

Modelling The P 47 Thunderbolt

P-47 Thunderbolt at War P-47 Thunderbolt Pilot's Flight Operating Manual The P-47 Thunderbolt P-47 Thunderbolt vs German Flak Defenses P-47 Thunderbolt at War Republic P-47 Thunderbolt Schweinfurt - Regensburg 1943 Modelling the P-47 Thunderbolt P-47 Thunderbolt in Detail & Scale Thunderbolt The P-47 Thunderbolt P-47 THUNDERBOLT. Official Catalogue P-47 Thunderbolt Units of the Twelfth Air Force Republic P-47 Thunderbolt Army Republic's P-47 Thunderbolt P-47 Thunderbolt with the USAAF in the MTO, Asia and Pacific Republic P-47 Thunderbolt P-47 Thunderbolt vs Bf 109G/K Cory Graff Periscope Film Com Len Morgan Jonathan Bernstein Cory Graff Maciej Noszczak Marshall Michel III Brett Green Bert Kinzey Dan Patterson Len Morgan United States Centennial Commission Jonathan Bernstein Tomasz Szlagor Warren M. Bodie Tomasz Szlagor Maciej Noszczak Martin Bowman

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known as the jug because of its fuselage shape the republic p 47 thunderbolt flew in every theatre of wwii except alaska nearly 13 000 were built by war s end the large aircraft carrier eight browning machine guns and up to 2 000 lbs of bombs or rockets and proved an effective fighter and bomber the radial pratt and whitney powerplant put out over 2500 h p and propelled the p 47 at a maximum speed of 426 mph at 30 000 feet originally published by the u s army air force this handbook taught pilots everything they needed to know before entering the cockpit this affordable facsimile of a real wwii manual has been reformatted care has been taken to preserve the integrity of the text

since the end of world war 2 the tactical air war over europe has been largely

overlooked by historians and authors alike in favour of analysis of the higher profile strategic bombing campaign involving just as many aircraft as the daylight heavy bombing campaign the fighter bombers principally of the ninth air force wreaked considerably more havoc on german ground forces indeed thunderbolt units undertaking such missions effectively complemented the strategic campaign ensuring the defeat of nazi germany p 47 pilots paid a high price to achieve this victory however as the german flak arm was well equipped nearly a quarter of all war related production was devoted to anti aircraft weaponry with weapons of various calibres to counter tactical air power s low to medium altitude threat the usaaf four numbered air forces that saw action over the european continent suffered significant fighter bomber losses to flak the principle fighter bomber from the summer of 1944 through to ve day was the p 47d with both dedicated ground attack units and squadrons that had completed their bomber escort tasking seeking out targets of opportunity across occupied western europe while heavy calibre anti aircraft fire was intended to both shoot down enemy aircraft and force bombers to drop their ordnance sooner or from higher altitudes thus reducing bombing accuracy low altitude flak batteries put up a virtual wall of steel for enemy fighter bombers to fly through damaging a low flying fighter bomber made it easier for other flak gunners to track engage and destroy it innovations like lead computing gunsights gave gunners a higher probability of intercepting low altitude fighters conversely the appearance of air to ground rockets beneath the wings of p 47s gave pilots better standoff range and a harder hitting punch when dealing with low and medium altitude flak units this volume analyses the tactics and techniques used by both p 47 fighter bomber pilots and german flak gunners featuring full colour illustrations to examine the allied tactical air power in europe from 1943 and how german defences were overpowered by the air threat

perhaps the most significant fighter aircraft of world war ii the republic p 47 thunderbolt was the largest and most powerful single engine fighter of the war and with over fifteen thousand p 47s built its production numbers topped any other american fighter p 47 thunderbolt at war traces the history of the p 47 including the pioneering efforts of alexander de seversky and alexander kartveli who designed the prototype the features that played into the p 47s combat performance and its wartime construction and testing the rugged thunderbolts flew in combat across europe africa and the pacific as fighter escort and fighter bomber they are brought to life through numerous photographs many in full color and through personal war stories from the men who flew them affectionately known as jugs p 47s may not have been the most agile fighters but they could take a pounding and get back home an attribute worthy of any pilots affection p 47 thunderbolt at war includes

personal war stories of fighter plane combat in europe the mediterranean and the pacific tales of the aircrafts postwar adventures in china algeria and south america in the 1950s and a number of republic p 47 thunderbolt specifications charts and diagrams

before the p 47 thunderbolt gained a bubble top fairing these fighters had slightly different some claim to be more racial figure in the first versions the plane had a typical canopy built into the fuselage which resulted in a slightly hunched line the first copies of the p 47b underwent a series of tests at the turn of 1941 and 1942 initially they were not very promising one of the planes was lost because of the tail tearing off during the dive in addition at heights above 9144 m the flaps froze it was impossible to open the cabin hood and the forces on the rudders were very big at high speeds the paint covering the elevators fell off and the aerodynamic pressure inflated their sheath they were covered with canvas causing dangerous tail vibrations to remedy these problems metal sheathing was introduced elevators shape was changed and weight flaps were added the propulsion of the p 47b version was a 2000 hp r 2800 21 engine the time to reach the ceiling of 4572 m was 6 7 minutes the aircraft developed a speed of 690 km h at an altitude of 8230 m in horizontal flight which was a great result

this is an up to date history of the us army air force s pioneering but costly raids on germany s messerschmitt and ball bearing factories in world war ii in 1943 the usaaf and raf launched the combined bomber offensive designed to systematically destroy the industries that the german war machine relied on at the top of the hit list were aircraft factories and plants making ball bearings a component thought to be a critical vulnerability schweinfurt in southern germany was home to much of the ball bearing industry and together with the messerschmitt factory in regensburg which built bf 109 fighters it was targeted in a huge and innovative strike precision required that the targets were hit in daylight but the raid was beyond the range of any existing escort fighter so the b 17s would go in unprotected the solution was to hit the two targets in a coordinated double strike with the regensburg strike hitting first drawing off the defending luftwaffe fighters and leaving the way clear for the schweinfurt bombers the regensburg force would carry on over the alps to north africa the first example of us shuttle bombing although the attack on regensburg was successful the damage to schweinfurt only temporarily stalled production and the eighth air force had suffered heavy losses it would take a sustained campaign not just a single raid to cripple the schweinfurt works however when a follow up raid was finally launched two months later the losses sustained were even greater this book explains how the usaaf launched its daylight bombing campaign in 1943 the technology and tactics available for the schweinfurt regensburg missions and how

these costly failures forced a change of tack

the p 47 thunderbolt affectionately nicknamed the jug was one of the most famous fighter aircraft of world war ii used as both a high altitude escort fighter and a low level fighter bomber it quickly gained a reputation for being tough and resilient many different air forces operated this plane and it sported a wide range of camouflage schemes finishes and markings including stunning nose art this book takes a step by step approach to modelling a wide variety of p 47 types in 1 48 scale from razorbacks in usaaf colours to raf t bolts in east asia it provides expert advice on conversions including a bubbletop to a p 47m adding aftermarket items detailing and ways to achieve top quality weathering and finishes

the republic p 47 thunderbolt was one of the most heralded and recognizable fighters of world war ii built in larger numbers than any other american fighter aircraft in history a record that will surely never be broken the p 47 evolved during the war from an interceptor design to that of a long range fighter with excellent fighter bomber capabilities from the original razorback p 47b that could not carry any external stores to the bubbletop p 47n with larger wings and the ability to carry a wide array of external fuel tanks and ordnance this book covers every aspect of the fighter that became known as the jug detail scale published its first book on republic s p 47 thunderbolt in 1998 twenty five years later this new publication p 47 thunderbolt in detail scale significantly revises and expands our original coverage of the big radial engine fighter that endeared itself to many pilots as the rugged and survivable aircraft that would bring them home following an introduction the thunderbolt history chapter traces the origins of the thunderbolt covering the previous seversky and republic efforts that led up to its design and development this chapter then continues with how the different production variants from the p 47b through the p 47n improved the capabilities of the aircraft as each succeeding production block and version became operational next is the thunderbolt variants chapter which takes a closer look at each version of the p 47 in more detail all of the production variants as well as the experimental thunderbolts are included in this informative chapter line drawings that point out important changes and enhancements made to the production variants were drawn specifically for detail scale by lloyd s jones the primary focus of the detail scale series of aviation publications is on the details of the aircraft the thunderbolt details chapter has ten different sections that include 170 detail photographs that cover the p 47 in incredible detail both inside and out and from the propeller hub to the position light on the trailing edge of the rudder the large majority of these photographs are in color and most were taken by the author specifically for the original book and for this publication to ensure that every possible detail would be illustrated no less than

ten different p 47s were photographed as with all detail scale series books our modelers section provides coverage of the scale model kits of the thunderbolt in the quarter century since our original book on the jug was published a considerable number of new kits have been released and reviews of these have been added to the modeler section kits in all popular standard modeling scales from 1/144th through 1/24th scales are included p 47 thunderbolt in detail scale has more than 260 photographs over 190 of which are in color 11 drawings and 9 color profiles

thunderbolt

the p 47 thunderbolt originally designed as a high altitude interceptor became the principal us fighter bomber of world war ii first adapted to the ground attack role by units of the twelfth air force in early 1944 the strength and durability of the p 47 airframe along with its massive size earned it the nickname juggernaut which was quickly shortened to jug throughout the mto and eto by october 1943 with the creation of the fifteenth air force nearly half of the twelfth s fighter groups would be retasked with strategic escort missions leaving six groups to perform close air support and interdiction missions throughout the entire mediterranean theatre the groups inflicted incredible damage on the enemy s transport routes in particular using rockets bombs napalm and machine gun rounds to down bridges blow up tunnels and strafe trains myriad first hand accounts and period photography reveal the spectacular success enjoyed by the thunderbolt in the mto in the final year of the war

free 1/48 and 1/72 decals and masking foil the last fourth part of a monograph on p 47 thunderbolt discusses its combat use as fighter bomber in western europe during the last few months of ww2 the air battles over southern europe in 1944 1945 are also thoroughly described another chapter is devoted to thunderbolt s service in the raf the free french af the brazilian af the mexican af and the chinese af together with other foreign operators the author uncovers the fates of particular fighter units as well as individual pilots who fought in them the book includes technical data and lists of units operating the p 47 free 1/48 and 1/72 decals for 3 schemes p 47d 30 ra s n 44 33721 of escuadron aereo de pelea 201 july 1945 p 47d 30 re of the columbian air force p 47d 40 ra s n 45 49506 of grupo de aviacion 11 chile about the series monographs focuses on an individual type of aircraft each monograph contains descriptions of the aircraft s origin its variants and combat history each volume includes several hundred archive photographs technical scale drawings and color profile artwork each book also has free extras for modelers with decals and masking foil

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p 47 thunderbolt's service outside western europe in three other major theaters of world war ii the mediterranean asia and pacific although perhaps not as publicized was no less colorful and varied which makes it an excellent subject for a photo story during the long campaign in italy thunderbolt was the best air interdiction aircraft the allies had pitted against german and italian fighters it proved more than a match in the pacific thunderbolt easily held its own against japanese fighters over new guinea and later over japan's home islands armed with fire bombs bazookas and other ordnance it earned distinction as close air support aircraft during the invasion of marianas also in china burma india theater the p 47 excelled both as fighter and fighter bomber with the renowned air commandos among other units

the p 47d was the most produced version of the thunderbolt fighter from overall number of 15 683 p 47s built the 12 609 of them were the version d the first trial p 47d left the factory in september 1942 the first serial version of the p 47d was the d 1 re variant which can be easily distinguished from the p 47c by its additional blinds on lower part of the engine cowling the important change was also the additional cockpit armor the most important variant of the early p 47ds was the p 47d 5 version it received the installation which injected the water and methanol mixture to the r 2800 21 engine's cylinders during the autumn of year 1943 another variant of the p 47d was developed p 47d 10 with new r 2800 63 engine in next version p 47d 11 the usage of the water methanol mixture was automatic the injection was triggered by the maximum push of the throttle lever the plane also received the gun camera in another version p 47d 15 the capacity of the front fuel tank was enlarged so the maximum range of the p 47 increased too the d 15 variant was equipped with two b 10 racks under the wings which allowed to make different configurations of the payload bombs and fuel tanks another innovation was the detachable canopy in case of emergency also the shape of two lower blinds was modified the p 47d 20 received the new engine r 2800 59 which had a different ignition system the d 20 variant also received the higher tail wheel fork and redesigned racks under the wings the most important change of the construction took place between spring and summer of the year 1944 when the production of the p 47d 22 and d 23 has started the d 22 version built in farmingdale factory received the hamilton standard hydromatic 24e50 65 propeller with 4 01 m in diameter the planes produced in evansville d 23 had curtiss electric c542s a114 propeller with 3 96 m in diameter the new propellers considerably improved the climbing rate of the p 47s

the p 47 climbed like a homesick angel and dived for the deck like a rock this was due to the mighty power of its air cooled turbo supercharged double wasp engine

combined with a brutish barrel shaped airframe the deadly firepower was totally destructive the world s largest single engined fighter when the usa entered the war the p 47 s 18 cylinders vibrated the whole aircraft like it was going to destroy itself more thunderbolts were built than any other american fighter in history in december 1942 the p 47 was the only readily available american produced high performance fighter at altitudes up to 15 000 ft its rival the bf 109g had all round better performance than the p 47c most notably in rate of climb the thunderbolt s performance progressively improved above 15 000 ft and between 25 000 to 30 000 ft it surpassed those of the enemy fighters except for rate of climb and acceleration the p 47 was double the weight of a bf 109 although the latter could initially accelerate well in a dive the p 47c soon overhauled it and easily out dived the messerschmitt from high altitudes p 47 pilots were advised to avoid combats at low altitudes and slow speeds thunderbolt pilots were synonymous with the might of the eighth air force s fighter strength from the summer of 1943 until the end of the conflict during which time the p 47 was operated in the escort ground strafing and dive bombing roles the p 47 was flown exclusively by gabby gabreski and robert johnson the top two scoring american fighter aces in the eto mto all told the thunderbolt was flown by 18 of the top 30 american aces in europe during the war while the bf 109g was the staple defense of the reich fighter from 1943 to war s end the numerous aspects of the pilots training the tactics they used once in combat and the leading edge technology employed by these second generation world war 2 fighters is covered in detail as is the continual development of both fighter types finally the key elements of both fighters the airframe engine armament and flying characteristics are also explored through first hand accounts from the aces that went head to head in the war torn skies of europe

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