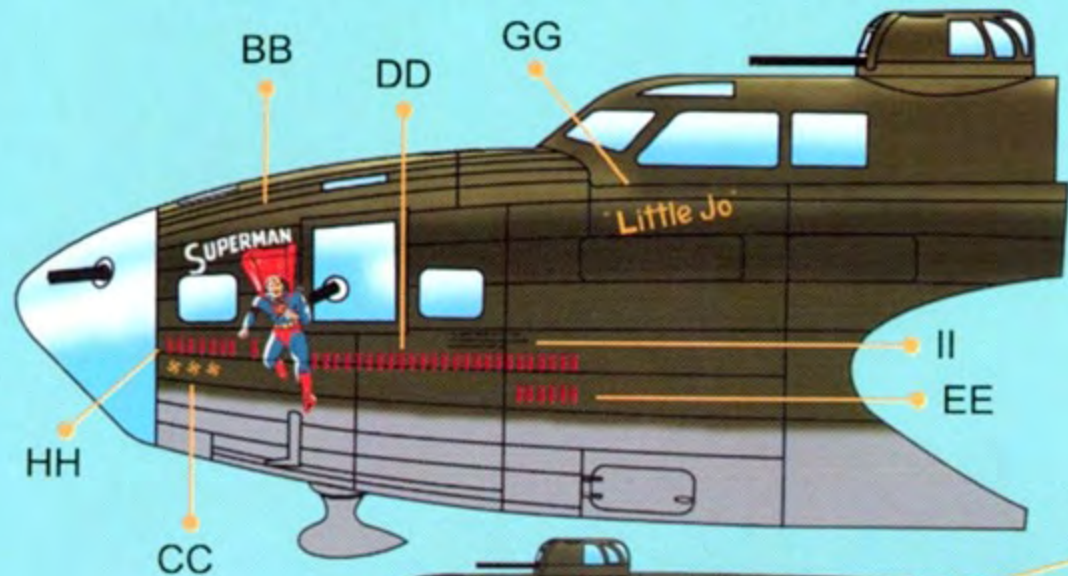
Assigned to the 403rd Bomb Squadron 43rd Bomb Group 17th of October 1942 She later transferred to the 63rd Bomb Squadron. Gen. Richard Sutherland was aboard her on 5th of September 1943 to observe the airborne assault on Nadzab, New Guinea. Sutherland was Gen. MacArthur's chief of staff. THE MUSTANG went stateside and was used by the 398th Bomb Group for training in Rapid City South Dakota.



TWO BEAUTS B-17F-60-BO 42-29573

358th Bomb Squadron 303rd Bomb Group Molesworth England.
Short lived, TWO BEAUTS collided with OOOLD SOLDIER from the 360th Bomb Squadron
on her 4th mission. Seven of her crew were lost as well as eight from OOOLD SOLDIER.

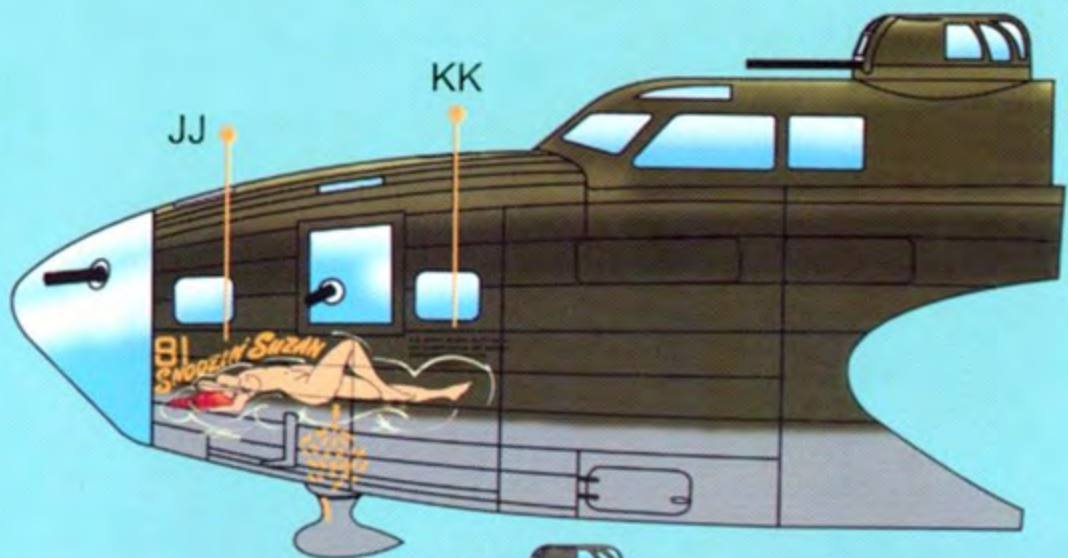




SUPERMAN B-17F-1-BO 41-24380

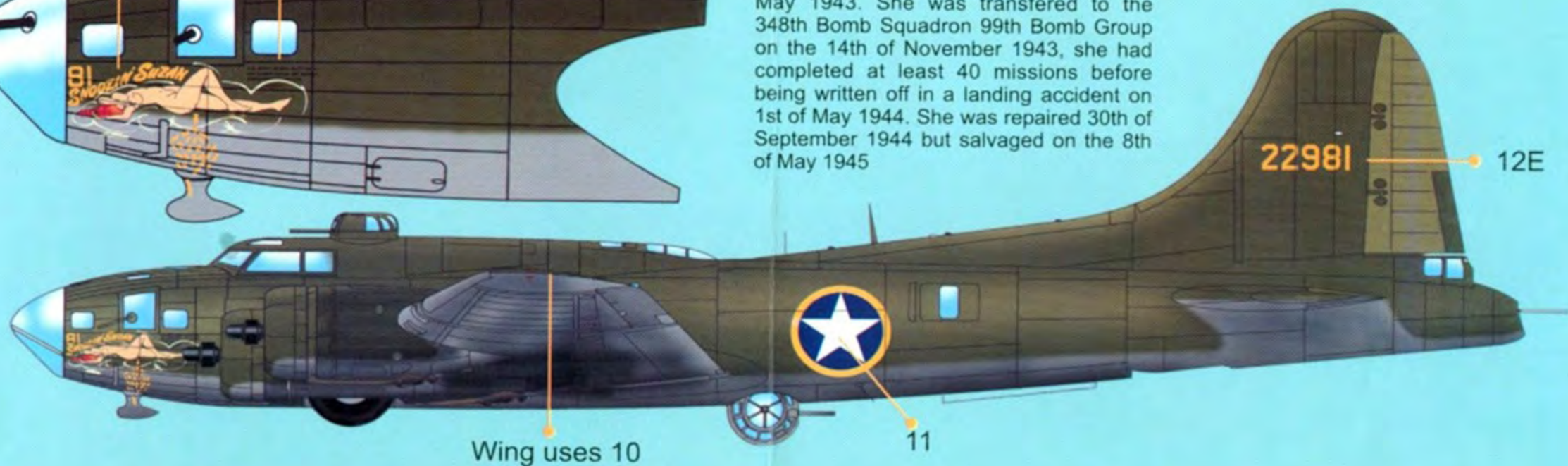
340th Bomb Squadron 97th Bomb Group Algeria summer 1943 Assigned to Lt. Roy Nielson Superman completed at least 40 missions before returning home in November of 1943. Superman was sent back to Italy in January of 1944 and struck off charge in May 1944 Superman survived the war but not the scrapper.

References Osprey B-17 Flying Fortress Units of the MTO Squadron Signal Pride of Seattle the story of the first 300 B-17F's



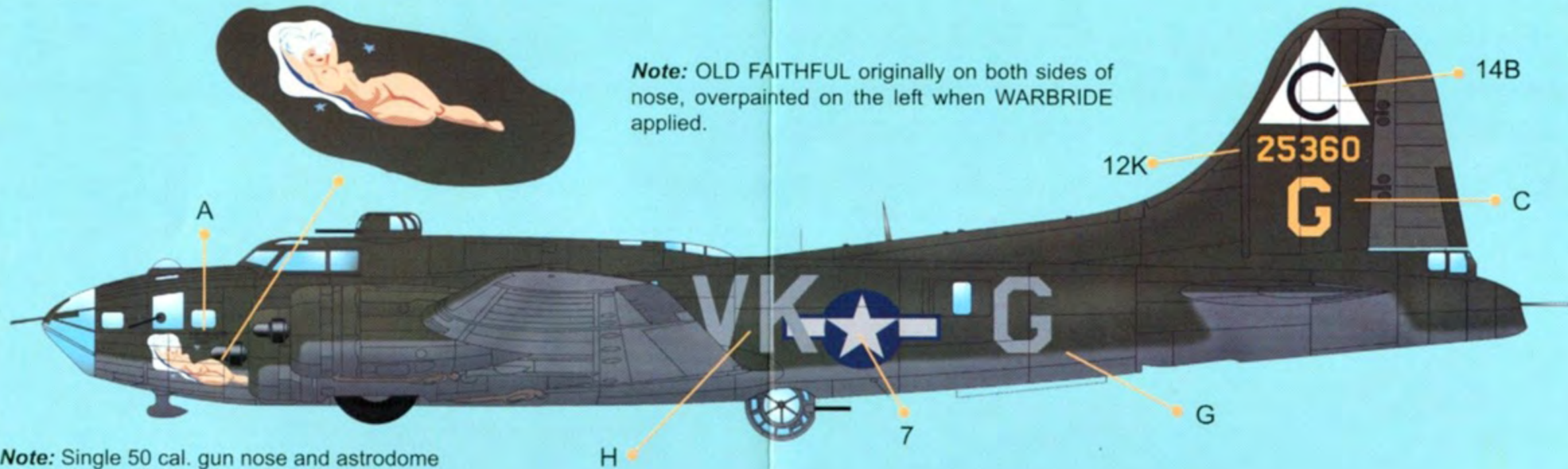
SNOOZIN' SUZAN B-17F-10-DL 42-2981

This Douglas built B-17F was assigned to the 414th Bomb Squadron 97th Bomb Group Chateaudun-du-Rhumel, Algeria May 1943. She was transferred to the 348th Bomb Squadron 99th Bomb Group on the 14th of November 1943, she had completed at least 40 missions before being written off in a landing accident on 1st of May 1944. She was repaired 30th of September 1944 but salvaged on the 8th of May 1945





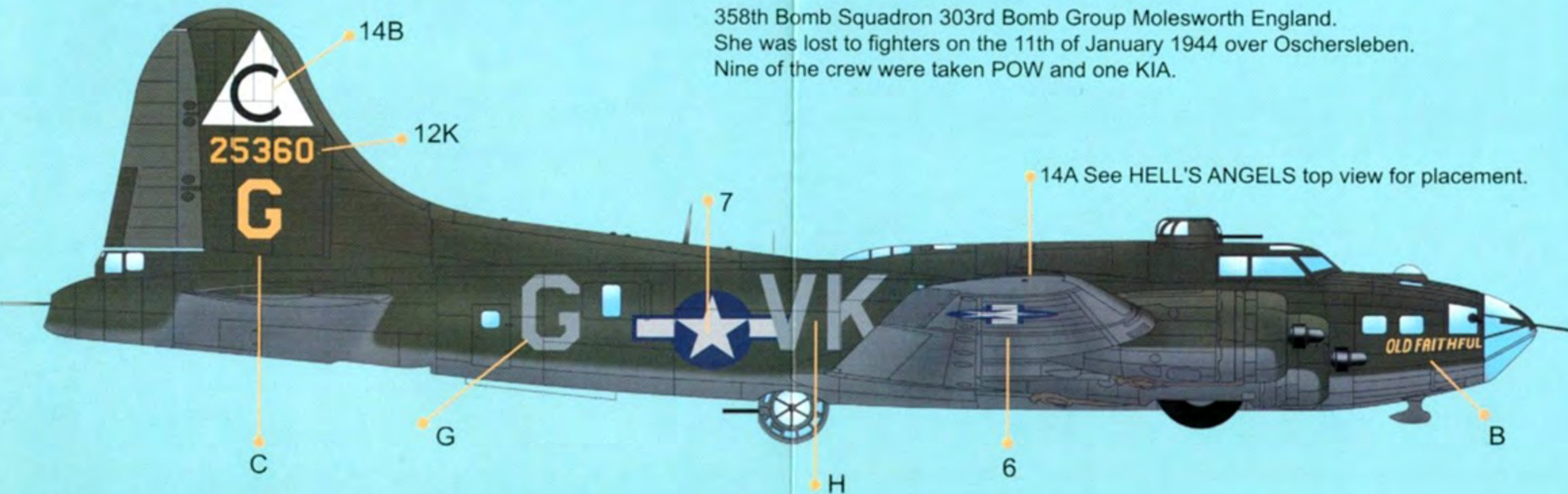
Note: OLD FAITHFUL originally on both sides of nose, overpainted on the left when WARBRIDE applied.



Note: Single 50 cal. gun nose and astrodome

WAR BRIDE / OLD FAITHFUL B-17F-50-BO 42-5360

358th Bomb Squadron 303rd Bomb Group Molesworth England.
 She was lost to fighters on the 11th of January 1944 over Oschersleben.
 Nine of the crew were taken POW and one KIA.



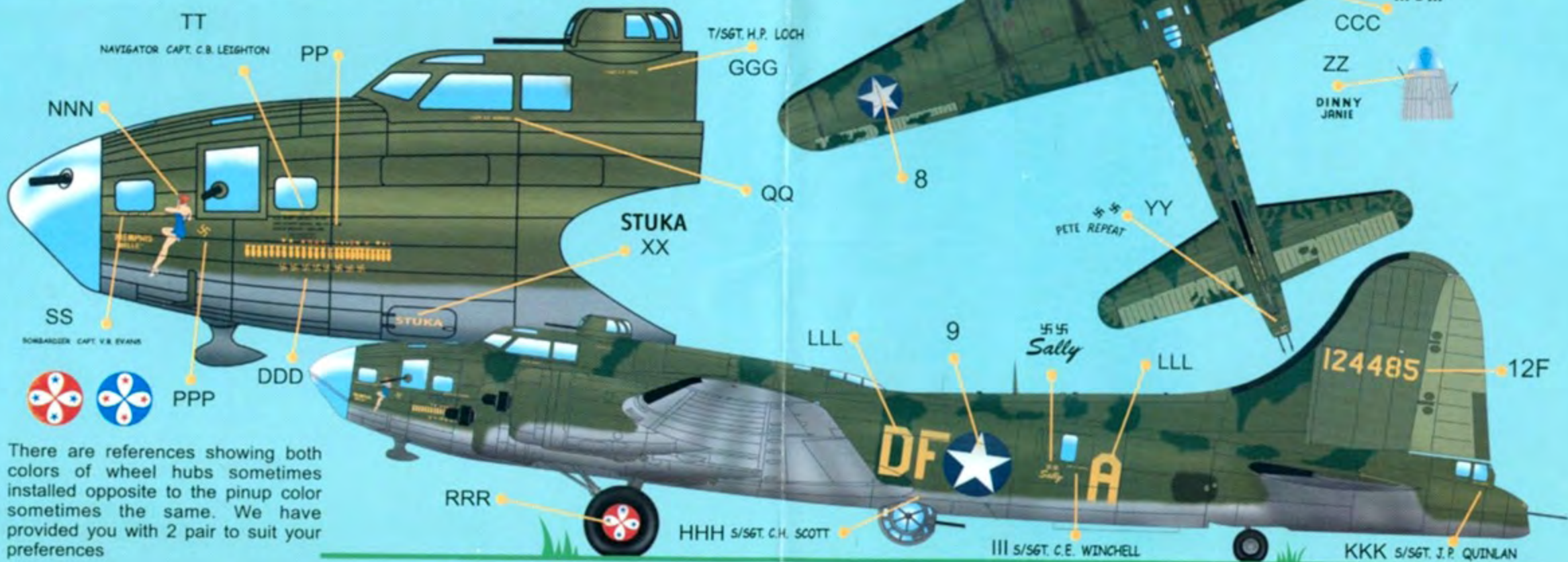
14A See HELL'S ANGELS top view for placement.

MEMPHIS BELLE B-17F-15-BO 41-24485

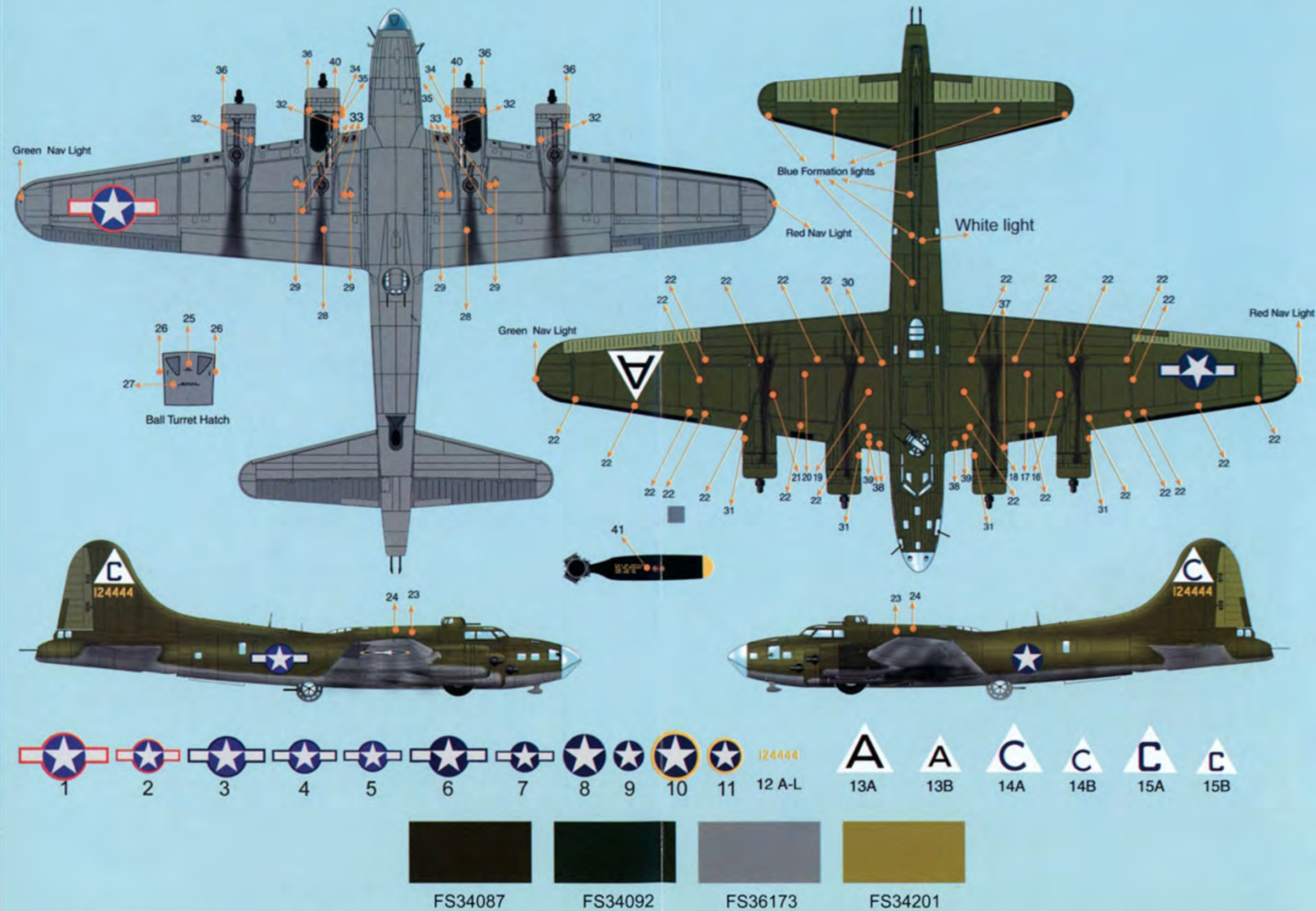
Probably the most famous B-17 of them all, the Memphis Belle was not actually the first B-17 to complete 25 missions, that honour going to the 303rd Bomb Groups HELL'S ANGELS also featured in this set. The Belle was assigned to the 324th Bomb Squadron 91st Bomb Group.



The 91st was known as the 'Ragged Irregulars of Basingbourn'. Many other famous B-17's have come from this group. The Belle was the focus of a wartime documentary directed by William Wyler. This film has recently been remastered on DVD and has provided some of the reference for these markings. She is currently undergoing a final restoration to bring her back to her original configuration.



There are references showing both colors of wheel hubs sometimes installed opposite to the pinup color sometimes the same. We have provided you with 2 pair to suit your preferences



These chips represent fresh paint. Some of these B-17's would have faded to at least fs34201. Control surfaces were dope and usually faded on top quicker than the paint and became much lighter. Factor in scale effect when mixing paint as well, some of these B-17's such as KNOCKOUT DROPPER were very faded and weathered.

NOTES

The Revell 1/48 B-17F as well as Academy and Hasegawa 1/72 B-17F all show 10 fuel fillers on the top of the wings, All of these B-17's featured on this sheet had no Tokyo Tanks and therefore should have the outermost 2 on each wing removed for a total of 6 tank fillers. The data in each tank filler decal is specific to that tank so check the instructions to be sure they are located correctly. Revell's 1/48 B-17F originally had the pitot tubes located correctly but recent releases had them lowered by 2 panels, this will affect placement of some of the nose art, so consult photo's and references for correct placement. Also the Revell 1/48 B-17F ADF 'football' is located too far to the left, it should be on the other side of the panel line closer to the centerline, this will affect how the nose art for Snoozin' Suzan fits the model. Academy's B-17F is available as a late F with the 'Fort Alamo II' version which has only late cheek bulged windows which are incorrect for all versions in our set. The Academy B-17F 'Memphis Belle' version has the flush cheek windows but still needs the astrodome removed for earlier versions, but works well for WAR BRIDE, TWO BEAUTS, THE SHAMROCK SPECIAL and FORT ALAMO II Hasegawa's B-17F is good for all but the above mentioned, as it has no astrodome. All of the nose art was carefully drawn after the original, so if the bombs are a bit out of line, that's because they were on the original.

HONI KUU OKOLE is an E with enlarged cheek windows, some conversion is necessary for the Revell 1/48 kit. It is standard olive drab over neutral gray.

SUPERMAN is an early F with no astrodome and carries 'Operation Torch' yellow insignia outlines and is standard olive drab over neutral gray.

PANAMA HATTIE is an early F with no astrodome and standard olive drab over neutral gray with the outer starboard wing panel and aileron showing medium green blotching, possibly being replaced from another B-17. The name came from the MGM musical featuring Ann Sothern who had blond hair and with no color photo's, this is what we have given her.

THE RED GREMLIN is an early F with no astrodome and standard olive drab over neutral gray and 'Operation Torch' insignia.

SNOOZIN' SUZAN is an early F with no astrodome and standard olive drab over neutral gray and 'Operation Torch' insignia.

MEMPHIS BELLE is an early F with no astrodome and features medium green blotching over standard olive drab and neutral gray. Crew names have been provided but were added after her last mission so are optional. The 'BELLE' sported fancy wheel covers, and it is most probable that one side was blue and the other red, as both have been seen on her in color photo's and film. On her last mission as she taxis up, the port wheel disk is blue and in the previous flyby the starboard is red, this is the most likely intended placement, as it coincides with the bathing suits on the pinups.

BLACK JACK/THE JOKER'S WILD is an early F with no astrodome and standard olive drab over neutral gray.

THE MUSTANG is an early F with no astrodome and standard olive drab over neutral gray. The nose art on the starboard nose was painted right over the aft window and later the horses head was painted over as well, we have left the horses head which you may paint over if desired.

HELL'S ANGELS is an early F with no astrodome and standard olive drab over neutral gray with medium green blotching. At the time of it's return stateside the codes had changed from yellow to gray for the fuselage. The only photo available of the port nose, shows only the name which may explain why most of the photo's show the starboard nose, hence the difference. She also clearly shows the older red surround insignia under her wing, it was common to see the wing insignia left in red surround although you have a choice if you wish otherwise.

KNOCKOUT DROPPER is an early F with no astrodome and standard olive drab over neutral gray with medium green blotching. Her olive paint was very faded and more closely resembles fs34201 sac bomber tan with the green blotching remaining darker. Later in her career she was fitted with the single 50 cal. mount on the nose glazing.

WAR BRIDE/OLD FAITHFUL is a mid production F with astrodome and single 50 cal. nose mount with standard olive drab over neutral gray camouflage.

TWO BEAUTS is a mid production F with astrodome and single 50 cal. nose mount with standard olive drab over neutral gray camouflage. She didn't last long and would have shown very little weathering.

THE SHAMROCK SPECIAL is a mid production F with astrodome and single 50 cal. nose mount with standard olive drab over neutral gray camouflage. She suffered extensive damage from another B-17 in a landing mishap and had the entire rear fuselage changed, the donor B17 being older with larger fuselage insignia and faded as well.

FORT ALAMO II is a mid production F with astrodome and single 50 cal. nose mount with standard olive drab over neutral gray camouflage. Rudder and elevators insignia red with group markings on fin as well as elevator and horizontal stabilizer.

Zotz would like to give a special recognition to Jeff Dick, who, without his assistance we would still be in the "Twilight Zone" Muchas gracias, Sr. B-17!

Eli Raphael

References:

- ◆1 Osprey Aviation Elite Units 303rd Bombardment Group Brian D O'Neill
- ◆2 Osprey Combat Aircraft 18 B-17 Flying Fortress Units of the 8th Airforce (part 1) Martin Bowman
- ◆3 Osprey Combat Aircraft 18 B-17 Flying Fortress Units of the 8th Airforce (part 2) Martin Bowman
- ◆4 Osprey Combat Aircraft 18 B-17 Flying Fortress Units of the MTO William N Hess
- ◆5 Osprey Combat Aircraft 18 B-17 Flying Fortress Units of the Pacific War Martin Bowman
- ◆6 Squadron Pride of Seattle The Story of the First 300 B-17F's Steve Birdsall
- ◆7 Squadron Flying Fortress The Boeing B-17 Ernest R. McDowell
- ◆8 Squadron Air Force Colors Vol. 2 ETO & MTO Dana Bell
- ◆9 Squadron Fighting Colors B-17 Flying Fortress in Color Steve Birdsall
- ◆10 Warbird Tech Vol. 7 Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress Frederick A. Johnsen
- ◆11 B-17 Fortress at War Roger A. Freeman
- ◆12 Motorbooks International B-17 Flying Fortress Jeff Ethell
- ◆13 Sentry Books Fortress in the Sky Peter M. Bowers
- ◆14 Detail & Scale B-17 Flying Fortress Alwyn T. Lloyd Terry D. Moore
- ◆15 Flying Fortress Edward Jablonski
- ◆16 The Mighty Eighth Warpaint and Heraldry Roger A. Freeman
- ◆17 50th Anniversary Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress Peter M. Bowers
- ◆18 Profile #77 B-17 E & F Flying Fortress
- ◆19 Talisman John M. & Donna Campbell
- ◆20 Schiffer Memphis Belle Biography of a B-17 Flying Fortress Brent William Perkins
- ◆21 Schiffer The Ragged Irregulars of Bassingbourn
- ◆22 Castles in the Air Martin Bowman
- ◆23 Arco-Aircam #17 Boeing B-17B-H Flying Fortress
- ◆24 B-17 Noseart Name Directory Wallace R. Forman
- ◆25 The B-17 Flying Fortress Story Roger A. Freeman with David Osborne
- ◆26 B-17F Airplane Inspection & Maintenance Manual
- ◆27 www.91stbombgroup.com
- ◆28 www.memphisbelle.com
- ◆29 www.303rdbga.com
- ◆30 Memphis Belle William Wyler color film documentary.

Fortunato Zua Zua 48, México D.F. 02400 México
Tes.: (52) 555 3833259 www.aircraftresourcecenter.com/albatros
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