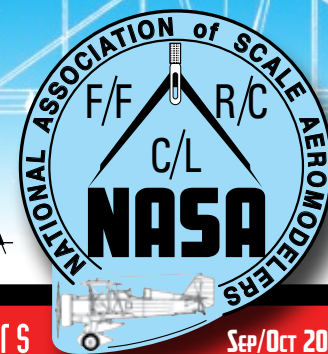


# REPLICA



Newsletter of the National Association of Scale Aeromodelers

SEP/OCT 2012

## President's Notes

Hello Scale modelers.

Things are beginning to slow down now, on the flying competition part of scale modeling. In my case I will resume building my 36% T-34-B. This is a Bob Patton design and the largest model I have ever built. Of course most of you know I am restoring a full scale 1940 Aeronca 65TC, and flying my 1946 Aeronca Super Chief, restored a couple of years ago. I would like to hear about your projects in scale.



All the members of NASA, this includes Free Flight, Helicopter, Control Line, and R/C that attended the Nat's enjoyed super great weather and a very well run competition. Jim Martin the R/C event director and Allen Goff the Control Line scale event director both did a fantastic job of running the event. I don't want to forget our party planner, Shannon Ort. She did a great job with the Friday evening sing-along and the Saturday evening banquet. Also, you NASA members, are invited to the 2013 Nat's sing along (cowboy night) and Saturday banquet. Shannon is already working on the parties. We are also planning our annual auction Saturday after the meal. So plan now for the 2013 Nat's the dates are July 12, 13, 14 2013. See you there!

With a total of fifty eight competitors this year I think the

attendance was down from previous years. I don't know why. This year was my twenty eighth Nat's, not all scale. Early on I flew pattern and pylon racing, then sweetened things up with IMAC. My love for scale modeling prevailed and the years past with newly constructed models for each of the past contests. I would like our members to help me out and tell me why they do attend (or why they don't). Your comments will be confidential and can be e-mailed to me at [mabarbee@aol.com](mailto:mabarbee@aol.com).

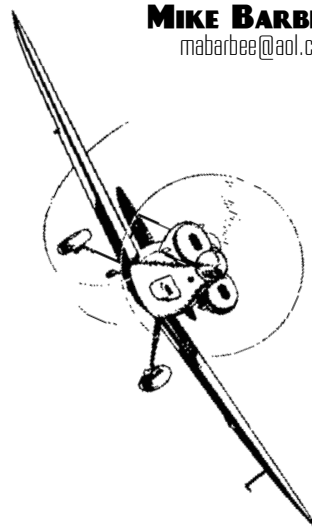
Please don't forget your dues. It's time to renew save us the trouble of hounding you. Send them to our treasurer, Bob Lirette.

We will have a booth at Toledo this year, as in the past, and I would like volunteers to help us out with a couple of hours of booth sitting. Let me know if you are available. Some of our control line members said they would also help.

A new contest on the horizon - yes my club (the Westerville Model Aeronautics Association), have given me their blessings to CD a scale contest. We will be using AMA rules and it will be a sanctioned event. The dates are August 17, 18, 2013. The field will be open for practice on Friday, August 16. I plan on having all the classes with special consideration for the new novice entries. I hope this will help build back our scale contingent for competition. Check out our club field at [www.wmaa-wags.org](http://www.wmaa-wags.org).

Thanks for all of your support.

**MIKE BARBEE**  
[mabarbee@aol.com](mailto:mabarbee@aol.com)



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# Basic Radio Control Definitions

**BLIND NUT:** A judge at a scale contest.

**CRASH:** A quick method of removing the radio and engine from one model to fit them in your new model.

**EPOXY:** The stuff that has to replace bits of balsa missing after the flying season.

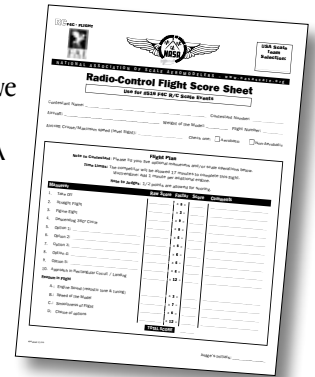
**MIXTURE SCREW:** A device to meter too little fuel to the engine at critical moments.

**SWEPT AREA:** The only part of your shop not covered in balsa dust.

[www.NasaScale.org](http://www.NasaScale.org)

## NASA NEWS AND INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET

If you have internet access, you owe it to yourself to visit NASA's web site - [www.nasascale.org](http://www.nasascale.org). The NASA site was designed from the start to be the only place you need to go to find out everything that's happening in the world of scale aeromodelling - whether it's here on the National front, or on the International front - the domain of the FAI.



## COMPETITION Docs/FORMS

This is one of the more exciting features of the web-site. We have all the competition forms and documents for scale competition online in pdf form. Not only are the documents up-to-date, but we now have two versions of each.

One is the regular pdf that we invite contest directors to download and printout for use in their contests.

The second (and more exciting) version of the form is the "intelligent" form. Using this version and an up-to-date version of Adobe's Acrobat Reader, you can fill out all your information using your computer, then pre-print copies to take to your next scale event: information about yourself, your plane and your maneuvers/options. All AMA rule book maneuvers/options (as spelled out in the current AMA rule book) can be selected from pull-down menus; right on the .pdf. Imagine not having to spend time at your next contest filling out forms!

Oh, one more thing - the forms do NOT allow you to fill in your own scores! Sorry - some things are best left up to the judges!

The forms are online now for all Control-Line and RC events - from Fun-Fly up to FAI! Download your forms today!

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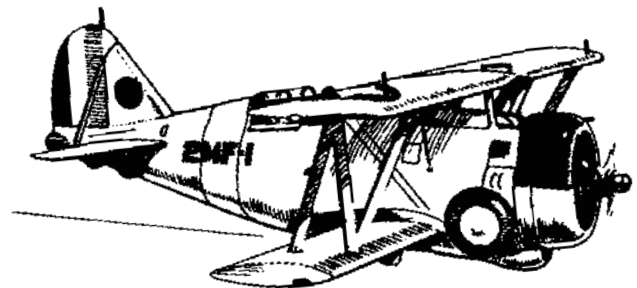
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# 2012 World Championship Photos

Courtesy of **STAN ALEXANDER**  
onawing4602@att.net



Andreas Luthi, Bucker Jungmeister



Max Merckenschiager, Stinson Tri-motor AI



Marc Levy, Fougua Magister CM-170



In the pits

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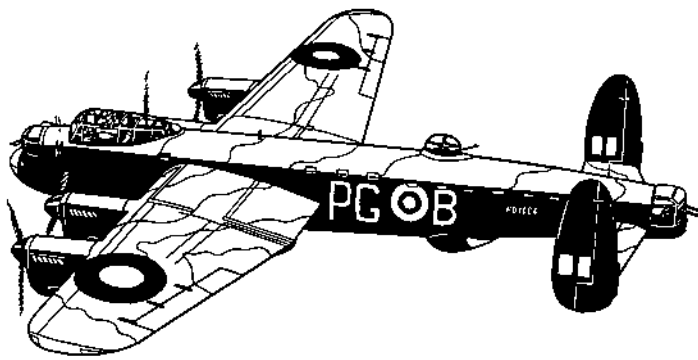
[www.scaleaviatorint.com](http://www.scaleaviatorint.com)

## Congratulations



Congratulations to Philip Soden, winner of the NASA Flight Achievement award at this year's Scale Masters.

Philip flew this electric powered Chilton DWI which featured an onboard sound system giving that realism we all look for.



## NASA Member Projects Online

Take a few minutes to send us a bit of information on your latest project. We're featuring NASA member's scale projects online in our blog. It's new, and to get an idea of what we're looking for, visit the NASA site and click on the Members Projects link at the top of any page. Or you can visit this section at the following address:

<http://nasascale.wordpress.com>



All we need is a paragraph or two about your project. Include the name of the model, the type of power, radio brand, and details of any special features you're incorporated. Attach nice, high-rez photos and we'll get it online!

To submit your projects, e-mail the info to: [info@nasascale.org](mailto:info@nasascale.org)

## Is Epoxy Resin or Polyester Better for Glassing?

Both produce sufficiently hard surfaces, but polyester is softer. This makes polyester sandable. Epoxy is harder; therefore, it is more difficult to sand. Wet sanding works best for both types. There is no difference in weight.

Polyester can be spread a little thinner, however, and it is sandable, so less of it tends to remain on the model. But polyester stinks. It takes weeks for the smell to go away. Epoxy is nearly odor-free. Epoxy favors peace at home.

Polyester cures with a slightly sticky surface. Primer adheres well. Epoxy requires a light scuffing. Epoxy resin must be mixed exactly.

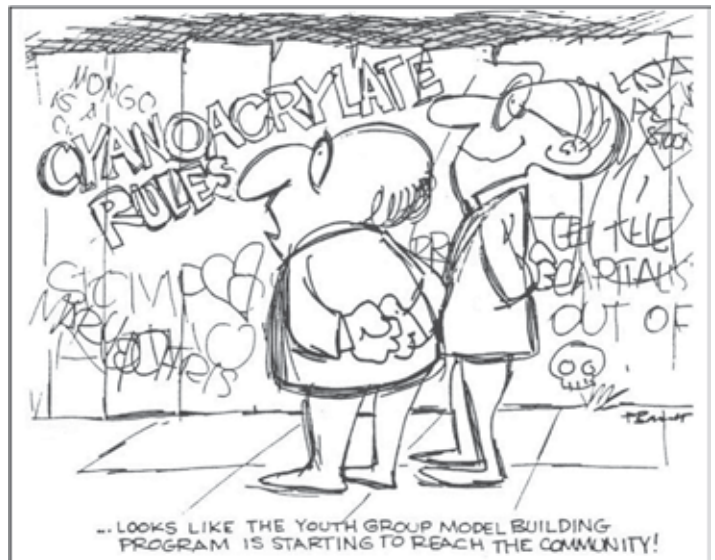
Try this experiment. Mix some epoxy resin precisely and pour it on waxed paper. Now mix some epoxy at 45:55. Pour it out and let both batches cure. Note that the mismatched batch is softer and has a waxy surface—it didn't cure completely. Polyester is not fussy about proportions. A variance in the amount of catalyst affects only the setting time. The catalyst of polyester resin has a short shelf life. Don't use old stuff—it won't cure.

Polyester catalyst is more toxic because it is more concentrated. Always wear latex gloves when working with any kind of resin. For large jobs, wear a respirator and use a window fan.

Don't thin either. Try this experiment. Mix some resin (either one) and pour half of it on a sheet of waxed paper. Dilute the remainder 10% with alcohol or a thinner of your choice. Pour it on waxed paper and let both cure. Observe that the thinned resin is soft, flexible, and it has an oily surface. Thinner resin prevents complete curing.

Epoxy resin seems to adhere to balsa a little better, but that might vary with conditions.

**JIM COOK**  
Shakopee, MN





# 12 Inches to the Foot

There are a lot of items to write about in the scale community all the time. This week I received a new catalog in the mail. Flipping through it, I sat and thought about how our society has changed in the last 20 years or so.

The catalog is from Tower Hobbies- their 2013 (big) catalog which has lots and lots of stuff in it. Usually you see the newest, hottest and most popular items in the front of any catalog and I guess that Tower has done the same thing here. The flight simulator programs are first in line and then the micro airplanes which are of course electric powered.

You have to go back to page 57 in the book for the scale warbirds, this includes the kits, ARFs, as well as at least one RTC-ready to cover model in the 1/6th to 1/4 scale range. The one thing that amazes me about most of the ARFs today at least from Great Planes is that they fly great right off the assembly line. I have to believe this is no fluke but a great engineering team at Hobbico or whoever produces the models.

Recently one of their ARFs made it's way into my shop, the Howard DGA "Mister Mulligan" racer from 1934-1935. The 52" wingspan model balanced right out of the box with the recommended hardware. Impressive!

But competition isn't what it used to be. This in my view is due in part to the poor condition of the economy- still. But another significant reason is the change we, yes we are bringing about in our own society. Last year we went to our grandson's Field Day at school. I stupidly thought there would be ribbons for those who placed First, Second, Third and even maybe Fourth place in the different events. We waited for them, we looked for them and then I felt like I had been slapped in the face, each child received a sticker that stated "Sango School- where everyone's a winner". There were no winners, nothing to make those who didn't win, try to improve just have a good time. Even in their soccer games they don't keep scores- nothing.

Scale has in many cases taken on this philosophy, where many events are held as Fly-Ins. It's the same in full scale aviation as in modeling, the most popular events are Fly-Ins. There are a few exceptions in the scale competition world including Top Gun Invitational held by Frank Tiano, our AMA Scale National Championships, and the U. S. Scale Masters Championships. When you look at pure numbers you also have to include the Mint Julep, although I have to wonder what the move to southern



Indiana and the date change will do to that contest, as I'm sure the organizers are wondering too.

Some quotes are telling from flyers and would be flyers (note I did not say modelers). While at the field last week I had a ARF sport model Great Planes Big Stick, that I had modified with different colors of Monokote and changed all the markings to make it a "Pirate Plane". Several modelers gathered around a looked at the model. Where did

you get that? What plane is it? (yea I know) and Where did you get the markings?

In answering I was taken aback after I told them that I made the model with a conventional gear instead of the tricycle gear, changed the colors on the wing and under side of the fuselage and used Monokote to cut out all the skulls and cross bones on the wing, fuselage and rudder- it was fun and our Grandson loves it, which was the whole point! The comment that struck me was "that was a labor of love, adding all of those markings". Yes it was, but we weren't talking about the same thing there.....

The other bit about ARFs was at the local hobby shop and a customer came in looking at ARFs and the clerk was talking to him about the model, showing him the contents of the box, and he looked sort of shocked, "You mean that I have to build the model?" I really wanted to say, yea dummy you have to put 6 parts together so you can go crash it. But I just sat there on the stool and shook my head.

Well I'm back to looking at the catalog, sort of reminds me of the Sears Christmas catalog when I was a kid, looking at all the new "stuff" and wondering what will be under the tree on Christmas Day. Mmm there are several pages of hardware, radios, kits- real kits!, ARFs, boats, cars, sailboats, gliders, and scale models both ARF and kits too.

Well I'm still having fun, actually managed to compete in two contests this year and was invited to the U.S. Scale Masters Championships with my little Hellcat. Still building and still flying, hope you are too.

There is still lots of stuff out there guys and gals you just have to look for it.

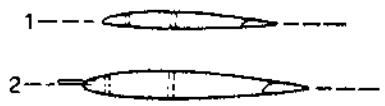
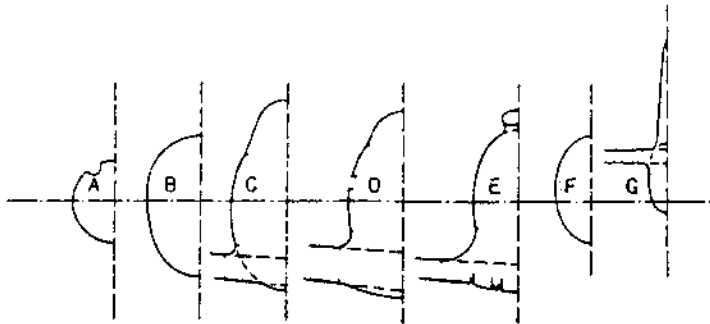
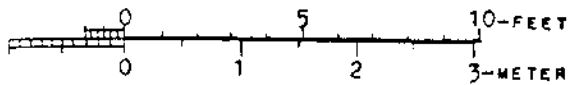
Maybe early but Merry Christmas!  
Fair Skies & Tail Winds,



**STAN ALEXANDER**

onawing4602@att.net

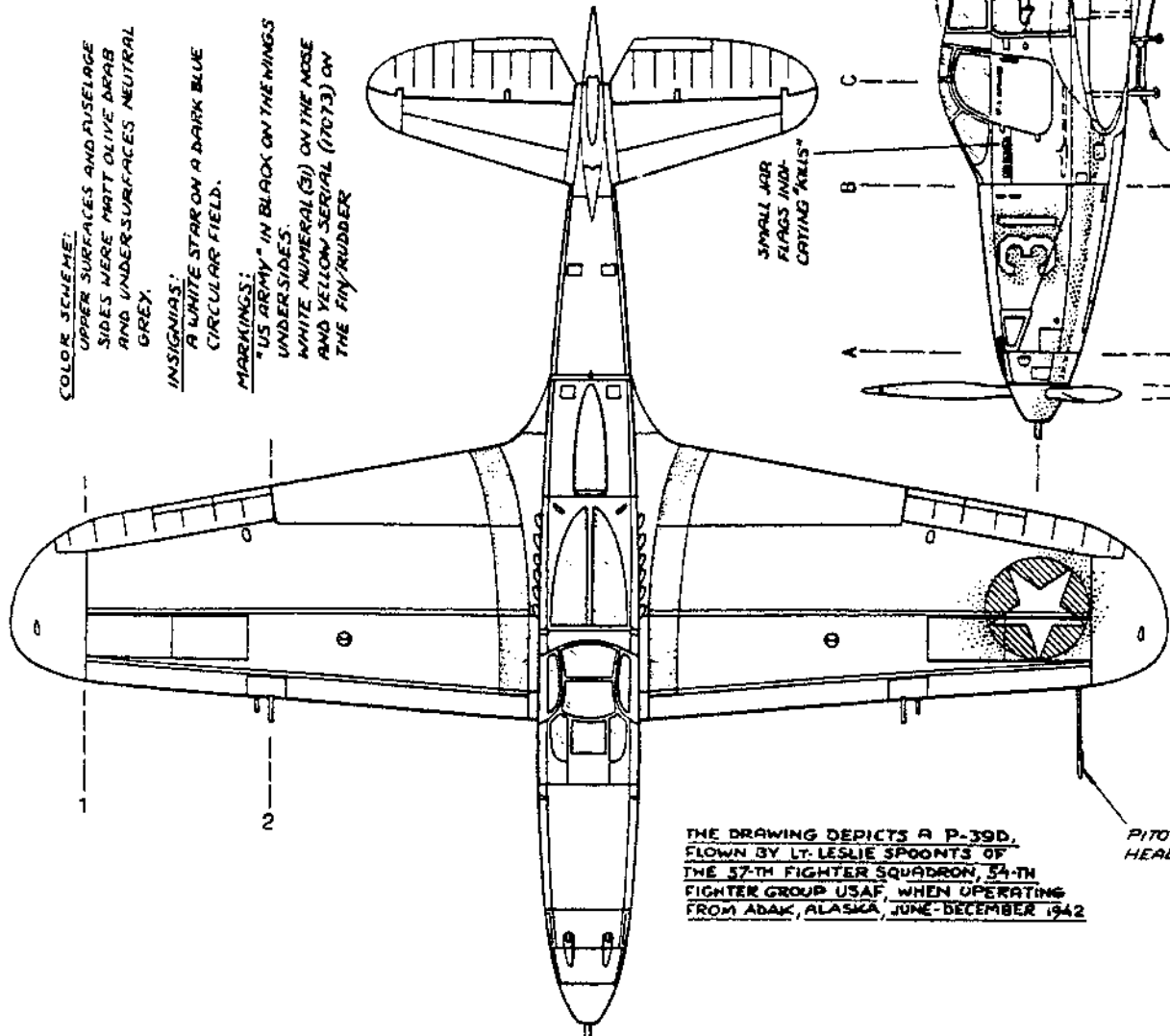
# Bell P-39 Airacobra 3-view



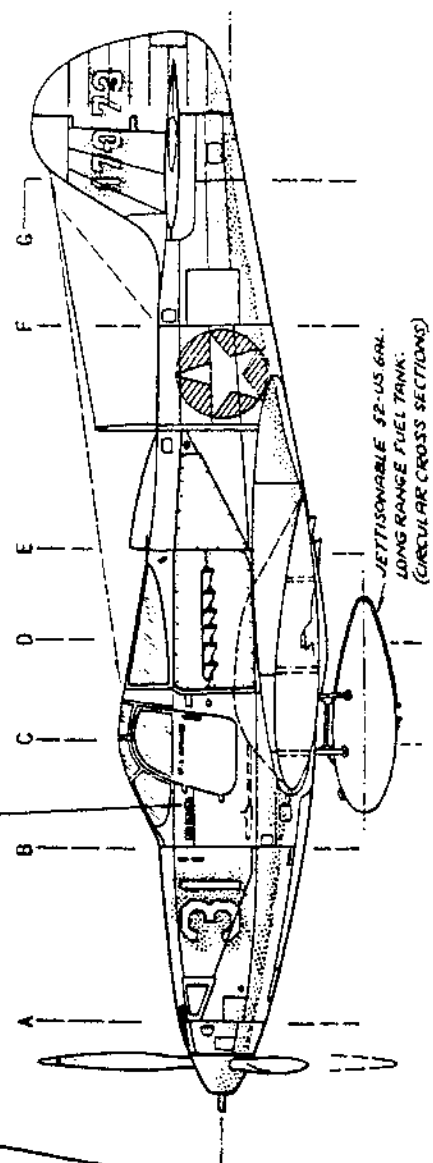
**COLOR SCHEME:**  
UPPER SURFACES AND RIVSELAGE  
SIDES WERE MATT OLIVE DRAB  
AND UNDERSURFACES NEUTRAL  
GREY.

**INSIGNIAS:**  
A WHITE STAR ON A DARK BLUE  
CIRCULAR FIELD.

**MARKINGS:**  
"US ARMY" IN BLACK ON THE WINGS  
UNDERSIDES.  
WHITE NUMERAL (31) ON THE NOSE  
AND YELLOW SERIAL (17073) ON  
THE FIN/RUDDER



SMALL WAR  
FLAGS AND  
CAPTAIN "KILIS"

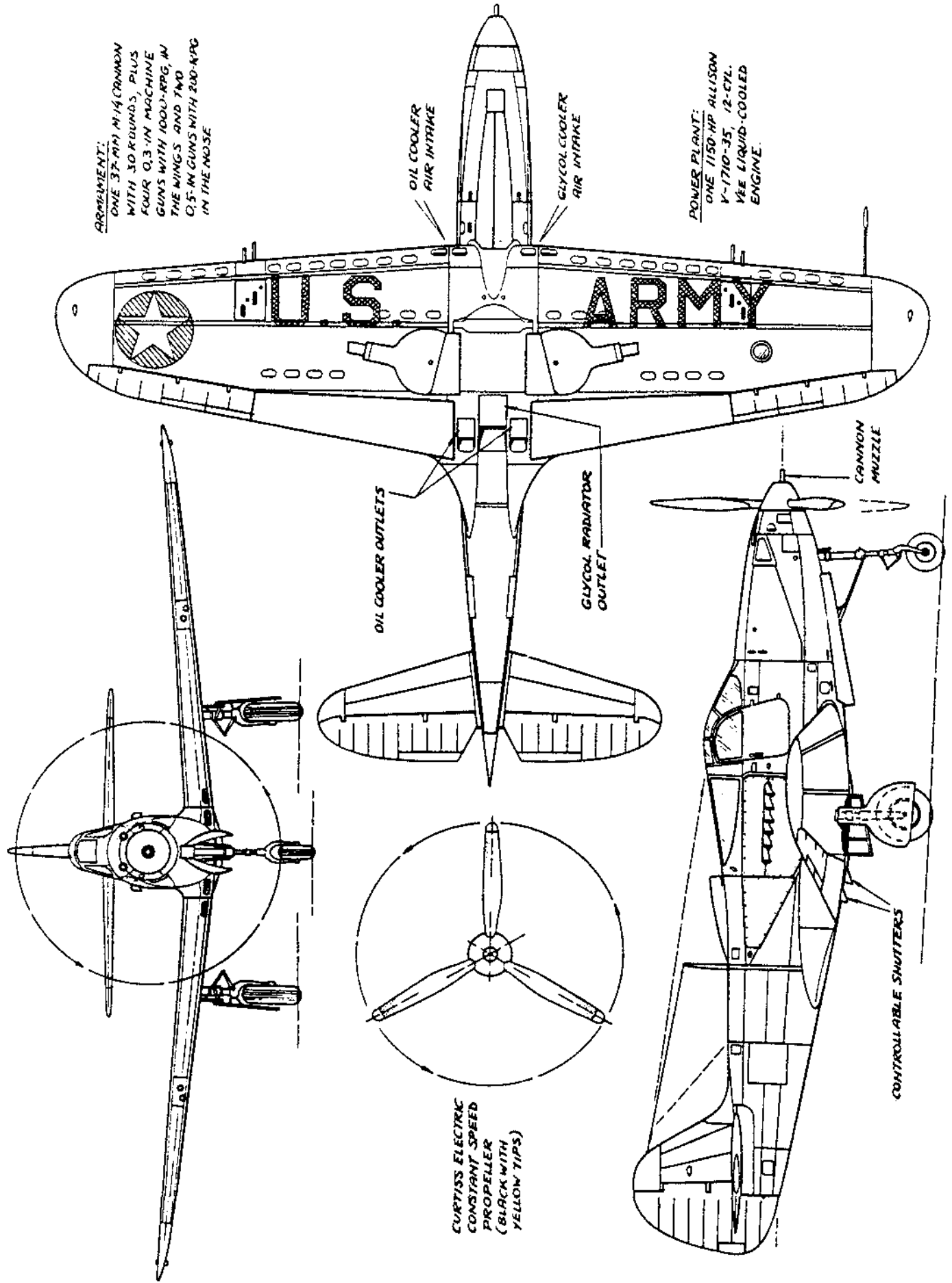


THE DRAWING DEPICTS A P-39D,  
FLOWN BY LT. LESLIE SPOONTS OF  
THE 57TH FIGHTER SQUADRON, 54TH  
FIGHTER GROUP USAF, WHEN OPERATING  
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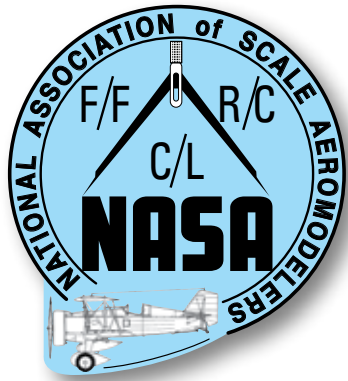
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