## 1/144 MiG-17 "From Legnica With Love"



The end of II World War saw the 2nd Belarussian Front transformed into Northern Group of Soviet Armed Forces in Poland and settled into semipermament garrisons scattered throughout western part of the country. It took 11 more years before this ad-hoc arrangement was formalized. According to agreement between USSR and Poland on average 62-66k Soviet soldiers (army, aviation and navy) stationed in 77 garrisons, 13 air bases, 3km of piers, 64km of railway sidings, 5 firing ranges totaling 60k ha and more than 112k ha of other land. To accommodate the personnel and their families totaling at ~90k, more than 240 residential buildings were erected. All this led to Soviet enclaves forming in certain areas of Poland. Command and Control structures of Northern Group were located in Legnica - a medium size town in south-western region of the country. The Soviet enclave in Legnica was sizeable and had a significant impact on life of the town. Russian Armed Forces left Poland in 1990-1993.

This MiG-17 was a display monument in front of museum in Legnica. The supplementary markings on this aircraft, applied in period just preceding the withdrawal of Soviet Army, reflect the rather rough feelings Polish citizens had towards unwelcomed guests, all in a manner somewhat contradicting traditional local hospitality...







