







## EC#150

## F4U-1 BIRDCAGE CORSAIRS

Early Birdcage Corsairs were determined to be unsuitable for carrier operations in the Pacific. However, the Marines gladly pressed this high performance fighter into service as part of their island-hopping campaign. As the aircraft were all land based, carrier arresting gear was removed. To accurately represent the schemes with this decal sheet, the modeler may wish to incorporate that important detail to their kit.

Photos also indicate limited stenciling applied to the aircraft with only the BuNo and aircraft type applied in small black text on the vertical surfaces. Stenciling has been provided for the propeller blades.

Viva!

BuNo 02310

White 13

VMF-124

May 1943

Pilot; 2nd Lt. Ken Walsh. The first Corsair Ace and Medal of Honor recipient, Walsh would fly a number of different Corsairs in his distinguished career. Over two combat tours he is officially credited with 21 victories. He survived two crashes and retired from the Marine Corps with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in 1962.

The aircraft displays what appears to be replacement engine cowl panels applied to the left and right sides. Befitting a Guadalcanal Corsair having seen operational service, it is heavily exhaust streaked with areas of natural metal exposed on the uppersurfaces of the wings near the wingroot.

Colors: Uppersurfaces: Blue Gray FS35189 Lowersurfaces: Light Gray FS36440

Prop Hub: Natural Metal References: Internet Photos-

Daphne C

BuNo 03829

White 15

VMF-213

September 1943

Pilot: Capt. James Cupp. Officially credited with 12 victories, he claimed his fifth and sixth victories in this aircraft. With his Corsair named after his wife Daphne Cupp, this aircraft is fitted with the cowling from his first Corsair, White 13 BuNo 02350. While chasing his 13th aircraft, Cupp was shot down in BuNo 03803 and badly burned. He endured 18 months in hospital and received multiple operations for his wounds.

Colors: Uppersurfaces: Blue Gray FS35189 Lowersurfaces: Light Gray FS36440

Prop Hub: Natural Metal

References: Corsair Aces of World War 2

Bubbles

BuNo Unknown White 18

VMF-124

Early 1943

The pilot for this aircraft is unknown. Photos don't reveal the artwork for the right side, therefore a provisional decal has been provided. There is also a possibility the aircraft was attached to VMF-213.

The aircraft shows evidence of heavy oil staining at the immediate wingroot and fading of the upper surfaces.

Colors: Uppersurfaces: Blue Gray FS35189

Lowersurfaces: Light Gray FS 36440

Prop Hub: Natural Metal

References: Corsair Aces of World War 2