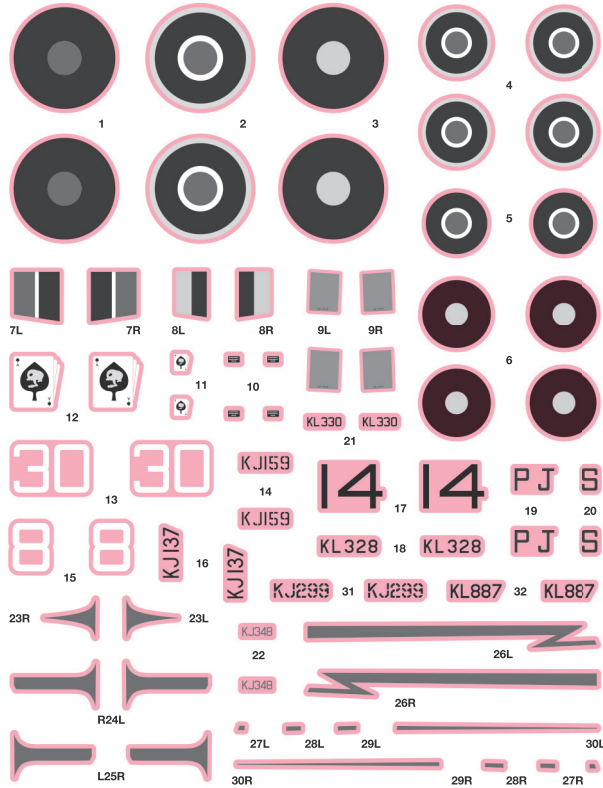


SO314437

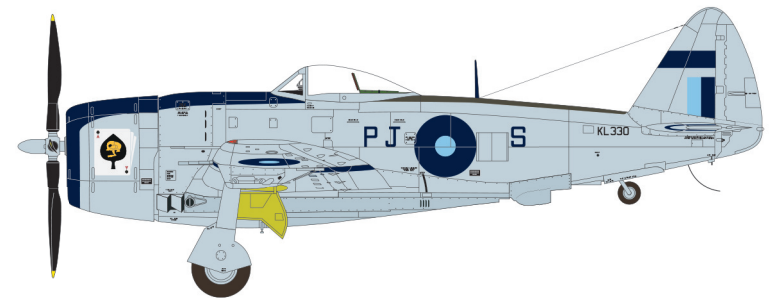
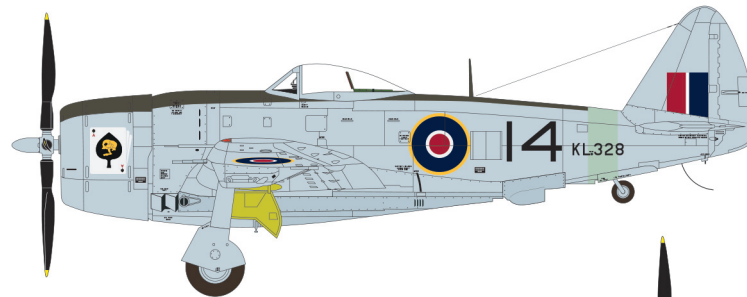
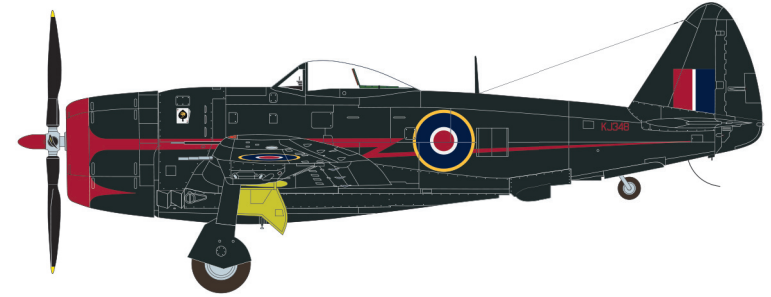
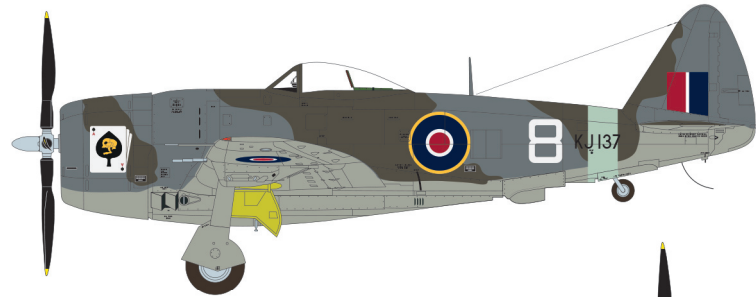
1/144 RAF Thunderbolts Mk.II – 73 OTU

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Oddity



SO314437 1/144 RAF Thunderbolts Mk.II – 73 OTU

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This decal set is recommended for Platz-Bego and recent F-Toys kits. Decals are made using silk print technology (BOA Bodecek Agency) and feature a limited amount of transparent base around the graphics.

Five 73 OTU 'Jugs' plus two 'plain' RAF machines are depicted in this set. Our other RAF P-47D set (SO314447) covers selected SEAC airframes.

SO314437

1/144 RAF Thunderbolts Mk.II – 73 OTU

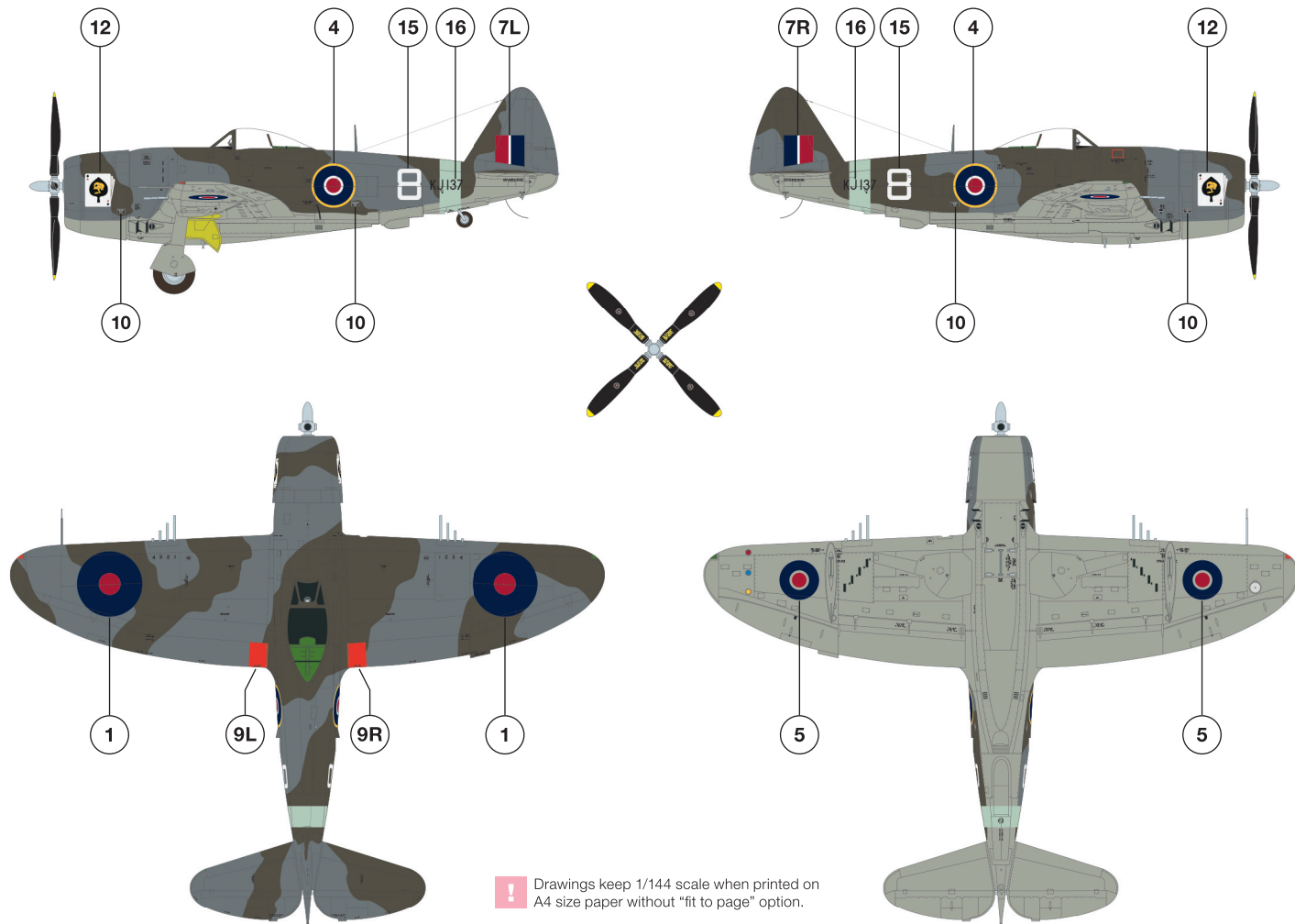
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Oddity

P-47D-28-RE 44-19628, KJ137, white 8,
No.73 Operational Training Unit RAF,
Air Command South East Asia, Fayid, Egypt 02.1945

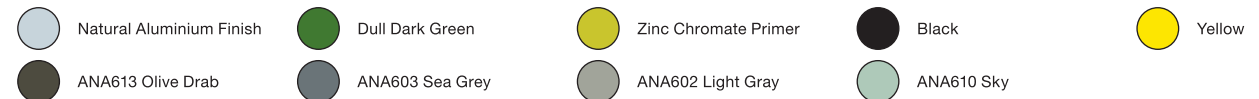
It was delivered from United States in a factory
applied camouflage – the US paints were
used! Also, full stencilling was visible (available
separately as Shelf Oddity decal set SO314431).

The paddle blades of Curtiss-Electric propellers
featured manufacturers markings and the yellow
stencilling. Yellow propeller tips were visible.

During of 73 OTU service the wheel hubs' inner sides
seem to be covered with flat wheel caps (most likely
in Natural Aluminium finish).



Colour guide:



SO314437

1/144 RAF Thunderbolts Mk.II – 73 OTU

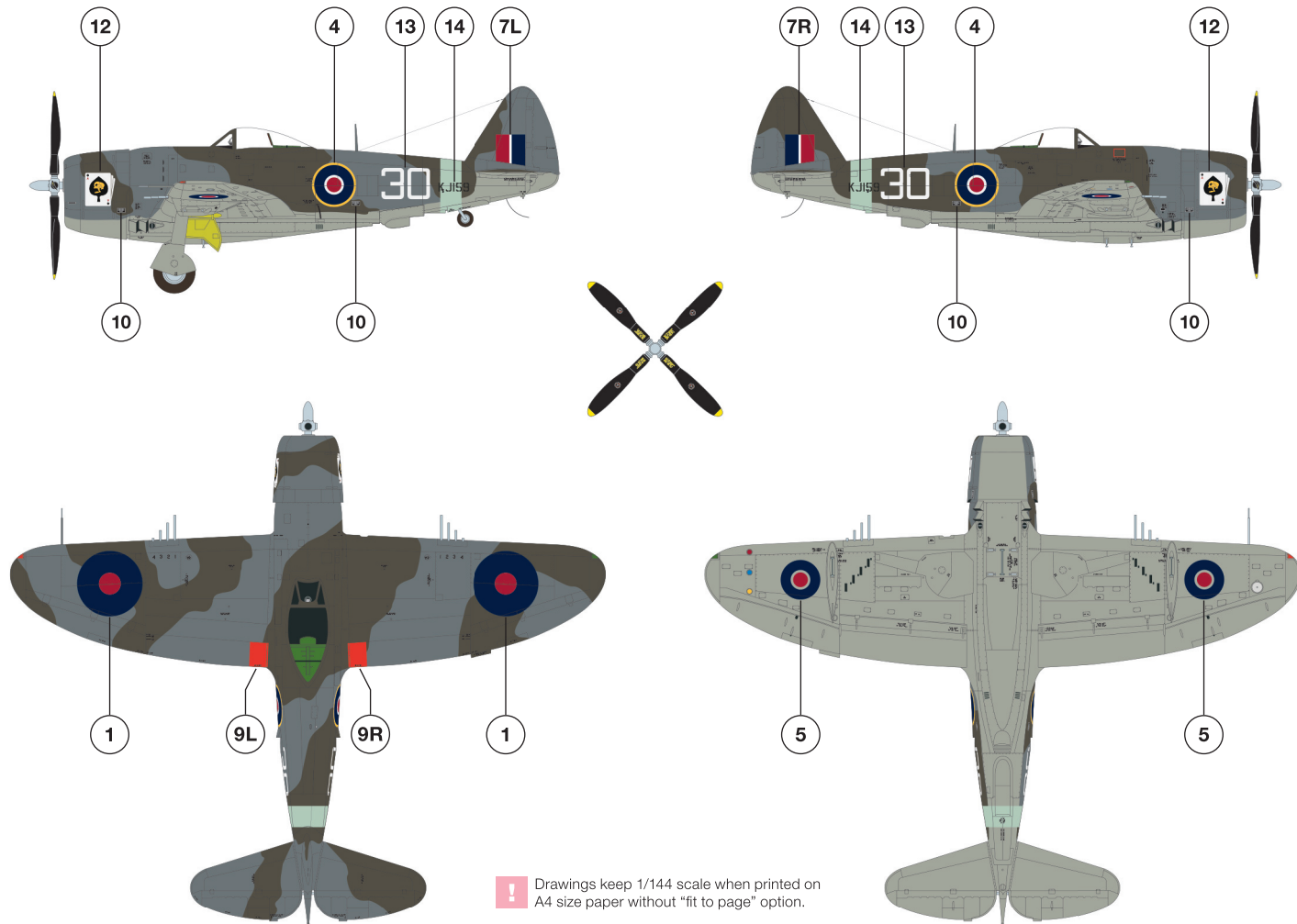
Shelf
Oddity

P-47D-28-RE 44-19650, KJ159, white 30,
No.73 Operational Training Unit RAF,
Air Command South East Asia, Fayid, Egypt 1945

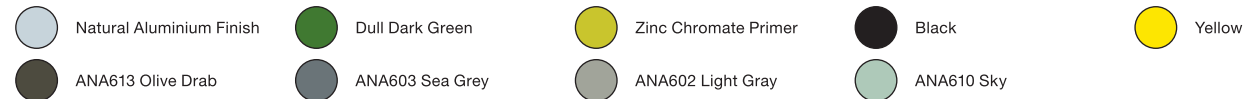
It was delivered from United States in a factory
applied camouflage – the US paints were
used! Also, full stencilling was visible (available
separately as Shelf Oddity decal set SO314431).

The paddle blades of Curtiss-Electric propellers most
likely featured manufacturers markings and the yellow
stencilling. Yellow propeller tips were visible.

The wheel hubs' inner sides were most likely spoked
with Natural Aluminium finish.



Colour guide:



SO314437

1/144 RAF Thunderbolts Mk.II – 73 OTU

Shelf
Oddity

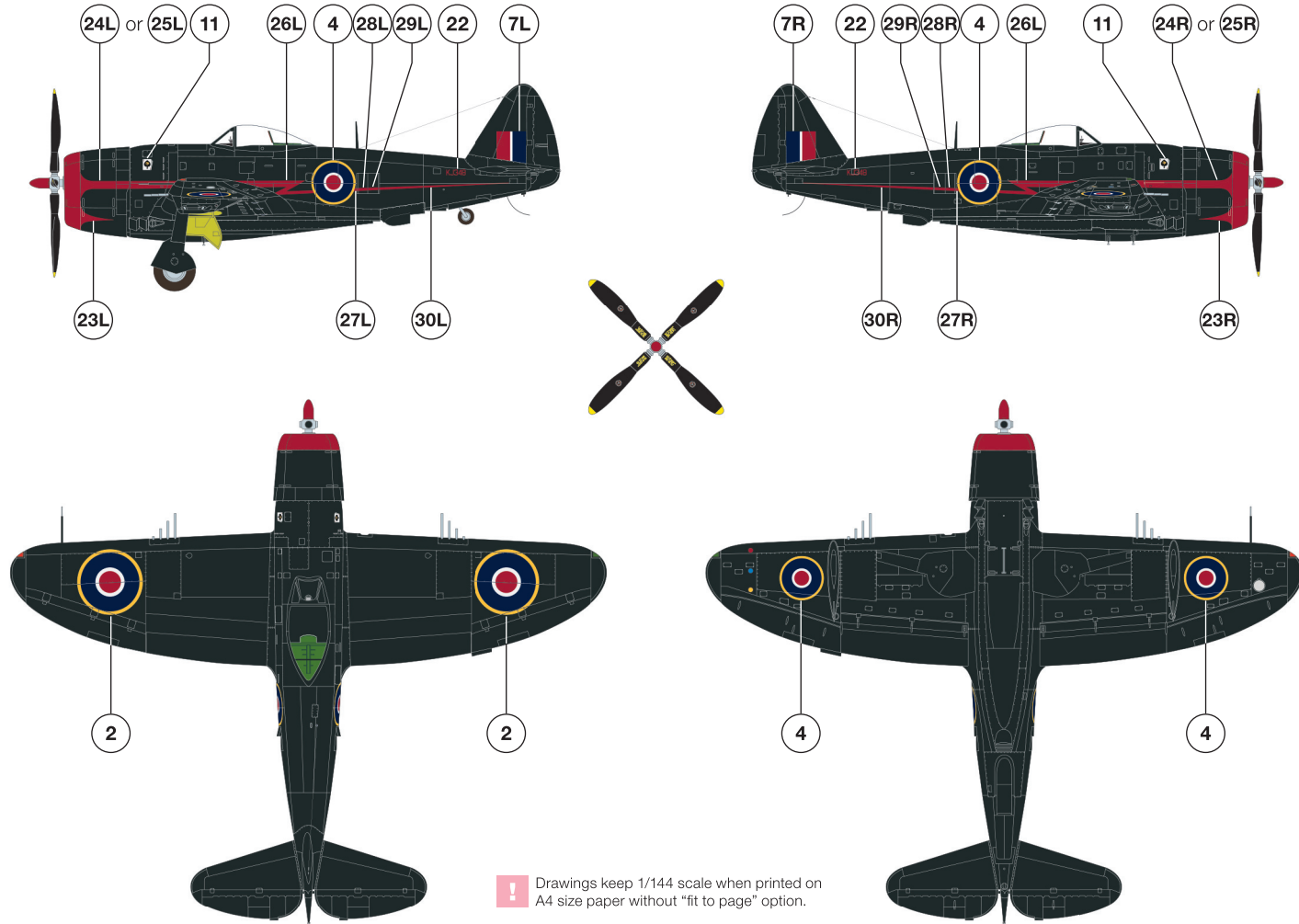
P-47D-30-RE 44-20508, KJ347, G/C Frank Carey
No.73 Operational Training Unit RAF,
Air Command South East Asia, Fayid, Egypt 1945

As a commander's plane it was repainted all-black
(of rather semi-matt finish) with Dull-Red trim.
The stencilling has been most likely painted over.

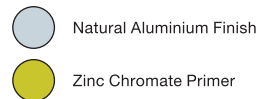
The paddle blades of Curtiss-Electric propellers
featured manufacturers markings and the yellow
stencilling. Yellow propeller tips were visible.

The wheel hubs' inner sides were covered with
flat wheel caps in Natural Aluminium finish.

! Use decals 24L/24R for the Platz-Bego/Eduard kit
and 25L/25R for the F-Toys one.



Colour guide:



SO314437

1/144 RAF Thunderbolts Mk.II – 73 OTU

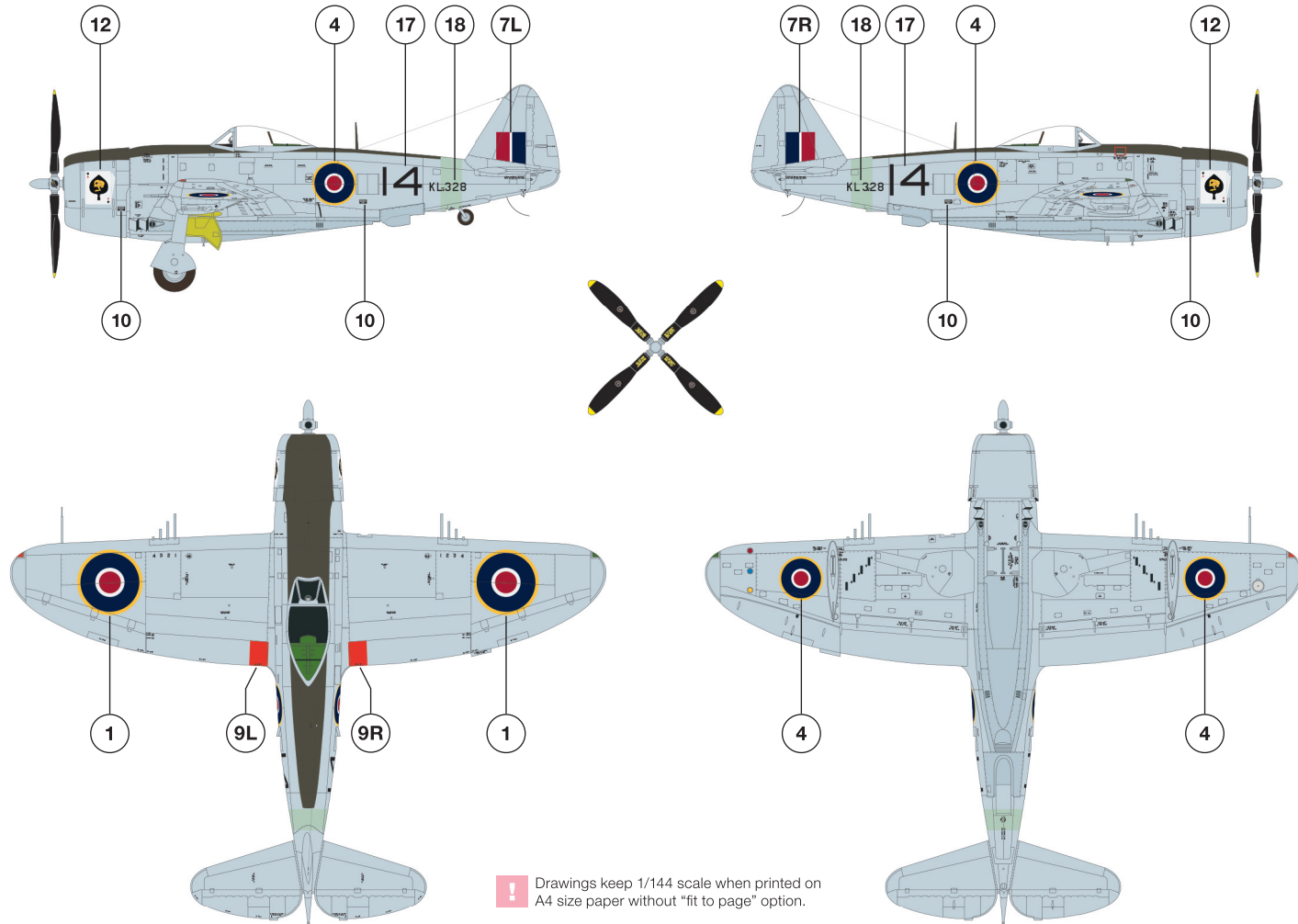
Shelf
Oddity

P-47D-30-RE 44-20957, KL328, black 14,
No.73 Operational Training Unit RAF,
Air Command South East Asia, Fayid, Egypt 1945

It was delivered from United States in a factory NMF
finish – the US paint may have been used for the
tail band. Also, full stencilling was visible (available
separately as Shelf Oddity decal set SO314431).

The paddle blades of Curtiss-Electric propellers most
likely featured manufacturers markings and the yellow
stencilling. Yellow propeller tips were visible.

The wheel hubs' inner sides were spoked with Natural
Aluminium finish.



Colour guide:



SO314437

1/144 RAF Thunderbolts Mk.II – 73 OTU

Shelf
Oddity

P-47D-30-RE 44-20959, KL330, PJ-S,
No.73 Operational Training Unit RAF,
Personal mount of WC P.J.S. 'Paddy' Stephenson
Air Command South East Asia, Fayid, Egypt July 1945

Most likely it was delivered from United States
in a factory NMF finish. Also, full stencilling was
visible (available separately as Shelf Oddity decal
set SO314431). The front of the engine cowling as well
as the bands on the wings and tail were kept Dull Blue.

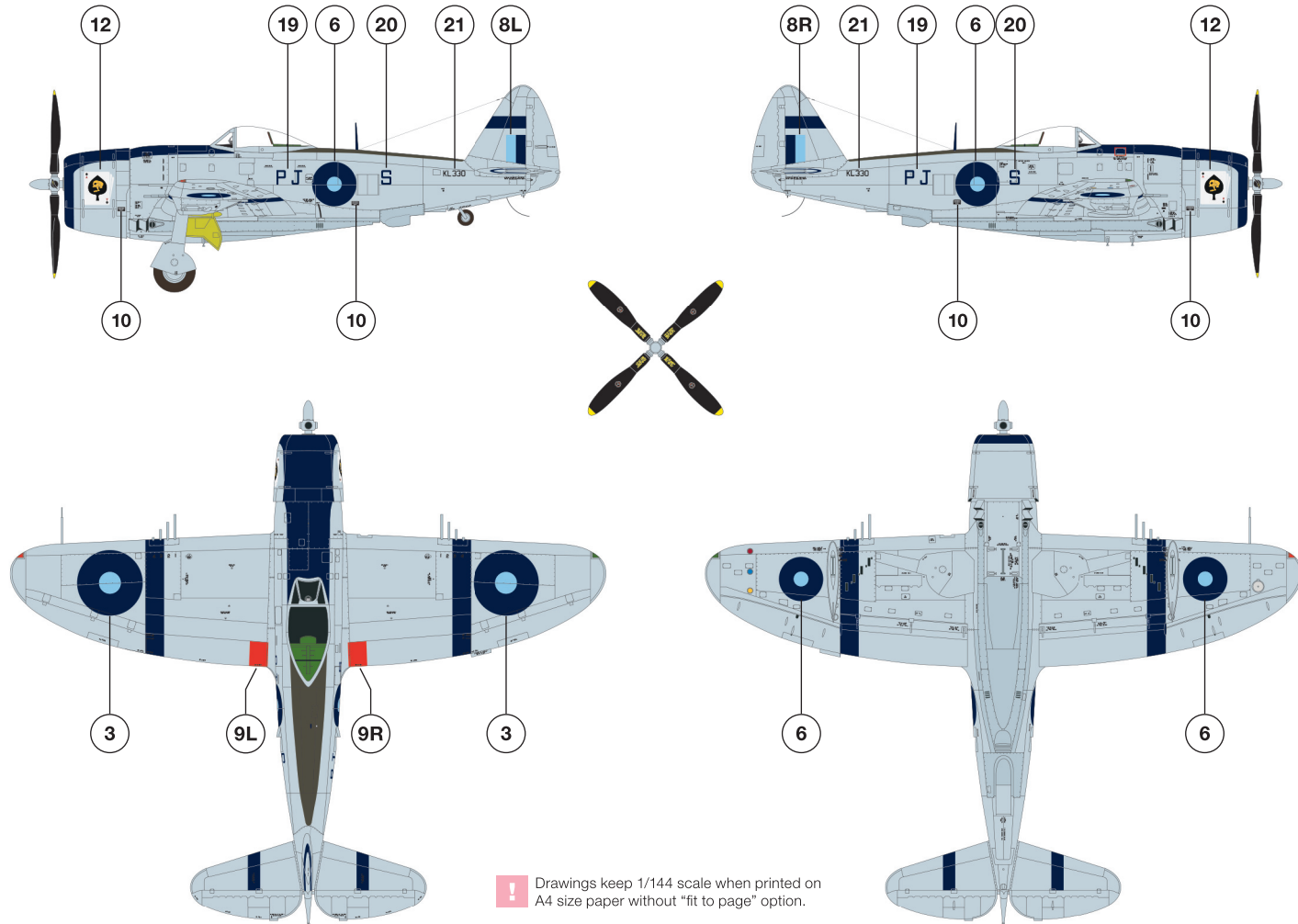
This rather unusual machine featuring large SEAC-style
RAF markings in combination with 73 OTU emblems
most likely was a personal mount of an unknown higher
rank pilot (all 73 OTU records for this period have been
destroyed) and could have been used to accustom
new pilots with the markings used in the Far East
theatre.

Note: the empennage markings are guesstimated
as the tail is non-visible on the only photo of this a/c.
The presence of red square wing root markings
is also a guesstimate.

The paddle blades of Curtiss-Electric propellers most
likely featured manufacturers markings and the yellow
stencilling. Yellow propeller tips were visible.

The wheel hubs' inner sides were covered with
flat wheel caps in Natural Aluminium finish.

Update: The colour and the shape of the front
antiglare panel has been identified as Dull Blue.
The main antennae mast has also been Dull Blue.



! Drawings keep 1/144 scale when printed on
A4 size paper without "fit to page" option.

Colour guide:



SO314437

1/144 RAF Thunderbolts Mk.II – 73 OTU

Shelf
Oddity

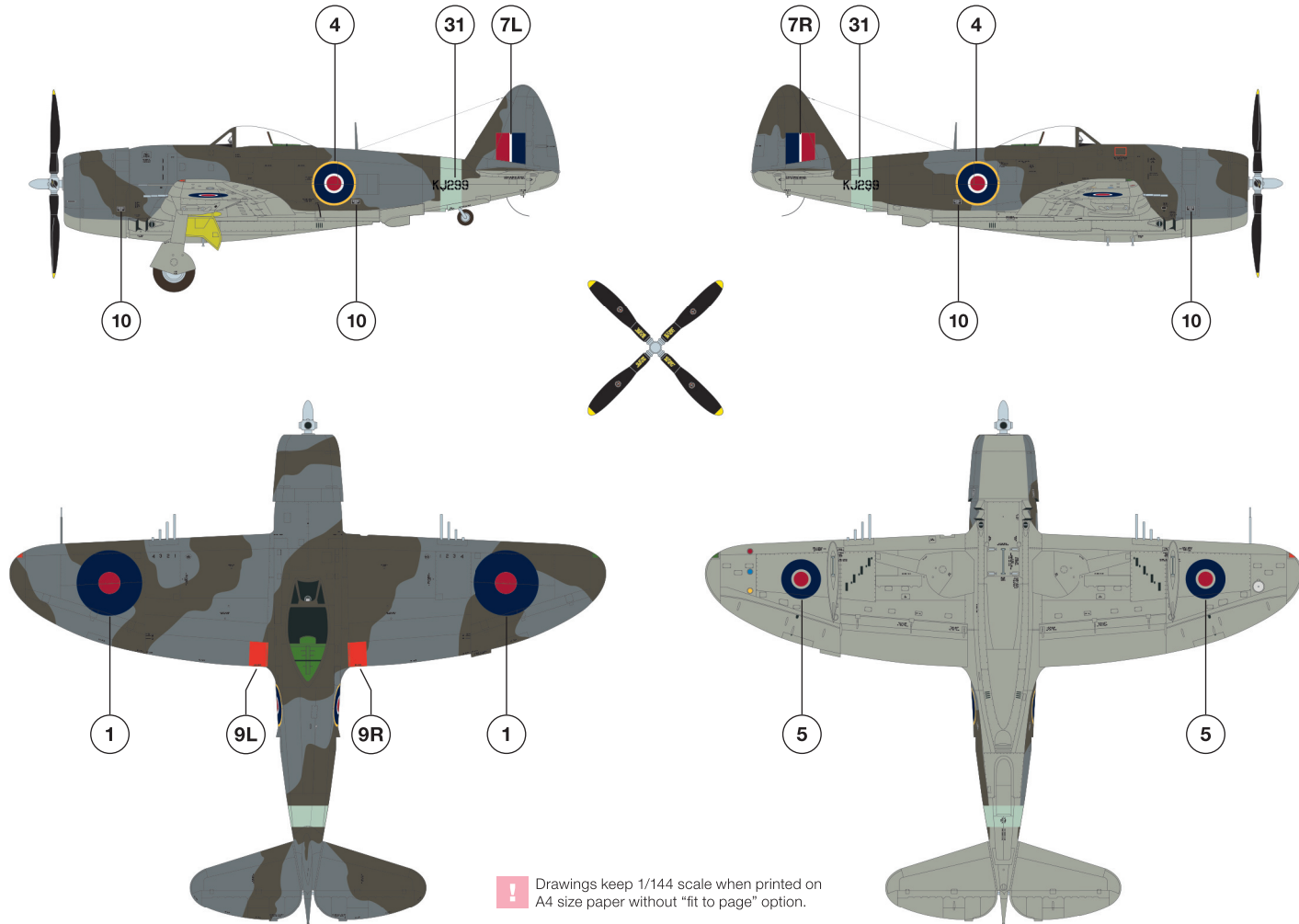
P-47D-30-RE 44-20309, KJ299,
Heston Aircraft Company, Heston, UK 1944

Aircraft used for trials in UK.

It was delivered from United States in a factory applied camouflage – the US paints were used! Also, full stencilling was visible (available separately as Shelf Oddity decal set SO314431).

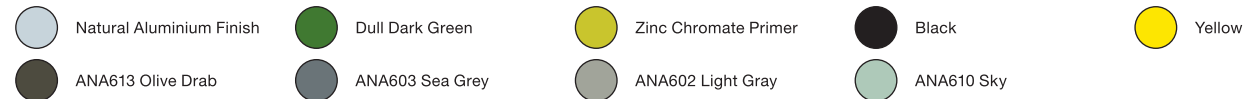
The paddle blades of Curtiss-Electric propellers featured manufacturers markings and the yellow stencilling. Yellow propeller tips were visible.

The wheel hubs' inner sides were spoked with Natural Aluminium finish.



! Drawings keep 1/144 scale when printed on A4 size paper without "fit to page" option.

Colour guide:



SO314437

1/144 RAF Thunderbolts Mk.II – 73 OTU

Shelf
Oddity

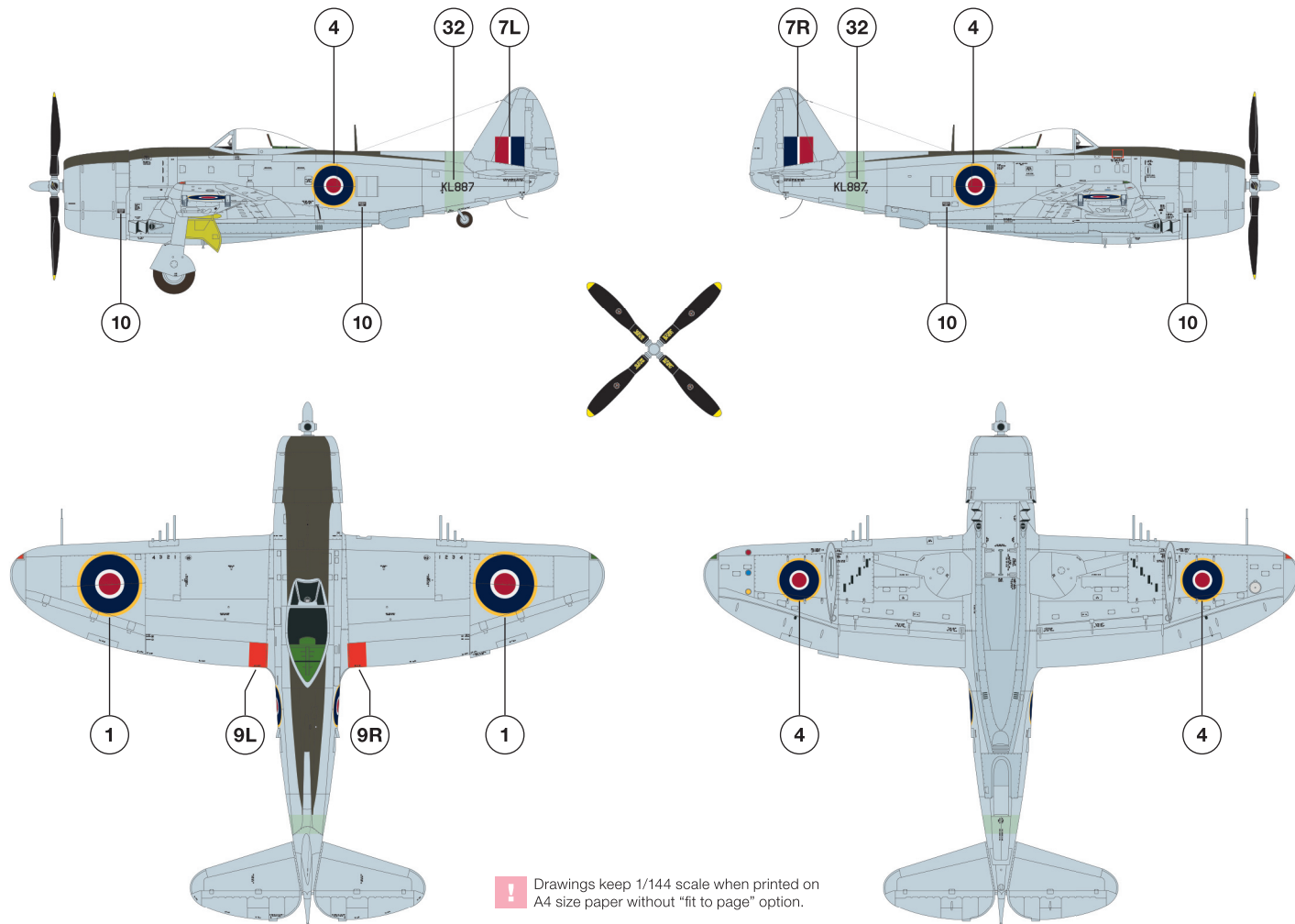
P-47D-40-RA 44-90335, KL887,
No.51 Maintenance Unit RAF, UK 1945

The last and only late D-40 Thunderbolt in RAF service – the small dorsal fin as well as HVAR rockets stubs located under the wing are visible.

It was delivered from United States in a factory NMF finish – the US paint may have been used for the tail band. Also, full stencilling was visible (available separately as Shelf Oddity decal set SO314431).

The paddle blades of Curtiss-Electric propellers most likely featured manufacturers markings and the yellow stencilling. Yellow propeller tips were visible.

The wheel hubs' inner sides were most likely spoked with Natural Aluminium finish.



Selected sources:

The Republic Thunderbolt Mk.II – RAF in Combat 23
P-47 Thunderbolt in Action 208 – Squadron Signal
Malowanie i oznakowanie RAF SEAC 1941-45 – Militaria 117

A special thank you to Mr. Phil Listemann and Mr. Tony O'Toole for their contribution to this project!

Colour guide:

