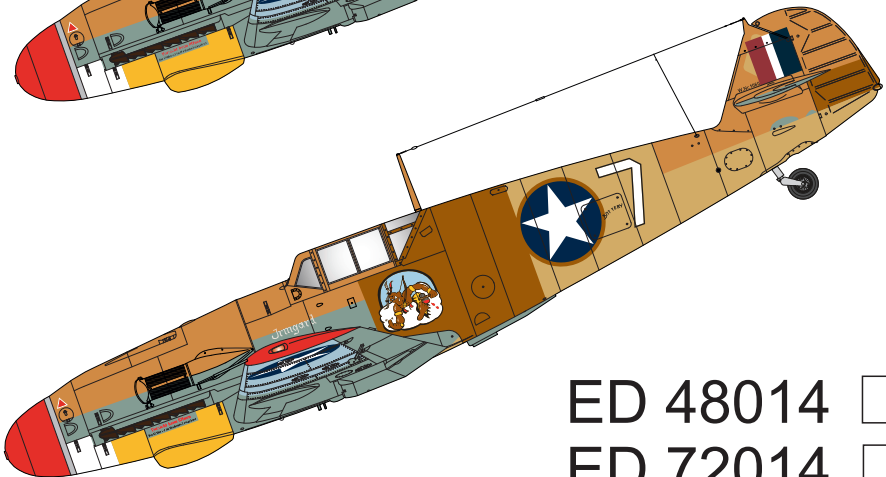
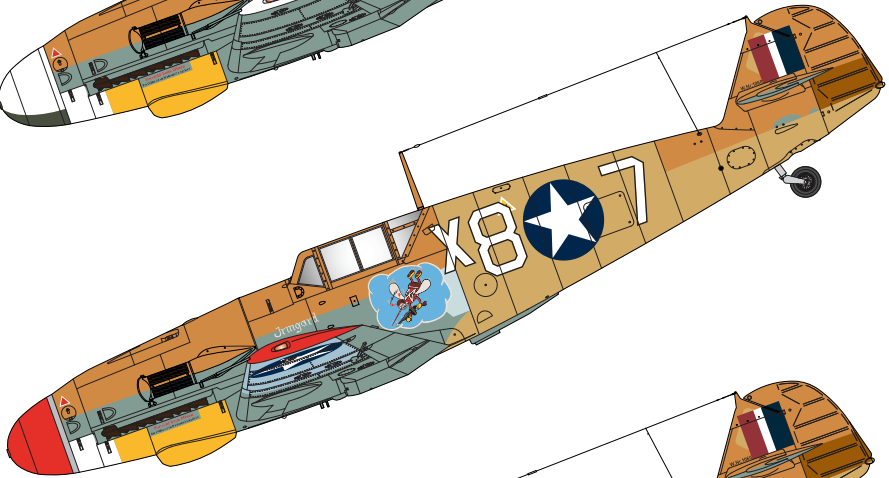
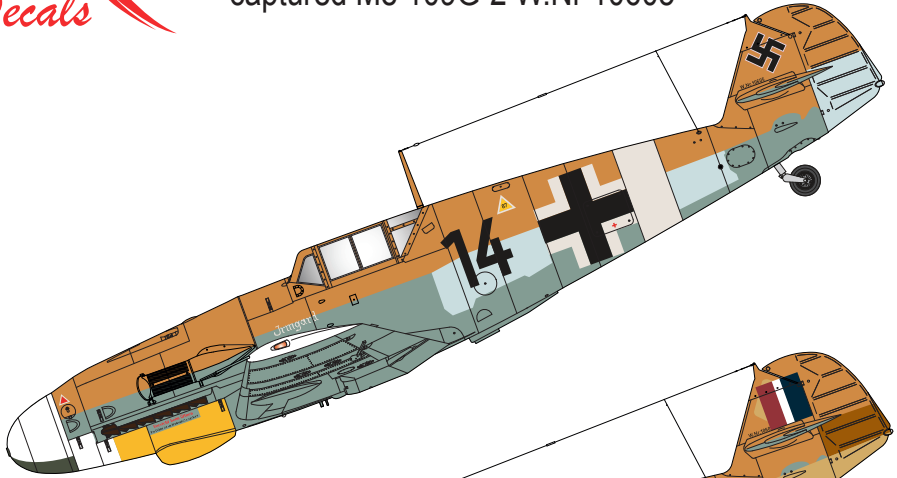




# Irmgard

American Gustav in Tunisia  
captured Me 109G-2 W.Nr 10605



ED 48014

ED 72014

# Irmgard - American Gustav in Tunisia

When flying low on 20th February 1943, German fighter was shot down near Zarzis, Tunisia. He was hit with series of bullets by soldiers of "The Gordon Highlanders". The shot down aircraft of 2.(H)/14 (an Army Co-operation Reconnaissance Flight) had painted a name "Irmgard" just below canopy. The plane was piloted by Lt.Wernicke (according to other sources it was flown by Hpt.Ehlers - Staffelfkapitan of 2.(H)/14). The aircraft was a reconnaissance fighter (Me 109G-2/R2 "Black 14", Werknummer 10605) with cameras installed instead of cannons.

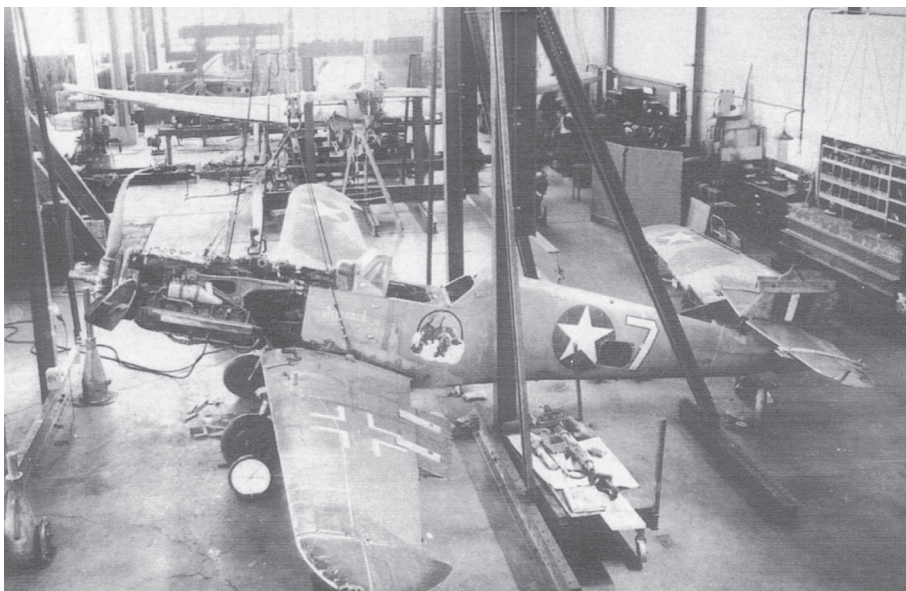
The plane had been captured by the British and then it was taken over by the Americans. The trophy landed in 79th FG USAAF where it was handed over to 87th FS staff stationed in Causeway LG near Zarzis. American mechanics restored "Gustav" to flying conditions.

They painted white stars on fuselage and wings and British Fin Flash. The plane was also given a number "X8\*7". One of the American pilots damaged „Irmgard” due to belly landing.

After the accident the aircraft was sent to 86th FS (another 79th FG squadron) where it received the unit's "Comanche" markings.

Maj. Frederic Borsodi had piloted the "One-O-Nine" to the Suez canal Zone where it was later prepared to be sent to the USA.

On 1st November 1943 "Gustav" was sent to the Static Tests Building at Wright Field. The aircraft was completely destroyed when it was tested with strength of materials between 27th January and 13th May 1944. After the tests had finished the aircraft was written off.



Tests in Static Test Building at Wright Field  
Please note that left wing is from another aircraft

*info from Jacek Jackiewicz & Mirosław Wawrzyński book "Captured ME 109s"*



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